

# Onalaska Youth Sports Association

## Official Code of Conduct

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[www.onalaskayouthsports.org](http://www.onalaskayouthsports.org)

The Onalaska Youth Sports Association  
**Believes**  
**Sportsmanship**  
**Is an Expectation**  
**So Please let the players play**  
**Let the coaches coach**  
**Let the officials officiate**  
**Let the spectators be positive**

The Onalaska Youth Sports Association is a volunteer-staffed organization that offers recreational sports activities for the children of our community. The primary goal of the OYSA program is to provide a safe, enjoyable environment in which our children can develop sports skills, as well as experience in a positive manner the emotional social benefits of team play.

The role of the parents is critical to the success of the OYSA program. It is, therefore, important that you follow the guidelines set forth below.

### Parent Responsibilities

- Full fill your volunteer obligation willingly, knowing that the effort you put forth will directly impact your child's experience.
- Always keep in mind that OYSA is a recreational sports program with an emphasis on developing skills and having fun. Although competition is a natural part of sports activities, do not make winning the primary goal for you or your child.
- Support your child and his/her team in a positive manner. Cheer **for** your child and his/her team, **not against** the opposing team or players.
- Always show **respect** for all players, coaches, game officials and other fans. Allow for the fact that anyone can make a mistake. Set a positive example for

our children with your behavior.

- Follow the regulations set forth by the school district and OYSA for use of its facilities. All facilities are **tobacco-alcohol-and drug free**.
- All parents' and guardians' shall therefore resolve to conduct themselves with dignity as a citizen of the community, recognizing and accepting that they shall:
  1. Support efforts to create and maintain a safe and healthy environment.
  2. Do their very best to make youth sports fun, and remember that it is a game for youth.
  3. Encourage their child to treat other players, coaches, spectators, officials, and others with respect regardless of race, sex, creed, or ability
  4. Promise to help their child enjoy the youth sports experience in whatever way possible, such as being a respectable fan, assisting with coaching, or providing transportation.

## General Principles Applicable to All Participants

- Trustworthiness. All participants shall be honest, and never deceive, cheat or steal.
- Have the courage to do the right thing.
- Work to build a good reputation
- Demonstrate loyalty to family, friends, teammates, and country.
- Treat others with respect and be considerate of the feelings of others.
- Demonstrate a tolerance towards differences
- Use good manners, and avoid offensive language and taunting.
- Never slander, degrade, threaten, or hurt or hit anyone and deal peacefully with anger, insults and disagreements.
- Use self control and self discipline
- Be accountable for all choices and actions.
- Exhibit supportive behavior and a positive attitude
- Adhere to the laws, rules, policies, and guidelines.
- Be open minded and demonstrate the ability to listen to others.
- Never take advantage of others.

## Coaches Code of Conduct

General: The primary function of a coach is to facilitate the youth sports environment, and educate Athletes through participation and competition. Each Athlete shall be treated as though he or she were the coaches own child, and his or her own welfare shall be considered uppermost at all times. All coaches should be aware that they have a tremendous influence on the well being of the

Athletes, and thus, shall never place winning above the value of instilling the highest ideals of character.

- **Specific Principles:** All coaches shall therefore resolve to conduct themselves with dignity as a citizen of the community, recognizing and accepting they shall:
- Uphold the honor and dignity of the profession
- Set an example of the highest ethical and moral conduct in all personal contact with athletes, sports officials, parents/guardians, spectators, and the public.
- Take an active role in the prevention of drug, alcohol, and tobacco abuse.
- Avoid the use of tobacco, alcohol and tobacco products when in contact with athletes.
- Master the contest rules and teach them to his or her team members
- Not seek an advantage by circumvention of the spirit or letter of the rules.
- Do not exert an influence to enhance unsportsmanlike conduct by spectators or others, or indulge in conduct which would incite players or spectators against the officials.
- Respect and support the decision of the officials
- Meet and exchange cordial greetings with the opposing coach to set the correct tone for the event before and after a particular contest.
- Coach in a positive manner and do not use derogatory comments or abusive language.
- Maximum practice time 2 hours. **No exceptions.**
- **All coaches will be subject to a background check through authorities for the safety of the children.**
  1. **Sexual offenses**
  2. **Endangering a child**
  3. **Violence**

## Enforcement of the Code of Conduct

1. **Responsibility.** Responsibility for enforcement of this Code of Conduct shall reside with the Board of Directors of the Onalaska Youth Sports Association.
2. **Spectators.** For implementation of this Code of Conduct, spectators who are directly associated with a particular athlete shall comply with the same criteria as for Parents/Guardians and the same enforcement action shall apply.
3. **Enforcement Action.** The Board of Directors of Onalaska Youth Sports Association shall take whatever measures necessary to enforce this Code of Conduct, up to and including the following actions;

- a. Removal of an Athlete from the program due to the failure of his or her Parent/Guardian to comply with this Code of Conduct
- b. Removal of a Coach from the program due to his or her failure to comply with this Code of Conduct.
- c. Any complaints concerning a coach who has violated this code shall be first brought to the attention of the Sports Commissioner. He will report to the Board within 24 hours. All complaints will be thoroughly investigated and penalties may occur at the discretion of the Board.
- d. Coaches may be placed on probation or suspended from OYSA activities for violation of this Code.
- e. Any Coach suspended from all OYSA activities for violation of this Code, will receive a letter from the Board. After a reasonable period of time, not less than one week, that individual may apply to the Board to be reinstated as a coach.

## **Penalties**

- Any person in violation of the code of conduct and or ejected from a game because of unsportsmanlike behavior will be removed from the facility and subject to disciplinary action.
- The decision to take action will be made after a report from the commissioner is presented to the board containing any pertinent information from those involved in the incident. This would include officials, coaches and or the spectators.
- After a review by the OYSA Board one of the following penalties will be handed down: A) verbal reprimand, B) loss of privileges from OYSA sponsored events for a time to be specified by the OYSA Board.
- Any person who is suspended from an OYSA sponsored event will not be allowed on the premises during the suspension.
- All suspensions will be reviewed by a quorum of the Board of Directors of the O.Y.S.A. All decisions made by the Board of Directors of the O.Y.S.A. will be **FINAL.**

**IN ORDER TO PARTICIPATE IN ANY O.Y.S.A. SPONSORED EVENT A SIGNED COPY OF THE CODE OF CONDUCT MUST BE TURNED IN AT THE TIME OF SIGNUPS IN ORDER TO PARTICIPATE. NO EXCEPTIONS**

**PARENT/GUARDIAN** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ **Date**

