

PARENT / SPECTATOR CODE OF CONDUCT

Marple Newtown Recreation, the parent organization of the Marple Newtown Basketball Association (MNBA), welcomes children of all ability levels to participate in its youth basketball program. We promote the physical, social and emotional development of all of our youth participants. As such, it is essential for parents, coaches, and officials to encourage young athletes to embrace the values of good sportsmanship and teamwork. All adults involved in youth athletic events should be models of good sportsmanship and lead by example while demonstrating fairness, respect and self-control.

As a parent or guardian of a MNBA player, I pledge to be responsible for my (and my guests) words and actions while attending, coaching or participating in a youth athletic event. I shall conform my behavior to the following code of conduct:

1. I will remember that children participate to have fun and that the game is for the youth participants, not adults.
2. I (and my guests) will be a positive role model for my child and encourage sportsmanship by showing respect and courtesy, and by demonstrating positive support for all players, coaches, referees and spectators at every game, practice or other sporting events.
3. I (and my guests) will not engage in any kind of unsportsmanlike conduct with any MN Recreation staff, referee(s), coach(es), player(s), or parent(s) such as booing and taunting; refusing to shake hands; verbal or physical threats; or using profane language or gestures.
4. I will not engage, or encourage my child or any other person to engage in any behavior which would endanger the health, safety or well-being of any coach, parent, player, participant, referee, MN Recreation staff or any other attendee.
5. I will treat, and ensure my child treats, any coach, parent, player, participant, referee, MN Recreation staff or any other attendee with respect regardless of race, creed, color, national origin, sex, sexual orientation or ability.
6. I will not initiate, and will not tolerate my child initiating a verbal or physical fight, abuse, negative comments or scuffle with any coach, parent, player, participant, referee, MN Recreation staff or any other attendee.
7. I will not embarrass my child by calling attention to him/her through loud or rude behavior.
8. I will encourage my child to practice good sportsmanship.
9. I will never ridicule or yell at my child or other participants for making a mistake or losing a competition.
10. I will promote the emotional and physical well-being of all athletes ahead of any personal desire I may have for my child to win.
11. I will respect the staff and official's authority during games and will never question, discuss, or confront coaches or MN Recreation staff at a game, and will take time to speak with coaches privately at an agreed upon time and place if I have an issue or concern.

12. I will help ensure that each child plays in a safe and healthy environment, leave food and beverages outside the gym, help pick up trash, and notify coaches or staff of noticeable playing hazards.
13. I will ensure the environment is free from tobacco products, drugs and alcohol at all youth sporting events.
14. I will accept decisions of referees as being fair and performed to the best of their ability. I will refrain from criticizing any of the above verbally or by gesture. I will never go onto the court while the game is in progress to dispute a call and allow any questions or rule interpretations to be handled appropriately by the coaches, staff and officials during time-outs or between halves.

I hereby agree that if I (or my guests) fail to conform my conduct to the foregoing while attending, coaching, or participating in a Marple Newtown Recreation youth sporting event, I and/or my child will be subject to disciplinary action at the sole discretion of the Director of Recreation, including but not limited to the following in any order or combination:

1. Verbal warning issued by the Marple Newtown Recreation Director of Recreation or his designee.
2. Written warning issued by the Marple Newtown Recreation Director of Recreation or his designee.
3. Suspension issued by the Marple Newtown Recreation Director of Recreation or his designee.
4. One season, multiple season or permanent suspension issued by the Marple Newtown Recreation Director of Recreation or his designee.

If a spectator is ejected for any reason within this code of conduct, he/she may not attend the next two (2) games at a minimum. If a spectator is ejected a second time or acts out physically towards another individual, he/she will not be allowed to attend any Marple Newtown Recreation Youth Sports activities for a minimum of one (1) year from the date of the incident. If such action is taken, the individual must meet with the Director of Recreation prior to returning to any event.