

OYTF Program Code of Conduct

Introduction

The purpose of this handbook is to provide coaches, athletes, and parents with clear expectations, guidelines, and procedures that ensure a safe, structured, and positive youth experience within OYTF. This manual consolidates all program codes of conduct and operational expectations into a single reference document.

Coach Code of Conduct

- Prioritize the emotional and physical well-being of athletes above the desire to win.
- Treat each athlete as an individual and recognize they are children, not adults.
- Ensure that all practice and playing environments are safe.
- Organize practices that are fun, engaging, and instructional.
- Model sportsmanship and fair play at all times.
- Represent OYTF positively during all events.
- Know, teach, and reinforce all game rules.
- Follow OYTF and league rules, including participation requirements.
- Use coaching techniques appropriate for age and skill level.
- Ensure sideline parents follow the Parent Code of Conduct.
- Maintain a drug-, alcohol-, and tobacco-free environment at all OYTF practices/games.

Athlete Code of Conduct

- Demonstrate respect toward teammates, coaches, referees, opponents, and spectators.
- Display good sportsmanship at all times.
- Attend all practices and games unless an excused absence is communicated.
- Arrive prepared with proper equipment and a positive attitude.
- Follow all coaching instructions and safety rules.
- Report any injuries or unsafe conditions immediately.
- Represent OYTF positively on and off the field.

Parent / Guardian Code of Conduct

- Demonstrate respect toward all athletes, coaches, referees, and spectators.
- Refrain from coaching from the sideline or criticizing athletes or officials.
- Support youth development and enjoyment over winning.
- Maintain a drug-, alcohol-, and tobacco-free presence at all OYTF practices/games.
- Communicate respectfully and appropriately with coaches and OYTF staff.
- Address concerns through proper channels.
- Ensure timely arrival of athletes for practices, games, and meetings.

Emergency Contacts

- Emergency services: 911
- Local police (non-emergency): (630) 554-3426
- Field addresses should be posted at every event.

Safety Procedures

- All athletes must complete required medical forms before participation.
- Coaches should inspect fields before practice and games.
- Hydration breaks should occur at regular intervals in hot weather.
- Concussion protocol must be followed: remove athlete immediately, no same-day return.
- Volunteers are not required to administer any form of medication.

Program Philosophy

OYTF is a youth sports program focused on athlete development, safety, sportsmanship, and enjoyment. Winning is encouraged but not prioritized over learning, effort, teamwork, and character building.

Disciplinary Process

OYTF reserves the right to take disciplinary action when policies outlined in this handbook are violated. Actions may include warnings, suspensions, removal from events, or dismissal from the program.

All decisions made by the OYTF Executive Board of Directors are final and are intended to protect the integrity, safety, and mission of the program.