



YAC BOYS LACROSSE CODE OF CONDUCT

Introduction

To enable children who enroll in the YAC Lacrosse Program to have a positive playing experience, and learn to play and love the game, YAC Lacrosse establishes the following conduct standards for coaches, players and parents. This Code of Conduct is a condition of participation for all coaches, players and parents. All such participants in YAC Lacrosse agree to abide by the Code of Conduct and to be subject to the consequences of violating the Code. It shall be a condition of participating in YAC Lacrosse as a coach, player or parent that, by enrolling in the YAC Program or acting as a coach, players, coaches and parents of players 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 officials of YAC Lacrosse are final and are not subject to review. No refunds will be granted to those players dismissed from the Club for violations of the Code of Conduct by themselves or their parents.

Coaches and Participating Parents

- The top priority is to teach basic lacrosse skills in a fun and safe manner, not a teams won/lost record.
- Coaches are to teach and encourage players through positive reinforcement. Coaches should always demonstrate positive behaviors and reinforce them to players, parents, officials and spectators alike. Players should be specifically encouraged and positively reinforced by coaches to demonstrate respect for teammates, opponents, officials and spectators. Coaches must help reinforce the self image of each player by being positive and constructive.
- Know and teach the rules of lacrosse. Abide by those rules in practice and games.
- Teach and practice good sportsmanship at all games and practices.
- Establish objectives for your team and players and inform them of team and individual goals.
- Teaching should be emphasized in practice, with games serving as an opportunity for kids to play and learn from their mistakes. Coaches should avoid over instructing play during games. Negative comments by coaches from the sideline to players on the field during games will not be tolerated.
- Referees are to be respected and supported, do not openly argue with referees over calls not related to a players' safety. Coaches also are expected to educate their players as to the important role of lacrosse officials and reinforce the ideal of respect for the officials to players/teammates.
- Coaches of the 2nd Grade Clinic, 3/4th Grade Program and all B Teams shall do their best to ensure that everyone plays an equal number of minutes per game. The 3/4th Grade coaches should substitute by rotating lines through each field position whenever feasible, so as to allow players to play each position, e.g., new line enters at defense, defense line moves to midfield, midfield moves to attack, attack line substitutes out.

- Coaches for A Teams shall do their best to ensure that everyone plays a significant amount of time. It is presumed that players selected for such teams are skilled enough to play on the team, and therefore should all play significant time. As with all teams in YAC Lacrosse, the top priority for the A Teams is the teaching of the game and instilling a love of the game, not a team=s won/lost record. A player does not learn and improve by not playing significant time in each game.
- Players should be allowed to play each position, although this may be limited at the 5/6 and 7/8 A level. Even at this level, however, players should get some opportunity to play different positions. Goalies should be encouraged to play the field when not playing in the goal, including at the A level.
- Coaches shall not have players from other teams play on their teams unless their team has less than fifteen players show up for a game. In such cases, coaches should invite different players from YAC only to play for their team.
- Obscene language or gestures will not be tolerated.
- Be modest in victory and gracious in defeat.

Non-Coaching Parents and Spectators

- Teach and practice good sportsmanship at all games and practices. You are role models!
- Know the rules of the game of lacrosse.
- Respect the game of lacrosse. Respect the officials. Respect the coaches, who are volunteers.
- Do not coach your child during games or practices. Let players play and coaches coach, and support both positively.
- Do not EVER criticize players regardless of the circumstance.
- Do not criticize referees.
- Obscene language or gestures will not be tolerated.
- Any concerns about how the league is run, coaches are coaching, or referees are officiating should be referred to the Head Coach first.
- Follow the 24 Hour Rule.... if you have a complaint resulting from a game (or practice) situation, speak with the coach on the following day.
- If there is a serious problem, notify either the Commissioner or Assistant Commissioner of YAC Lacrosse.
- Emphasize the FUN of the game and the team, putting forth effort at all times, not wins and losses. Be modest in victory and gracious in defeat.
- Take time to discuss with your sons and daughters the guidelines for players that are listed below.

Players

- Respect your teammates, coaches, referees and opponents at all times.
- Arrive on the field on time and fully equipped.
- Coaches and referees are volunteering their time for your good and should be respected.
- Give 100% effort at each practice and game.
- Know the rules of the game of lacrosse and abide by them.
- Support and encourage your teammates. Set a positive example.
- Wear the required equipment at all games and practices, and keep your equipment well maintained.
- Display good sportsmanship at all times on and off the field.
- Don't be afraid to make mistakes; that is part of learning.
- Learn from your coaches; practice hard; play smart; have fun!
- Obscene language or gestures will not be tolerated.

- Be modest in victory and gracious in defeat.

All

- All 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 YAC is deemed to be unacceptable and 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 YAC.

- During a tournament or game when you are away, you represent the Town of Yorktown and YAC. Any conduct such as shoplifting, destruction of property, consumption of drugs or alcohol, or any other activity will not be tolerated. This rule applies for the entire time one is away for a game or tournament.

- The Board of Directors of YAC Lacrosse will deal with unacceptable conduct at its sole discretion, imposing warnings, suspension or expulsion, as it deems appropriate. **ANY SUSPENSION OR EXPULSION BASED ON VIOLATIONS OF THE CODE OF CONDUCT WILL NOT BE ACCOMPANIED BY A REGISTRATION REFUND .**