

SPORTSMANSHIP & CODE OF CONDUCT POLICY

Lacrosse is a team sport. This is one of the great benefits of young players learning lacrosse. Team play, team chemistry and desire to excel are important to individual player and team development.

PLAYERS:

1. Respect your teammates, coaches, referees and opponents at all times, even when others do not. Coaches and referees give their time for your benefit and should be respected.
2. Know the rules of the game of lacrosse and abide by them.
3. Wear the required equipment at all games and practices. Keep equipment maintained.
4. Don't be afraid to make mistakes – that is part of learning.
5. Be modest in victory and gracious in defeat.
6. Remember you are representing Wheeler Jr. Lacrosse on and off the field. Be a good leader and set positive examples.

COACHES:

1. Teach and practice good sportsmanship at all games and practices. You are the role models!
2. Coaches must reinforce the self-image of each player. A coach must be positive and constructive.
3. Teach the rules of lacrosse. Abide by those rules in practices and games.
4. Establish objectives for the team & players and inform them of team and individual goals.
5. Emphasize the FUN of the game and the team, putting forth effort at all times, not wins and losses.

PARENTS:

1. All players are to be picked up within 10 minutes of the conclusion of practices or games.
2. No spectators on the field from warmups through conclusion of the game. Only exception is if called to do so by a member of the coaching staff or referee.
3. Let the coaches do the coaching. Our players need to focus on the direction from their coaches. Do not direct or communicate with players during games or practices.
4. Coaches are the only authorized adults to discuss plays with referees/officials. Refrain from directly engaging with ANY of the coaches, referees, opposing players or parents during a game.
5. 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. Refrain from airing grievances in front of players. If there is a serious problem, notify the Wheeler Jr. President.

GAME PLAY:

During recreation league play coaches will make all reasonable efforts to balance playing time among the players. In this effort, it is the responsibility of the players to remain prepared to enter the game at all times, and to participate in practice to they are prepared to for any role they are instructed to play.

EFFORT:

Players who choose to disregard the coaches' instruction take away from the quality of the

team experience and take away from the experience of those working hard. Players are expected to show effort.

ATTENDANCE:

During the normal course of practices our players will be taught both individual skills and team play. Players who miss practices will miss out on the team concepts and skills. This takes away from the experience of those players fully participating. Below we have set a general level of expectation for players' attendance at each age level. These are guidelines only for coaches and parents and are not intended to be calculated with pinpoint accuracy.

3rd-5th grade (U10) - 60% of the cumulative practices

6th-8th grade (U14) - 80% of the cumulative practices

CODE OF CONDUCT:

All players, coaches and parents/guardians of players participating within the Wheeler Junior Lacrosse program must abide by a Code of Conduct. I pledge to be responsible for my words and actions while attending, coaching, or participating in a youth sports event and shall harmonize my behavior to the following code of conduct:

1. I/We will encourage good sportsmanship by demonstrating positive support for all players, coaches, officials and Wheeler Junior Lacrosse Board Members at every Wheeler Junior Lacrosse event.
2. I/We will place the emotional and physical well-being of my/our child ahead of my/our personal desire to win.
3. I/We will ask my/our child to treat all other players, coaches, fans and officials with respect regardless of race, sex, creed or ability.
4. I/We agree to treat all players, coaches, fans, officials, and Wheeler Junior Lacrosse Board Members with respect regardless of race, sex, creed or ability.
5. I/We will do my very best to make sure my child arrives and is picked up at the scheduled time for all practices, games and other Wheeler Junior Lacrosse events.
6. I/We agree to not smoke on the practice or playing field, or in the presence of a gathering of the team/squad at any Wheeler Junior Lacrosse game or event.
7. I/We agree to abstain from the possession and drinking of alcoholic beverages and the possession or use of any illegal substance on the practice or playing field, or in the presence of a gathering of the team/squad at any Wheeler Junior Lacrosse event.
8. I/We agree not to deliberately incite and/or participate in unsportsmanlike conduct at any Wheeler Junior Lacrosse game or event.
9. I/We agree not to use abusive or profane language or actions at any time at any Wheeler game or event.

10. I/We agree not to criticize, belittle, antagonize, and berate any player, coach, cheerleader, fan, official, parent, or Wheeler Junior Lacrosse Board Member by word of mouth or by gesture.

11. I/We agree to take responsibility for any actions that violates this Code of Conduct by a guest or relative of attending parent or guardian.

12. Any act of disrespect from I/We or a relative or guest may be cause for immediate ejection from any and all current and future Wheeler Junior Lacrosse activities until reviewed by the Wheeler Junior Lacrosse Board of Directors.

13. I/We agree if I/We have been ejected or removed from any Wheeler Junior Lacrosse function I/We will refrain from attending any practices/games/events for the period of my punishment as decided by the Wheeler Junior Lacrosse Board of Directors.

I do hereby certify by my signature that I/We have read the Code of Conduct and agree to abide by the terms and conditions. I am aware that Wheeler Jr. Lacrosse has a ZERO TOLERANCE POLICY for violations of this Code of Conduct. I hereby agree that failure to conform my conduct to the foregoing while attending, coaching, officiating or participating in a youth sports event I will be subject to disciplinary action, including but not limited to the following in any order or combination made by the head coach or board member:

1. Written warning issued.
2. Repeated or serious violations will be reviewed by the Wheeler Jr Board of Directors.
3. Suspend the player or parent from practices, games/events for a specified period of time (no refunds given).
4. Remove the player and family from the Wheeler Jr. Lacrosse program (no refunds given).

PLAYER NAME: _____

SIGNATURE: _____

DATE: _____

Formal complaints about sportsmanship issues or code of conduct violations must be sent to Wheeler Jr Lacrosse Association Board of Directors regarding a player(s), coach(es), official(s), or spectator(s). The complaint can be sent within 7 days of the incident. The complaint shall be made in writing and may not be made anonymously. It shall detail specific issues relating to sportsmanship issues or inappropriate behavior that has occurred or continues to occur on a regular basis. The complaint should include but is not limited to: • Name and contact information of person submitting the complaint • Name and affiliation of the person who the complaint is being filed against. • A detailed description of the incident(s) and parties involved • Supporting material to help illustrate the incident(s)