

2-38 YOUTH SPORTS CODE OF CONDUCT.

2-38.1 Definitions.

As used in this section, the following terms shall have the meanings indicated:

Code of Conduct shall mean a written specification of the behavior to be expected of the parents, guardians, coaches, and officials as prescribed by N.J.S.A. 5:17-1 et seq., and as more particularly set forth herein and to which all coaches and the parents or legal guardians of each minor on each municipally-sponsored youth sports program shall consent.

Youth sports event shall mean any competition, practice or instructional event involving one (1) or more youth sports programs.

Youth sports program shall mean any sports activity managed by an organization that is sponsored by the Township, other such authorized agent or a nonprofit or similar charter; such organization being affiliated with or receiving monetary or other support or service from the Township of Rockaway or regularly utilizing any facilities owned, operated or maintained by the Township; such sports organization participating in sporting competitions involving minors, irrespective of the specific location of any particular event.

(Ord. #07-13 § 1)

2-38.2 Youth Sports Code of Conduct.

a. No coach, parent, player, participant, official or attendee shall engage in unsportsmanlike conduct with any other coach, parent, participant, official or any other attendee.

b. No coach, parent, player, participant, official, or attendee shall encourage any child or any other person to engage in unsportsmanlike conduct with any coach, parent, player, participant, official or any other attendee.

c. No coach, parent, player, participant, official, or attendee shall engage in any behavior which could endanger the health, safety or well-being of any coach, parent, player, participant, official or any other attendee.

d. No coach, parent, player, participant, official, or attendee shall encourage any child or any other person to engage in any behavior which could endanger the health, safety or well-being of any coach, parent, player, participant, official or any other attendee.

e. No coach, parent, player, participant, official, or attendee shall use drugs or alcohol while at a youth sports event and will not attend, coach, officiate or participate in a youth sports event while under the influence of drugs or alcohol.

f. No coach, parent, player, participant, official, or attendee shall permit any child, or encourage any other person to use drugs or alcohol while at a youth sports event and will not permit any child, or

encourage any other person to attend, coach, officiate or participate in a youth sports event while under the influence of drugs or alcohol.

g. No coach, parent, player, participant, official, or attendee shall engage in the use of profanity.

h. No coach, parent, player, participant, official or attendee shall encourage any child or any other person to engage in the use of profanity.

i. Every coach, parent, player, participant, official, or attendee shall treat any coach, parent, player, participant, official, or attendee with respect regardless of race, creed, color, national origin, sex, sexual orientation or ability.

j. Every coach, parent, player, participant, official, or attendee shall encourage every child to treat any coach, parent, player, participant, official or attendee with respect regardless of race, creed, color, national origin, sex, sexual orientation or ability.

k. No coach, parent, player participant, official, or attendee shall engage in verbal or physical treats or abuse aimed at any coach, parent, player, participant, official or any other attendee.

l. No coach, parent, player, participant, official, or attendee shall encourage any child or any other person to engage in verbal or physical threats or abuse aimed at any coach, parent, player, participant, official or any other attendee.

m. No coach, parent, player, participant, official, or attendee shall initiate a fight or scuffle with any coach, parent, player, participant, official, or any other attendee.

n. No coach, parent, player, participant, official, or attendee shall encourage any child or any other person to initiate a fight or scuffle with any coach, parent, player, participant, official, or any other attendee.

(Ord. #07-13 § 1)

2-38.3 Youth Sports Code of Conduct Committee.

a. The Township Citizen's Recreation Committee shall serve as the Youth Sports Code of Conduct Committee ("Committee").

b. The Committee shall be charged with enforcing the provisions of this Section 2-38 entitled Youth Sports Code of Conduct.

(Ord. #07-13 § 1; Ord. #12-07 § 1)

2-38.4 Code of Conduct Requirements.

a. Every coach, parent, player, participant, official, or attendee of a youth sports event shall be required to follow the Code of Conduct as set forth in this section. In addition, every coach and every participant or at least one (1) parent or legal guardian of each minor participating in a youth sports program must

sign the State of New Jersey Model Athletic Code of Conduct prior to the commencement of each program.

b. The State of New Jersey Model Athletic Code of Conduct will be made available for signature at program registration and thereafter upon request, to all parents or guardians of each child participating in a municipally sponsored sport or activity and shall be incorporated in all program registration forms. A copy of the State of New Jersey Model Athletic Code of Conduct and a summary of the requirements of this section shall be posted at all facilities utilized by Township-sponsored programs. (Ord. #07-13 § 1)

2-38.5 Violation Procedures and Hearings.

a. Any coach, parent, player, participant, official, or attendee at a youth sports event who believes there to be a violation of this section shall forward, in writing, their name, address, phone number, identity of the violator, date, location of violation and nature of the violation to the governing board of the appropriate youth sports program for an investigation and determination by the governing board of the youth sports program.

b. Upon receipt of notice that a violation of the Code of Conduct may have occurred, the governing board of the youth sports program shall investigate the matter and hold a hearing of the board to determine whether a violation occurred. The Township Director of the Department of Community Services shall be provided advances notice of all meetings of the governing board of any youth sports program concerning a violation of the Code of Conduct. Upon determination by a majority vote of the governing board of the youth sports program that a coach, parent, player, participant, official, or attendee at any youth sports event has violated a provision of the Code of Conduct, the governing board of the youth sports program may impose a penalty that is not inconsistent with subsection 2-28.6 below. The governing board of the youth sports program shall forward to the alleged violator a notice via regular and certified mail, with a copy to the Township Director of the Department of Community Services, a written determination regarding whether a violation of the Code of Conduct occurred. Said written determination shall identify the date, location, nature of the incident and, when applicable, any action to be taken in response to the violation.

c. The governing board of the youth sports program may refer any matters, which the governing board of the youth sports program determines it is unable to decide for whatever reason, directly to the Code of Conduct Committee for a determination.

d. Any coach, parent, player, participant, official or attendee who was found in violation of the Code of Conduct by the governing board of the youth sports program or the Township Director of the Department of Community Services may appeal a decision of the governing board of a youth sports program regarding a violation of the Code of Conduct to the Code of Conduct Committee for a final determination. Said appeal must be submitted to the Code of Conduct Committee for a final determination. Said appeal must be submitted to the Code of Conduct Committee in writing within ten (10) calendar days of receipt of the written notice of the decision by the governing board of the youth sports program. The appeal shall include a copy of said notice with a written request specifically setting forth the base of such person(s) contest of the notice of violation. The appeal shall be delivered by fax or

certified mail to the Chairperson of the Code of Conduct Committee c/o Rockaway Township Department of Community Services, 65 Mt. Hope Road, Rockaway, New Jersey 07866.

e. Upon receipt of such appeal the Code of Conduct Committee shall convene within ten (10) days and provide an opportunity for said person and any interested person or persons to appear and be heard with respect to the occurrence of any violation and action taken by the Code of Conduct Committee.

f. The Code of Conduct Committee shall review statements; first-hand accounts and any other pertinent information or documents relevant to the violation and upon a majority vote of members of the Committee, present at such hearing, may sustain, overturn, or modify the notice of violation consistent with this section. The Committee shall notify the alleged violator of the Code of Conduct, the Township Director of the Department of Community Services and the governing board of the youth sports program of their determination, including any changes or modifications to the notice of violation.

g. All notices of violation and banning or other actions taken by the governing board of the youth sport program shall remain in effect until or unless overturned or modified by the Code of Conduct Committee.

h. In the event any notice of violation issued by the governing board of the youth sports program is not appealed within ten (10) days of such notice, said notice of violation and action taken by the governing board of the youth sports program, including banning from youth sports events, shall become final.

i. The Township Department of Community Services, in accordance with the Township Clerk, shall maintain a permanent file on all proceedings as a result of any actions taken by the Code of Conduct Committee as a result of enforcement of this section.

(Ord. #07-13 § 1; Ord. #12-07 § 2)

2-38.6 Code of Conduct Violations and Penalties.

a. Any coach, parent, player, participant, official, or attendee of a youth sports event that is found by the Committee to have violated one (1) or more of the provisions contained above in subsection 2-38.2, Youth Sports Code of Conduct, may, at the discretion of the Committee, be banned from attending, coaching, officiating or participating in one (1) or more youth sports programs for a period not to exceed twelve (12) months from the date of the incident.

b. Any coach, parent, player, participant, official, or attendee of a youth sports event who is banned from attending, coaching, officiating or participating in one (1) or more youth sports programs for a period not to exceed twelve (12) months may also be required, at the discretion of the Committee, to complete an anger management counseling program, which offers services to individuals, singly or in groups, for the purposes of promoting anger control principles and shall be administered by an individual;

1. Licensed as a professional counselor pursuant to the provisions of the Professional Counselor Licensing Act, N.J.S.A. 45:8B-33 et seq., or

2. Licensed as a practicing psychologist pursuant to the provisions of the Practicing Psychology Licensing Act, N.J.S.A. 45:14B-1 et seq.

(Ord. #07-13 § 1)

2-38.7 Application.

a. The provisions of the Section 2-38, Youth Sports Code of Conduct, shall be effective as of September 1, 2007.

b. The provisions of this Section 2-38, Youth Sports Code of Conduct, supersedes any and all individual youth sports program bylaws adopted by the individual youth sports programs that are inconsistent with this section.

(Ord. #07-13 § 1)