

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of Shawnee County Parks & Recreation is to provide quality parks, golf courses and recreational facilities and opportunities to meet the recreational needs and interests of rural and urban residents throughout Shawnee County.

Shawnee County Parks & Recreation does not discriminate against any person on the basis of race, color, sex, national origin, age, or handicap in the operation of any programs, activity, or facility.

SPORTSMANSHIP EMPHASIS

A few years ago, Shawnee County Parks & Recreation Athletics revised and updated their existing Youth Sports Guidelines to address many issues facing the sports environment today. We began to stress a safe and quality sports environment for everyone involved by screening and credentialing volunteers, coaches and officials. In 2013, we will continue to improve by having professional staff, invite parents to meetings, encourage feedback from participants and anyone participating in any venue will be held accountable and respect the sports environment. SCPR will put forth our best effort to make programs and facilities safe and enjoyable.

We are proud to cooperate with local organizations and offer the public a positive sports environment meeting our mission. Serving the public in a viable manner promotes the development and growth of quality sports especially for youth. Our goal is for everyone to understand that disruptive behavior will not be tolerated. Help us educate and create the ideal sports environment for everyone.

Each coach is responsible to get information and forms to participants, parents, fans and other interested parties. When registering as an individual or team in any of our sports leagues, clinics or visit our facilities and parklands you should respect the game, opponents, officials, facilities and fans. SCPR will not tolerate excuses for lack of rule or code knowledge. By your individual or team participation you agree to abide by County Code and all rules contained herein.

TOPEKA PREMIER UMPIRE ASSOCIATION

Shawnee County Parks & Recreation contracts officials/umpires through the local organization known as Topeka Premier Umpire Association. They are required to be certified, attend trainings and workshops for each sport annually, and respect the game as well as participants and facilities. We work diligently with the officials to create a positive sports environment no matter what the sport or location in which it is played. The officials of all sports are evaluated and held accountable for their actions on and off the court. Unsportsmanlike behavior or contact by officials will not be tolerated and they will be held to the same expectations as players.

FLAGRANT & UNSPORTSMANLIKE CONDUCT

Any foul or abusive language, gestures, fighting, or disruptive behavior directed at or performed by a participant, opponent, official/umpire, scorekeeper, spectator, facility, and/or SCPR staff may result in the immediate ejection and/or suspension of the person(s) in question. This will include not abiding by guidelines or County Code set forth. Continued behavior will result in the game being forfeited. The official's decision in this matter is not protestable. Managers/coaches and parents are reminded that they are responsible to control their players' and spectators' actions, before, during and after participation in any SCPR sponsored program on or off County property.

Any person ejected from a game shall leave the FACILITY immediately (90 seconds), NO SIGHT/NO SOUND, failure to do so will result in the game being forfeited by the offending team. Any ejected person is suspended from all SCPR activities and facilities for a minimum of two (2) additional games/matches. A second ejection in any sport within a year results in a one (1) year suspension and the team will be placed on probation for the same amount of time.

Only DESIGNATED captains, coaches, managers may address officials or staff in a respectable manner prior, during, or after the game [each team shall have only two (2) designated per game]. Anyone else will be ignored once the game begins. This includes any rule interpretations, game calls or actions, special requests and/or questions. SCPR staff may eject offending parties as well.

Unsportsmanlike conduct may include tactics employed or designed to delay or make a mockery of any game or team. In any case the person involved and the coach/manager face possible ejection/probation.

SUSPENSION

Any person, players or team ejected from a game shall leave the FACILITY immediately (90 seconds), NO SIGHT/NO SOUND, failure to do so will result in the game being forfeited by the offending team. Any ejected person is suspended from all SCPR activities and facilities for a minimum of two (2) full games/matches. A second ejection in any sport within a calendar year results in a one (1) year suspension and the team will be placed on probation for the same amount of time.

Minors shall be escorted by their parent/guardian who are responsible for their actions and safety. Failure to leave may result in the player(s) or team being suspended from further participation and charges being filed with the authorities. Individual league rules further dictate penalties.

PROBATION

Any person, players, or team ejected from a game for flagrant or unsportsmanlike conduct will be immediately placed on probation for the remainder of the season. Each individual and/or guardian or parents will be notified within 48 hours of the pending result via written and verbal communication. Shawnee County Parks and Recreation reserves the right to remove any individual or team from the league for such conduct or use other disciplinary action as deemed necessary. Any future problem caused by a player or team on

probation will result in that player or team's status being reviewed as to further participation in league play. REFUNDS WILL NOT BE ISSUED FOR DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS.

PARTICIPANT CONTACT

If it is determined that any participant/coach is deliberate in their actions such as inflicting harm, threatening words or action, striking or hitting someone (even if the opponent initiates), deterring any official or SCPR staff from their assigned duties or any actions deemed inappropriate will result in an immediate ejection and one year suspension from SCPR programs and facilities.

PARTICIPANT RIGHTS

A player has the right to file a protest within 24 hours with the athletic office. Those choosing to do so shall stop by the athletic office and fill out the proper paperwork. Once the protest is complete and submitted to the athletic staff a hearing will be scheduled within 10 business days. The athletic supervisor will appoint a three (3) member board who will hear all issues at hand and determine the outcome. Once the decision has been made, the player and coach/manager will both be notified. During this time, the player remains expelled from programs and facilities.

A lifetime suspended player/team may apply for reinstatement in the same matter as stated above. After a hearing is completed and if the board decides that the player/team is reinstated then it will occur at the start of the next season but the player/team will remain on lifetime probation. Any further disciplinary action will result in the immediate revocation of eligibility and implementation of the lifetime suspension. No two (2) members suspended from the same team and on probation may play on the same team once reinstated to SCPR programs and facilities.

PROTEST

A protest must be handled in the following manner or they will not be accepted:

- ↪ The team making the protest must notify the official/umpire, scorekeeper and opposing manager at the time of the protestable call. Each of these persons must sign the official scorebook at this time.
- ↪ Within 24 hours a \$25.00 protest fee must be presented to the SCPR Athletic office with a written account of the protestable call. If the protest is upheld, the protest fee will be returned and the game replayed from the point of the protest if possible.
- ↪ Note: For Friday games, the deadline for filing is 1:00 P.M. of the Monday following the protest. If the protest is denied, the \$25.00 will be retained and the game becomes official.
- ↪ SITE SUPERVISORS, SCOREKEEPERS, OFFICIALS/UMPIRES OR CONCESSION WORKERS WILL NOT ACCEPT PROTEST FEES.

APPEALS (Refer to the current Rule Book of each respective sport).

OTHER DISCIPLINE PROCEDURES AND DEFINITIONS

League Suspension- a player/team is suspended from further participation for remainder of the scheduled league play in that sport season.

Lifetime Suspension- a person/player/team is suspended from participation in all county leagues or sponsored leagues for a period of not less than two (2) years from the conclusion of their suspension. After the two (2) year period, they may apply for reinstatement. A letter must be filed with the Athletic Supervisor requesting their status be evaluated. The Athletic Supervisor will appoint a three (3) member Reinstatement Board to review the request and vote on reinstatement. If an individual is reinstated to participate, he/she will remain on lifetime probation and any further problems with that individual will result in the immediate revocation of eligibility and the implementation of the lifetime suspension penalty. No two (2) members from a team that was issued a lifetime suspension will be permitted to play on the same team once reinstated to county leagues.

BLOOD RULE

If at any time an official/umpire ceases play because of blood on the uniform, body, or facility, the person involved should seek immediate attention. The area should be clean prior to resuming play by staff and/or officials. Once the bleeding stops or a change of uniform is provided the participant may resume play. There is no penalty for alternate colored uniform or lack of a number in this case. It is the official's discretion if the game is delayed so as to ask the player to leave the game and provide any substitute. Regular re-entry may occur and a team may play short-handed if necessary in the short term. We recommend coaches carry a first aid kit.

SPORT SPECIFIC CONDUCT - The following Sport Specific Conduct policies will be in effect January 2013.

BASKETBALL

KSHSAA technical foul rules apply. Any TECHNICAL foul will result in two free throws for the opposing team plus possession of the ball. The following are team technical fouls and not considered individual technical fouls (do count as total fouls):

- 1) Uniform violations
- 2) Scorebook violations
- 3) Crowd conduct

Any player who receives ONE (1) UNSPORTSMANLIKE technical foul will be ejected from the game and suspended for a minimum of TWO (2) additional games from all SCPR activities or facilities. Any player receiving TWO (2) UNSPORTSMANLIKE technical fouls which

results in TWO (2) ejections during the season will be suspended for the remainder of the season. The player and team will be on probation for a full year from the date of the most recent incident and any ejection will result in expulsion from SCPR programs and facilities.

SOFTBALL/BASEBALL

Any player who receives ONE (1) UNSPORTSMANLIKE violation will be ejected from the game and suspended for a minimum of two (2) additional games from all SCPR activities or facilities. Any player receiving TWO (2) ejections during the season will be suspended for the remainder of the season. The player and team will be on probation for a full year from the date of the most recent incident and any ejection will result in expulsion from SCPR programs and facilities.

Unsportsmanlike behavior may include hitting the ball back up the middle, throwing at an opponent's body or head, or tactics employed noticeably designed to delay or make a mockery of the game or team or inflict harm. In any case the person involved and the coach/manager face possible ejection/probation.

VOLLEYBALL

Any player who receives TWO (2) UNSPORTSMANLIKE violations will be ejected from the match and suspended for a minimum of two (2) additional matches from all SCPR activities or facilities. Any player receiving two (2) ejections during the season will be suspended for the remainder of the season. The player and team will be on probation for a full year from the date of the most recent incident and any ejection will result in expulsion from SCPR programs and facilities.

FLAG FOOTBALL

Any player who receives TWO (2) UNSPORTSMANLIKE penalties will be ejected from the game and suspended for a minimum of TWO (2) additional games from all SCPR activities or facilities. Any player ejected in more than one game during the season will be suspended for the remainder of the season. The player and team will be on probation for a full year from the date of the most recent incident and any ejection will result in expulsion from SCPR programs and facilities.

HOCKEY

Any player who receives TWO (2) GAME MISCONDUCT penalties will be ejected from the game and suspended for a minimum of TWO (2) additional games from all SCPR activities or facilities. Any player ejected in more than one game during the season will be suspended for the remainder of the season. The player and team will be on probation for a full year from the date of the most recent incident and any ejection will result in expulsion from SCPR programs and facilities.

SOCCER

Any player who receives ONE (1) RED CARD or TWO (2) YELLOW CARD penalties will be ejected from the game and suspended for a minimum of TWO (2) additional games from all SCPR activities or facilities. Any player ejected in more than one game during the season will be suspended for the remainder of the season. The player and team will be on probation for a full year from the date of the most recent incident and any ejection will result in expulsion from SCPR programs and facilities.

YOUTH SPORTS/ RENTALS/USER GROUPS

This includes SCPR leagues, rentals, or associations and organizations utilizing County property. Examples include but are not limited to: SCABA/SCGSA/HPB/DSA/PAL/middle or high school games/weekend tournaments/senior leagues.

Coaches, parents and fans are held to the above standards. Any player, coach, parent or fan receiving TWO (2) ejections during the season will be suspended for the remainder of the season. In addition, the player, coach, parent or fan AND team will be on probation for a year. Any ejection during this period will result in an expulsion for a year from programs and facilities.

COMMUNITY CENTERS AND SCHOOL FACILITIES

The locations in which we offer sports and programs including parkland do have further guidelines/policies in place that will be taken into account should issues arise. Any party renting our facilities will be made aware of SCPR discipline procedures as well. Anyone ejected during a weekend tourney will be subject to the above suspensions during league play as well as tournament play. **The above rules will apply to those rentals/user groups that facilitate any such sport or activity at SCPR facilities. The point of contact shall inform the person involved and SCPR of violations within 24 hours. Failure to do so may result in suspension of rentals.**

GENERAL CONCLUSION

Additional rules or penalties may apply to each individual or team pertaining to the sport in which they are participating. Some rules and penalties carry over from one sport to another including facilities. Individual circumstances may be evaluated separately.

Violating conduct or rules may warrant further action by Shawnee County. All questions and comments should be directed to SCPR Athletics at prathletics@snco.us, 785-286-3358 or 785-368-3808. We will assist and direct those in question to the appropriate rules, individual or board, policy, or County resolution.

No refunds or credits are issued to a team or player for any unsportsmanlike behavior. A team with two player ejections in the same season will forfeit eligibility for post season certificates.