

CODE OF CONDUCT

Adopted 2-13-06 by the Commerce Mayor and Council

The Commerce Parks & Recreation Department endeavors to create a wholesome recreation environment at all city government - administered sports events for all participants - players, coaches, and spectators.

To create and maintain an enjoyable, wholesome environment at these events, it is vital that all participants make it a point to exhibit a positive and respectful attitude toward each other.

The City of Commerce Mayor and Council and its Parks & Recreation staff encourages such behavior so that participants will enjoy themselves to the fullest at these events.

Behavior not conducive to a wholesome, enjoyable environment will be discouraged. Participant behavior which is extreme in nature is unacceptable and cannot be tolerated.

Listed below are specific instances of unacceptable behavior by participants - players, coaches, and spectators - and the prescribed penalties for each. Substandard conduct which should be penalized by disciplinary action is not limited to those specified below.

- A. **PENALTIES ASSESSED DURING A GAME FOR UNSPORTSMANSHIPLIKE CONDUCT** (example: technical fouls in basketball) will be reviewed by Parks & Recreation staff. Severe unsportsmanlike action and/or recurring actions over a period of time will be penalized as appropriate.

- B.** Players, coaches or spectators **EJECTED FROM A GAME FOR UNSPORTSMANLIKE CONDUCT** will not be allowed to participate in or attend a minimum of the next game.
- C.** Players, coaches or spectators **WHO USE PROFANE LANGUAGE OR PROFANE GESTURES** toward other players, coaches, or spectators or against game officials or city staff before, during, or after a game will not be permitted to participate in or attend a minimum of the next two (2) games.
- D.** Players, coaches, or spectators **WHO, BY DESIGN, INCITE OTHERS TO BECOME DISORDERLY** through unsportsmanlike conduct during a game will not be permitted to participate in or attend a minimum of the next two (2) games.

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- E.** Players, coaches, or spectators **WHO ENGAGE IN A PHYSICAL FIGHT** at the playing facilities before, during, or after games will not be permitted to participate in or attend a minimum of the next two (2) games.
- F. VIOLATORS OF B, C, D OR E** above will require the player, coach, or spectator to immediately leave the facility entirely. Violators will also have no visual or verbal contact with their team during practices of games for the duration of the suspension. Further, violators will be on probationary status for one year from the date of the incident. Subsequent violations will bring progressively greater penalties to be determined by the severity of the violation.
- G. ANY COACH WHO VERBALLY ABUSES A PLAYER** will be disciplined according to the severity of such abuse. Such discipline may range from a minimum of counseling by Parks & Recreation

staff to a maximum of dismissal.

- H. **ANY COACH WHO PHYSICALLY ABUSES A PLAYER** will be dismissed with possible repercussion as prescribed by law.
- I. These rules will apply to games played in Commerce, as well as, to games played in other communities (regular season and all-star competition).
- J. Additionally, Georgia law specifies that any person who commits the offense of simple battery against a youth sports official during or after a game will be punished for a misdemeanor of high and aggravated nature.