



## **Coaching Code of Conduct & Sportsmanship**

Stow YES wants to ensure that games are fair, positive and enjoyable experiences for all the children and adults involved.

To clarify expectations of coach conduct, the Stow YES board jointly expects all coaches to conform to this code of conduct.

### **General Rules of Conduct & Sportsmanship:**

1. Managers are responsible to control the behavior of their coaches, players and fans. No verbal abuse or harassment shall ever be directed to an umpire, opposing team, or player.
2. Taunting or negative cheers directed at the other team shall not be tolerated.
3. Profanity will not be tolerated by any individual in the vicinity of a playing field and will result in the automatic ejection from the game.
4. Any and all disputes between a manager and an umpire must be dealt with in a quick, respectful, and orderly manner. A player must never be allowed to enter into any dispute with an umpire.
5. Inappropriate physical contact will not be tolerated. Based on the degree of contact, the umpire may call the player out or eject the player from the game.
6. The umpire, any board member, or league commissioner is empowered to eject a manager, coach, player, or spectator for unruly or unsportsmanlike conduct provided that the individual imposing the ejection is not involved in the game as a manager, coach, or parent of a player.
7. Tobacco products are prohibited from being used by any manager, coach, umpire, or player.
8. An automatic suspension from the program will result if any manager, coach, umpire, or player appears at a game or practice under the influence of alcohol or drugs.

### **Coaches who do not follow the expectations described above will be disciplined or removed in accordance with the following**

**Level 1 Code of Conduct Violation** – A Level 1 Code of Conduct Violation (COCV1) is defined as a minor violation to the Stow YES Coaching Code of Conduct. In these cases, after an investigation has been completed, if the coach in question is found to be in violation, the Stow YES Board will issue an automatic 1 game suspension.

If the coach commits another COCV1 at any time after an initial suspension has been issued, the Stow YES Board will issue an automatic 2-game suspension. The coach will also be required to complete an on-line course in Sportsmanship available at [www.nfhslearn.com](http://www.nfhslearn.com). A certificate of completion must be presented to the program before the coach may be involved in a game.

The coach will be required to appear in front of the Stow YES Board. The coach will not be permitted to attend games as a coach or fan during his/her suspension.

If a subsequent violation occurs at any time, the Stow YES Board reserves the right to suspend the coach for a minimum of 6 games up to removal from the program. The coach will not be permitted to attend games as a coach or as a spectator during his/her suspension.

Stow YES Board will utilize interviews with Stow YES Board members, coaches, umpires and parents as necessary to validate the COCV1 to determine legitimacy of COCV1.

Examples of Level 1 COCV include but are not limited to the following:

- Excessive argumentation with the umpire or opposing coaches/fans, including frequently challenging the strike zone.



- Inappropriate or distasteful comments directed at any Stow YES participant (players, coaches, umpires) or fans.
- Exhibition of poor sportsmanship before, during or after the game.

**Level 2 Code of Conduct Violation** – A Level 2 Code of Conduct Violation (COCV2) is defined as a major violation of the Stow YES Coaching Code of Conduct. In these cases, after an investigation has been completed, if the coach in question is found to be in violation, the Stow YES Board will issue an automatic 6-game suspension. The coach will be required to appear in front of the Stow YES Board. If a subsequent violation occurs at any time, the Stow YES Board reserves the right to suspend the coach permanently from the program. The coach will not be permitted to attend games as a coach or as a fan during his/her suspension. Stow YES Board will utilize interviews with Stow YES Board members, coaches, umpires and parents as necessary to validate COCV2 to determine legitimacy of COCV2.

Examples of Level 2 COCV include but are not limited to the following:

- Abusive, threatening, lewd or foul-mouth language directed at any Stow YES participant (players, coaches, umpires) or fans.
- Willful disrespect exhibited by a coach toward another coach, player, fan, umpire, league official or Stow YES Board member for the purpose of creating harm toward the individual or organization.
- Engaging in an intimidating confrontation with a coach, player, fan, umpire, league official or Stow YES Board member for the purpose of influencing a call or the outcome of the game.

**Level 3 Code of Conduct Violation** – A Level 3 Code of Conduct Violation (COCV3) is major violation of the Stow YES Coaching Code of Conduct and after investigation, if confirmed, results in immediate and permanent suspension from the program.

Examples of Level 3 COCV include the following:

- Coach is under the influence of drugs and/or alcohol.
- Coach demonstrates abusive (physical or emotional) actions toward a coach, player, fan, umpire, league official or Stow YES Board member.

### Coaching Code of Conduct & Sportsmanship

I have read the Coaching Code of Conduct and agree to abide by the code of conduct at all Stow YES events.

Coach's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_ League: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_