

  
**LITTLE LEAGUE**  
**Code of Conduct**

We, the Santa Clara Westside Little League, have implemented the following Code of Conduct. Parents, guardian, spectators and volunteers should read, understand and sign this form prior to volunteering in or having their children participate in our league.

*Preamble:*

The essential elements of character building and ethics in sports are embodied in the concept of sportsmanship and six core principles: Trustworthiness, Respect, Responsibility, Fairness, Caring, and Citizenship.

*Agreements:*

The following applies to all parents, guardians, spectators, coaches and volunteers:

1. I will not force my child to participate in sports.
2. I will remember that children participate to have fun and that the game is for youth, not adults.
3. I will inform the coach of any physical disability or ailment that may affect the safety of my child or the safety of others.
4. I will learn the rules of the game and the policies of the league.
5. I will be a positive role model and encourage sportsmanship by showing respect and courtesy, and by demonstrating positive support for all players, coaches, officials and spectators at every game, practice or other sporting event.
6. I will not engage in any kind of unsportsmanlike conduct with any official, coach, player, or parent such as booing and taunting; refusing to shake hands; or using profane language or gestures.
7. I will not encourage any behaviors or practices that would endanger the health and well being of the players, spectators, coaches or volunteers.
8. I will teach players to play by the rules and to resolve conflicts without resorting to hostility.
9. I will demand that my player(s) treat other players, coaches, officials and spectators with respect regardless of race, creed, color, sex or ability.
10. I will teach my player that doing one's best is more important than winning, so that my child will never feel defeated by the outcome of a game or his/her performance.
11. I will praise children for competing fairly and trying hard, and make them feel like a winner every time.
12. I will never ridicule or yell at my child or other participants for making a mistake or losing a competition.
13. I will emphasize skill development and practices and how they benefit my child over winning. I will also de-emphasize games and competition in the lower divisions.
14. I will promote the emotional and physical well-being of the athletes ahead of any personal desire I may have for my child to win.
15. I will respect the officials and their authority during games and will never question, discuss, or confront coaches at the game field, and will take time to speak with coaches at an agreed upon time and place.
16. I will demand a sports environment for my child that is free from drugs, tobacco, and alcohol and I will refrain from their use at all sports events.
17. I will refrain from coaching my child or other players during games and practices, unless I am one of the official coaches of the team.
18. If I am a coach or volunteer, I will never physically discipline a player (including my own child) at the ballpark.
19. If I am a coach or volunteer, I will read, understand and adhere to the official little league rules, and local league rules (including player participation rules).
20. If I am a coach or volunteer, I will never yell at or verbally abuse opposing coaches, umpires or volunteers, and will strive to treat everyone with respect.

*Three Strikes Policy:*

Any parent, guardian, spectator or volunteer that fails to conduct himself or herself properly at any game or practice will be asked to leave the premises immediately and might be asked to appear before the league's "Code of Conduct Committee".

1. In the event of a first violation of this Code of Conduct, the penalty may include, but not limited to a (i) warning, (ii) game(s) suspension or (iii) expulsion for the rest of the year.
2. In the event of a second violation of this Code of Conduct, may include, but not limited to (i) a game(s) suspension or (ii) expulsion for the rest of the year.
3. In the event of a third violation the penalty shall be expulsion for the rest of the year.

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Parent/Guardian/Volunteer

Signature/Date