



TOP 3 TIPS FOR ATHLETES

By R. E. Martin

Together... here for our youth!

We love watching the athletes play. If anyone detects suspicious, unusual behavior, please bring it to the attention of those in authority. Event organizers have introduced penalties for teams that engage in an uncivil and/or abusive manner. Penalties may include ejection of team managers and/or the team without refund of entry fees. Individuals that violate their commitments to this pledge may be asked to leave the team. Prepaid team fees will not be refunded.

LET'S KEEP IT POSITIVE AND ENJOYABLE FOR ALL PARTICIPANTS!

Topics for group team discussion

#3 It Starts with Good Sportsmanship & You

Keep the enjoyment in the game for you, your coaches, parents, fans, opponents and officials

#2 Believe In and Like Who You Really Are

Coaches, parents, fans and officials should also let you know how much they/we really enjoy watching you play

#1 Talk to Those You Trust

We all need to talk to each other-- the game belongs to you, but everyone has a stake in your safety and well-being!

Life is comprised of more than scores on a scoreboard

EMERGENCY

In a crisis call "911" immediately

● If considering self-harm, call "988"

The National Suicide Intervention Lifeline

SEXUAL MISCONDUCT

To speak to a counselor,
Call (800) 656-4673

RAINN

BULLYING/HAZING, VIOLENCE, ADDICTIONS & SUBSTANCE ABUSE SIGNS

For helpful resources,

thebmsproject.org/Safety

CHILD ABUSE

To report suspected child abuse,
Call (800) 422-4453

Childhelp National Child Abuse Hotline

It is recommended that incident(s) of serious misconduct be reported to law enforcement. Minors should report incidents of misconduct to their parent(s) or guardian(s).



EARLY-SEASON TEAM PLEDGE

INSTRUCTIONS: This pledge represents a commitment to your team, as well as your team making commitments to you. Each coach should initial and sign the pledge, then distribute two copies (to athlete/parent(s) or guardian. Discuss and have both copies signed at a team meeting. After signing the coach retains one copy and the other copy is given to athlete/parent(s) guardian. **IT IS IMPORTANT THAT ALL MEMBERS OF THE TEAM, COACHES, PARENTS, GRANDPARENTS, ATHLETES AND INVITED GUESTS RESPECT OUR OFFICIALS. YOUTH SPORTS ARE SUFFERING A CRISIS IN REGARDS TO RECRUITING AND RETAINING OFFICIALS. LET'S ALL WORK TOGETHER TO MAKE YOUTH SPORTS A POSITIVE EXPERIENCE.**

BY SIGNING BELOW I/WE AGREE AND COMMIT NOT TO HARASS OR SAY OUT LOUD NEGATIVE COMMENTS DIRECTED TOWARD OFFICIALS; OR IN ANY WAY BEHAVE INAPPROPRIATELY TOWARD OFFICIALS.

NAME OF TEAM: _____ **NAME OF ATHLETE:** _____ **DATE:** _____

We hereby jointly pledge to conduct ourselves in a civil manner and not engage in negative, harmful, abusive behaviors. Together, we agree to strive to contribute to positive, safe experiences for all - including opposing teams participating athletes, coaches, parents and officials.

Initial Boxes:

Coaches:

- The coaching staff will be held accountable for the same standard of good conduct as our parents, athletes and fans.
- We commit to our team (parents and players) and organization to treat our athletes as people first and foremost.
- We will continuously strive to improve our knowledge of our sport and impart that knowledge on our athletes.
- We will make our very best effort to conduct regular, well organized practices and extend to each athlete an opportunity to earn fair playing time.

Athlete:

- I will give my best effort to learn my sport, play and develop my skills to the best of my ability.
- I will support my teammates and respect my coaches, parents, officials, other teams and attendees.
- I will refrain from making negative social media posts and/or negative online exchanges - as well as to advise and discourage family members, friends, and guests to do the same.
- I promise not to engage in substance abuse and will strive to conduct myself to a high moral standard.

Parent(s)/Grandparent(s) or Guardian(s): (If Athlete is under 18 years of age):

- I/we agree not to, uninvited, instruct my athlete's, or other participating athletes' performance.
- I/we agree to strive to ensure that relatives (including grandparents) and/or other guests in attendance are made aware of our team's code of civil conduct.
- I/we will not verbally engage in any "on the fence", "from the stands" or "sideline" coaching and/or harassment, of other event participants on or off the playing field/court/rink; including not making any negative social media posts.
- I/we will strive to be supportive and not overly critical or verbally abusive of my child's performance.
- I agree that disagreements/conflicts will be conducted privately and civilly — away from public attention.

Signature(s):

Coaches

Athlete

Parent(s) or Guardian