

KIDS PARENTS & COACHES



A commitment to good sportsmanship for our children in youth sports programs.

This pamphlet provides individual **CODES OF CONDUCT** for participants, parents, and coaches that this YMCA observes in all its youth sports activities. Youth sports are a valuable and meaningful tool for developing confidence and character in young people in a fun and active setting.

We have a **ZERO TOLERANCE POLICY** regarding the conduct of coaches, of parents, and of young participants.

We expect and demand behavior that is consistent with the YMCA's stated goals...
to build strong kids, strong families, strong communities.

All of the codes of conduct are part of the application and authorization to participate in the youth sports program.

Participation in the program indicates that parents and participants agree to abide by their respective codes of conduct, and that violation of their code is adequate grounds for removal from the program.

In order to provide an atmosphere where our youth can develop into the citizens we want them to be all three elements – the coach, the parents, and the youth must be equal partners for change.

We thank you for your participation and support of YMCA youth sports programs.

If you have any questions please contact us at the YMCA

**Missouri Valley Family YMCA
1608 N. Washington Street
701-255-1525
www.bismarckymca.org**



COACH'S CODE OF CONDUCT

I will provide a playing environment that is safe from physical and emotional harm to my players.

I will treat each player as an individual, keeping in mind the wide range of physical and emotional development within the same age group.

I will place the emotional and physical well being of my players ahead of any personal or parental desires to win.

I will lead by example, demonstrating fair play and sportsmanship in my on- and off- field activities.

I will abide by the YMCA's code of conduct:

- I will not subject any child to neglect or to mental, verbal, physical, or sexual abuse
- I will not leave any child unsupervised
- I will not be alone with any child where we cannot be observed by others
- I will not give any child gifts or special favors
- I will treat all children equally without respect to gender, race, religion, culture, or ability
- I will be a positive role model by maintaining an attitude of respect, loyalty, patience, courtesy, tact, and maturity
- I will utilize positive guidance techniques
- I will refrain from profanity, inappropriate jokes, and sharing of intimate details of my personnel life

I will not hold extra or special practices.

I will use coaching techniques that are appropriate for all the ages and skill levels present.

I will seek and encourage parental participation at practices, games, and any other activities.

I will respectfully control the behavior of players and parents by asking them to leave the field or sidelines should they become unruly or create an atmosphere that is not appropriate for the development of good sportsmanship.

PARENT'S CODE OF CONDUCT

I will place an emphasis on the fun of participation and keep the emotional and physical well being of all the children ahead of my personal desire to win.

I will require my child to treat other players, coaches, fans, and officials with respect without regard to gender, race, religion, culture, or ability.

I will encourage good sportsmanship by giving positive support to all players, coaches, and officials at every game, practice, or other event.

I will support and assist this experience however I can... by being a respectful fan, by assisting with the practices, by providing transportation, etc.

I will support coaches and officials by working with my child in order to encourage a positive and enjoyable experience for all.

I will refrain from the use of tobacco, alcohol, and drugs at all youth sports practices, games, and other events and I will encourage others to do the same.

I will remember that youth sports are for the kids and not for the adults and will do my very best to make this experience fun for all of the children and parents involved.

I will monitor the actions of our coach or coaches and will bring any behavior that is inconsistent with the Coach's Code of Conduct to the attention of someone in authority at the YMCA.

I will pick up my child promptly after games and practices so the coach is not left in a compromising position with my child.

PARTICIPANT'S CODE OF CONDUCT

I will pay attention to my coach and give her/him the respect s/he deserves. I will not misbehave or be disruptive during practices or games so that I do not ruin the experience of other children.

I will not argue with referees and will leave any disputes regarding officiating to game officials and my coach.

I will not intentionally hurt or be mean to any player, coach, or referee.

I will follow the rules for safety that my coach and the YMCA have established.

I will seek and willingly receive instruction both in the skills of the sport and in proper sporting behavior and good sportsmanship.

I will encourage my parents to set an example of good sportsmanship for my fellow teammates, the other parents, and myself.

I will commit to follow the following pledge:

Win or lose, I pledge to do my best, to be a team player, to respect my opponents, teammates, and officials, and to improve myself in Spirit, Mind, and Body.