

NYFL  
**Football / Cheerleading**  
**HEAD COACHES CODE OF CONDUCT**

**Preamble**

The essential elements of character-building and ethics in sports are embodied in the concept of sportsmanship and six core principles: trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring, and good citizenship. The highest potential of sports is achieved when competition reflects these "six pillars of character." (Arizona Sports Summit Accord)

The NYFL also mandates that ALL coaches attend an NYSCA certification program and maintain his/her membership throughout their coaching tenure within their designated sport.

**I therefore agree as a Head Coach representing the NYFL:**

1. I will not force any child to participate in practice (s), scrimmage (s) and or game (s) that does not show a willingness to participate.
2. I will remember that children participate to have fun and that the game is for youth, not adults.
3. I will inform parents of any physical weakness and or ailment that may affect the safety of their child or the safety of others while under my direction for this particular sport.
4. I will learn the rules of the game and the policies of the league and make sure my staff is informed of such policies.
5. I (and my assistants) will be positive role models for our participants and encourage sportsmanship by showing respect and courtesy, and by demonstrating positive support for all players, coaches, officials and spectators at every game, practice or other sporting event
6. I (and my assistants) will not engage in any kind of unsportsmanlike conduct with any official, coach, player, or parent such as booing and taunting; refusing to shake hands; or using profane language, gestures and or physical contact with ANY individual. {with the intent to cause physical harm}
7. I will not encourage any behaviors or practices that would endanger the health and wellbeing of the athletes.
8. I will teach participants to play by the rules and to resolve conflicts without resorting to hostility or violence.
9. I will demand that all participants treat other players, coaches, officials and spectators with respect regardless of race, creed, color, sex or ability.
10. I will teach participants that doing one's best are more important than winning, so that no child will ever feel defeated by the outcome of a game or his/her performance.
11. I will praise participants for competing fairly and trying hard, and make them feel like a winner every time.
12. I will never ridicule or yell at participants and or officials for making a mistake or losing a competition.
13. I will emphasize skill development and practices and how they benefit each participant over winning.
14. I will promote the emotional and physical wellbeing of the athletes ahead of any personal desire I may have to win.
15. I will respect the officials and their authority during games and will never confront officials and or opposing coaches in a manner that demonstrates unsportsmanship at the game field, especially in front of participants.
16. I will respect a sports environment for participants that are free from drugs, tobacco, and alcohol and I will refrain from their use at all sports events; nor will I be under the influence of drugs and or alcohol while attending to my coaching duties with participants.
17. I will refrain from showing favoritism and or providing special accommodations to my child, should he/she be apart of said team.
18. Any report (s) filed on my behalf as Head Coach detailing events and or circumstances that arise as a result of inappropriate behavior by an individual (s) outlined herein, shall first be handled within the organization guidelines established by said organization. A copy of any such report shall be given to your appointed league commissioner who upon request of the NYFL League of Commissioners will advise NYFL of said infraction and corrective action taken within your organization.

**I also agree that if I fail to abide by the aforementioned rules and guidelines in conjunction with current "NYFL Rules & Regulations" as well as the "NYFL Standard of Conduct", I will be subject to disciplinary action that could include, but is not limited to any one of the following:**

1. Verbal warning by NYFL Chairman
2. At the direction of the organization I represent I may be required to meet with NYFL board to discuss possible sanctions based on extent of violation or infraction committed if not resolved within presiding organization
3. Game Suspension
4. Season Suspension from organization / league for remainder of current season
5. Permanent suspension from organization / league

_____ Signature Head Coach	_____ Date
_____ Signature Commissioner	_____ Date
_____ Signature President	_____ Date

*This document shall be kept current and produced upon request by appointed commissioner of each organization if requested by NYFL Officials*