

Sturgis PAL Code of Conduct

The Sturgis Police Athletic League (PAL) abides by a strict Code of Conduct governing all coaches, players, officials and parents. The purpose of the Code is to ensure that the STURGIS PAL participants treat each other with dignity, respect and display good sportsmanship.

The Code of Conduct is a condition of membership for all players, parents, coaches and officials. All members of STURIGS PAL agree to abide by the Code of Conduct and to be subjected to the consequences of violating the Code. It is understood that by participating in any STURGIS PAL programs that players, parents and coaches are all bound by this Code of Conduct and its validity is hereby a matter of record and is not dependent upon physical signature.

All enforcement decisions made by the officials of STURGIS PAL are final and are not subject to review.

Parents:

1. Teach and practice good sportsmanship at all matches and practices. You are role models!
2. Know the rules of the game or the sport.
3. Respect the officials. Respect the coaches, and remember most are volunteers.
4. While the child is practicing or playing in a game do not coach your child. Let players play and coaches coach, and support both positively.
5. Do not EVER criticize other players regardless of the circumstance.
6. If there is a serious problem, notify either the Chief Volunteer Officer or the Program Director. If you are not satisfied of the resolution contact any member of the STURGIS PAL Board of Directors.
7. Emphasize the FUN of the game and the team, putting forth effort at all times, not wins and losses.
8. I understand that if I fail to follow the items listed above that I could be ejected from the property in which the STURGIS PAL is utilizing for their event(s) and possibly suspended from additional events.

Youth Athletes:

1. I will respect my teammates, coaches, referees and opponents at all times.
2. Give 100% effort at each practice and game.
3. Know the rules of the game of sport you are in and abide by them.
4. Support and encourage your teammates. Set a positive example.
5. Wear the required equipment at all events and practices, and keep your equipment well maintained.
6. Display good sportsmanship at all times on and off the field.
7. Don't be afraid to make a mistake, that is part of learning.
8. Learn from your coaches; practice hard; play smart; Have Fun!
9. Be modest in victory and gracious in defeat.
10. I understand that if I fail to follow the items listed above that I could be ejected from the property in which the Sturgis PAL is utilizing for their event(s) and possibly suspended from additional events

Coaches:

I understand that many children participate in sports for numerous reasons and that the number one reason is to have fun!

I understand that as a youth coach I am obligated to honor the games rules, opponents, officials, teammates and self, and to teach players to do the same.

I understand that my responsibilities as a youth coach are of great importance and that my actions have the potential to significantly influence the young athletes whom I coach.

Therefore, by participating as a youth sports volunteer coach, I will adhere to the following four codes of conduct.

- A. I will create an appropriate environment for our children that:**
 - 1 Builds a culture where winning is not defined by outcome of competition, but by the individual needs of all the children.
 - 2 Focuses on safety, fun, good sportsmanship, respect, skill development and education.
 - 3 Provide instruction in a manner that is constructive and supportive.

4. I will be fair, consistent, and best meets the emotional and physical needs of all children.
5. Has a positive lasting impact on the children of our Sturgis community.
6. Promotes building character and learning life skills, on and off the playing field
7. De-emphasizes a “win at all cost” attitude.

B. I will act responsibly and do my best to assure that:

1. I properly educate players on the importance of teamwork, effort, having fun and playing fair while properly instructing age appropriate fundamentals and skills.
2. I provide players with the best education, instruction and organization possible by attending required meetings, clinics and certifications.
3. I am familiar with the objectives of the youth sports program. I strive to achieve these objectives and communicate them to my players and their parents.
5. I cooperate with the Program Coordinator and the Executive Director of PAL in the enforcement of rules and I will report irregularities that violate sound competitive practices.
6. I provide a healthy and safe environment for my athletes, in accordance with my leagues’ safety procedures, and provide safe instruction and use of equipment

C. I will display appropriate behavior - I understand that violation of the following will jeopardize my privilege to coach.

1. I will treat all youth teams on both teams, opposing coaches, officials, parent or administrator with respect and dignity, and refrain from using profanity, intimidation tactics and inappropriate language.
2. I will uphold the authority of officials who are assigned to the contest in which I coach, and I will assist them in every way to conduct fair and impartial competitive contests.

D. Terminal behavior - I understand that violation of the following codes will result in immediate termination of my privilege to coach with PAL for the present and future seasons.

1. I will never coach under the influence of drugs or alcohol.
2. I will never initiate or participate in any form of verbal or physical assault on any staff, volunteer, parent or child of my team or opposing team member.
3. I will never use any tobacco products while in the presence of any youth participating in a STURGIS PAL event or practice.

For All:

1. Any conduct, including abusive language and/or gestures, racially insensitive remarks, damage to property or belongings, or any other conduct that reflects poorly on yourself or the STURGIS PAL and is deemed to be unacceptable, will not be tolerated. This rule applies to all players, parents, siblings and guests at all times when in or around games or practices as a member of the program.
2. During a tournament or match when you are away, you represent the STURGIS PAL. Any conduct such as shoplifting, destruction of property, consumption of drugs or alcohol, or any other improper activity or behavior will not be tolerated. This rule applies for the entire time when it is away for a match or tournament.
3. The Board of the STURGIS PAL will deal with unacceptable conduct at its sole discretion, imposing warnings, suspension or expulsion, as it deems appropriate.

Youth Athletes Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent / Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____

Coach / Volunteer Signature: _____ Date: _____