

## Whitpain Recreation Association Code of Conduct

The Mission Statement of the Whitpain Recreation Association (WRA) is to implant firmly in the boys and girls of our community the ideals of good sportsmanship, honesty, loyalty, courage, and respect for authority, so they may be well-adjusted, stronger, happier, and grow up to be good, decent, healthy, and trustworthy men and women.

The attainment of exceptional athletic skills or wins is secondary to the molding of these future men and women.

Those who strongly disagree with the WRA's Mission Statement, or who believe they may have difficulty complying with it, are strongly discouraged from registering for WRA sports programs or events.

I understand, as a player, parent, guardian, coach or volunteer, that I am expected to commit to furthering the WRA's Mission Statement at all times while attending any WRA-sanctioned game, practice or event; and,

I agree to obey all field and property rules such as parking restrictions, no pets, no smoking, no alcoholic beverages, etc; and,

I agree to abide by the additional guidelines defined below:

1. Players shall listen to their coach and follow the rules that he or she establishes for the team.
2. Players shall try to attend all practices and games and be on time.
3. Players shall always exhibit good sportsmanship and be respectful of fellow players.
4. Players shall not argue with or be disrespectful to any coach, referee, umpire or official.
5. Players shall shake hands with the other team after every game.
6. Players shall not use foul or inappropriate language during any game, practice, or event and under no circumstances use physical force or threats of any kind.
7. Parents and guardians shall let the appointed coaches coach, refrain from coaching their child or any other player from the sideline, and shall never encroach physically on the field or court at any time, or in any way physically interfere with activities of a game. Parents and guardians shall always keep in mind children participate in sports to have fun and that the game is for the children, not for the grown-ups.
8. Parents and guardians shall be positive role models for their children and encourage sportsmanship by showing respect and courtesy, and by demonstrating positive support for all

players, coaches, officials and spectators at every game, practice and WRA-sanctioned event. Parents and guardians shall not engage in any type of unsportsmanlike conduct toward any official, coach, player or other parent and shall refrain from booing, taunting, arguing, using profane language or gestures, and shall agree to obey any additional requests from a coach related to conduct on the field.

9. Parents and guardians shall instruct and encourage their children to treat other players, coaches, officials, and spectators with respect at all times, not ridiculing or embarrassing any child for making a mistake or losing a game, and not questioning or confronting officials or coaches during or immediately after a game. Parents and guardians wishing to discuss a matter with a coach shall request a mutually convenient time to discuss the matter.

10. Parents and guardians shall see to it that their children arrive to games and practices on time, and shall arrange for their children to have a ride from every game and practice as soon as the game or practice is complete.

11. Coaches shall instruct and teach the skills and theories of their sport to every player on his or her team, regardless of the skill or experience level of any given player.

12. Coaches shall not criticize or ridicule a player for making a mistake, and shall always use encouragement and positive reinforcement appropriate to the age level.

13. Coaches shall teach sportsmanship above all else, teaching their players to win with grace and to lose with dignity. Taunting an opponent when winning or refusing to shake hands with an opponent after losing shall not be tolerated.

14. Coaches shall not argue with, yell at, threaten, or speak ill of an opposing coach, referee, official or umpire, and shall not permit his or her players, co-coaches or assistant coaches to do so.

15. Coaches shall strive to make participation a fun and healthy experience for WRA players and shall not create an atmosphere of excessive pressure to win.

All WRA members, including parents, guardians, players, coaches, and volunteers shall familiarize themselves with the above Code of Conduct and shall follow the WRA Grievance Procedure should they need to notify WRA officials of another member who is consistently comporting him or herself contrary to those codes.

I understand that should the WRA find me in violation of its Code of Conduct and my actions or behavior detrimental to its Corporation that disciplinary actions can be taken which include suspension from the team, expulsion for the season, expulsion from all WRA sports programs, or other actions deemed appropriate by the WRA Board of Directors.