

Family's Code of Conduct

The mission of the St. Columban Athletic Organization (Boosters) is to put Christian beliefs and principles in practice through programs that build healthy body, mind, and spirit for all. Members of the Organization and those participating in any Booster-sponsored activity must recognize their Christian responsibilities and set a "Christ-like" example while representing St. Columban. Therefore, I pledge to be responsible for my words and actions and those of my family members and guests while attending or participating in a St. Columban youth sports event, including practices. We shall conform to the following code of conduct:

1. We will not engage in unsportsmanlike conduct with any coach, parent, player, participant, official, or any other attendee (collectively "participant").
2. We will not engage in any behavior that would endanger the health, safety, or well being of any participant.
3. We will not use drugs or alcohol while attending a youth sports event and will not attend or participate in a youth sports event while under the influence of drugs or alcohol.
4. We will not engage in the use of inappropriate, obscene, or profane language or gestures.
5. We will not bring any item or material to any youth sports event that may be harmful or hazardous to others.
6. We will treat every participant with respect regardless of race, sex, creed, color, or ability.
7. We will not engage in verbal or physical threats or abuse aimed at any participant.
8. We will not cause damage to any facility and will help to keep St. Columban's facilities clean and safe.
9. We will not engage in any activity that is clearly inappropriate according to normally accepted standards of behavior for Catholic elementary sports.

I hereby agree that, if any member of my family fails to comply with the foregoing, he will be subject to disciplinary action by St. Columban Parish or School, the Boosters, a game official, or the CYO. Such action may include, but is not limited to, the following, in any order or combination: verbal warning, written warning, game ejection, game suspension, season suspension, multiple season suspension, or suspension from multiple youth sports.

I further agree that:

1. We will volunteer to work at whatever activity is required by each sport for each athlete participating from our family. These activities include, but are not limited to, working gate, selling concessions, keeping score, running the scoreboard, being a parking attendant or a public address announcer, setting up the playing facility, and cleaning the playing facility.
2. We will fill out and return the coach's evaluation at the end of each sports season.
3. We will submit registration forms, release forms, and payments on time. (Children will not be allowed to practice until all forms and fees are received.)
4. We will attend the mandatory meeting held by the coach before the season begins.
5. We will keep uniforms and equipment clean and in good repair and return them on time. (Lost or carelessly damaged uniforms will result in replacement at the parents' expense.)
6. We will alert the coach of any special problems with a player's medical history prior to the first practice. Any player who sustains an injury during the season that needs a doctor's attention must submit a written note signed by the doctor to the coach which states the player may return to sporting activities.
7. We will discuss matters that disturb us with coaches first and then report them to the Sport's Coordinator if we are dissatisfied with the coaches' response.
8. We will notify the head coach in a timely fashion when our player will not be able to attend a game or a practice.

Signature for the Family

Print Name _____

Date

Home Phone _____

Good Things for Parents to Keep in Mind

During and after a Game or Match

- Be an exemplary role model by positively supporting teams in every manner possible.
- Do not embarrass your child by yelling at players, coaches, or officials. By showing a positive attitude toward the game and all of its participants, your child will benefit.
- Recognize players' performance with applause, regardless of team. Cheer in a positive manner and encourage fair play.
- Respect decisions made by contest officials.
- Do not blame the loss of a game or match on officials, coaches, or participants.
- Applaud a good effort in both victory and defeat and enforce the positive points of the game. Never yell or physically abuse your child after a game or practice -- it is destructive. Recognize good effort, teamwork, and sportsmanship.
- Be a fan, not a fanatic.

Communicating with Your Children

- Make sure your children know that win or lose, you love them, that you appreciate their efforts, and that you are not disappointed in them. Be the person(s) in their lives they can look to for constant positive reinforcement.
- Never ridicule or yell at your children or other participant for making a mistake or losing a competition.
- Teach your children that doing one's best is more important than winning, so that they will never feel defeated by the outcome of a game or their performance.
- Try your best to be completely honest about your child's athletic ability, competitive attitude, sportsmanship, and actual skill level.
- Be helpful but don't coach them. It's tough not to, but it is a lot tougher for a child to be flooded with advice and critical instruction.
- Try not to relive your athletic life through your child in a way that creates pressure. If they are comfortable with you, win or lose, then they are on their way to maximum achievement and enjoyment.
- Don't compete with the coach. If your child is receiving mixed messages from two different authority figures, he or she will likely become disenchanted.
- Don't compare skill, courage, or attitude of your child with other members of the team.

Communicating with Your Children's Coaches

- Recognize the importance of volunteer coaches. They are important to the development of your child and the sport. Support them.
- Bring your child to practices and games on time. Notify the coach as soon as possible when your child will not be able to be at a practice or a game.
- Always remember that children tend to exaggerate both when praised and when criticized. Temper your reaction and investigate before overreacting.
- Volunteer.