

# ATHLETIC CODE OF CONDUCT

*(FAILURE TO SIGN THIS CODE OF CONDUCT WILL NULLIFY THIS REGISTRATION)*

## **PREFACE**

In August, 2002, former Governor James McGreevy signed P.L. 2002, c. 74 granting municipalities permission to develop an Athletic Code of Conduct. The genesis of this law is a result of unruly behavior by players, coaches, parents and fans attending municipal recreational athletic events.

The purpose of this policy is not to reproduce a litany of rules and regulations regarding spectator behavior developed by municipalities and league affiliations. Its purpose is to define behavioral actions that address unethical behaviors that impact on all concerned parties.

## **POLICY**

No person is permitted to engage in verbal or physical threats or abuse aimed at any player, coach, official, parent, or spectator. (C.5:17-1)

No person is permitted to initiate a fight with any player, coach, official, parent or spectator if the conduct occurs at or in connection with a City of Burlington recreational athletic contest. (C.5:17-1)

No person is permitted to cause public inconvenience, annoyance or alarm, or recklessly create a risk thereof he/she 1) engages in fighting or threatening, or in violent or tumultuous behavior; and 2) creates a hazardous or physically dangerous condition by any act which serves no legitimate purpose. (2C:33-32)

No person is permitted to offend the sensibilities of a hearer or in the reckless disregard of the probability of doing so; he/she addresses unreasonably loud and abusive language, given the circumstances of the person present. (2C:33-32)

**VIOLATIONS MAY RESULT IN ONE OR MORE OF THE FOLLOWING ACTIONS DEPENDING UPON THE SEVERITY OF THE ACT – DO NOT IN ANY WAY INTERPRET THE FOLLOWING AS SEQUENTIAL – THIS DOCUMENT IS APPLICABLE TO PLAYER, COACHES, PARENTS, SPECTATORS**

- Suspension from event site
- Meeting with Recreation Director and BCAA Board of Governors
- Written reprimand or warning of future action with copies sent to police department
- Suspension for a certain number of sport specific events (Home/Away/Tournaments)
- Suspension from sport specific events for remainder of season (Home/Away/Tournaments)
- Lifetime suspension from all City of Burlington recreational activities (Home/Away/Tournaments)
- Successful completion of anger management counseling program with written evidence of completion - At violators expense
- Police involvement and legal action

## HOW TO BE A GOOD SPORTS PARENT

**Encourage Your Child:** Regardless of skill level or success

**Ensure a balance:** Encourage participation in multiple sports while placing academics first

**Emphasize enjoyment:** Have fun

**Leave coaching to the coaches:** I understand that the men/women involved in our programs are volunteers. They are doing their best. If I have something to offer I will volunteer to assist.

**Let officials officiate:** I understand that officials are honest people. They do not care who wins. If I feel that I can do a better job I will contact the recreation department and request information regarding the process of becoming a certified official.

**Be realistic:** There are very few athletic scholarships available – In most instances being good is not good enough – Regardless of how good you are, if your abilities are not supported by academics you will not be offered a scholarship.

**Be there:** Be a role model when your child looks to the sideline.

**Be a good sport:** I will not argue with a coach, official, parent or spectator. If I want to discuss something with the coach I will make an appointment and talk with him/her after practice. I will never discuss a concern with the coach after a game.

**I have read and understand the above statues regarding Code of Conduct at Burlington City recreational activities (Home/Away/Tournament), and I understand what is expected of me as a parent/guardian/fan.**

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Print Name of Child

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Print Parent/Guardian Name

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Parent/Guardian Signature

**Meeting Date** **Office Use Only**