



## CODE OF CONDUCT

The following "Code of Conduct" has been adopted for the South Suburban Parks & Recreation Programs and Facilities. These rules of conduct will be strictly enforced during the playing season/activity/contest. It is the Coach/Managers Responsibility to ensure all players know and adhere to the rules.

Appropriate social behavior is requested for all programs, facility and outdoor use. Individuals are encouraged to act in a way that will not hurt another person physically, mentally, or emotionally. A participant may be asked to withdraw from a class or program, or to leave a facility if behavior does not comply with program and or facility standards.

### DEFINITIONS:

**Coach/Manager**- A person designated as team spokesperson. One who is either a player or non-player.

**Players/Participant**- A person, who actively participates in the game, sits on the bench or who is on the roster.

**Contest or Playing Area** - That area, which is designated by the League Director, may include spectator area. Can include parking lots and open space.

**Spectator**- A person who comes out to watch the games for entertainment with no physical involvement.

**Official/Umpire** - Person or persons on the field who administer the official rules.

**Participation**- Any involvement in South Suburban activities such as being a spectator, officiating, playing, coaching or attending non-sporting events. Anyone present at the time of an incident.

**League Director** - An employee of South Suburban.

### Sportsmanship Policy

Each team or individual is responsible for the actions of its members and spectators during competition and all other times while on South Suburban District property. Unsportsmanlike conduct, including intimidation and infliction or threat of bodily harm, will not be tolerated and will result in ejection from competition and/or facilities. This Code of Conduct will be extended to drop in participants of a sporting activity. Additional sanctions may be added at the discretion of the District's staff.

No contest is important enough to warrant physical or verbal abuse of officials, participants or spectators. Please remember that these contests are not professional sporting events. Please make the utmost effort to win with class, lose with dignity, and treat the contest officials with respect.

### The following behavior is unacceptable for any players, participants, coaches or spectators:

- Use of alcoholic beverages, illegal drugs or tobacco while in a South Suburban facility or at a South Suburban sponsored event except in authorized areas.
- Pushing, striking, threatening (verbally or physically) another player
- Pushing, striking, and threatening (verbally or physically) an official/umpire or South Suburban staff member.
- Refusal to abide by officials' decisions, including dissent and verbal abuse directed toward officials.
- Failure to follow South Suburban and/or school district regulations.
- Any inappropriate sexual conduct or lewd behavior on the premises or during an event.
- Foul language

## CODE:

1. NO PLAYER/COACH SHALL; consume alcoholic beverages without a permit while on South Suburban property.

**Minimum Penalty:** Ejection from the playing area.

**Maximum Penalty:** Citation issued by law enforcement.

2. NO PLAYER/COACH SHALL; have three (3) or more team members (players or coaches) ejected from the game.

**Minimum Penalty:** Shall be penalized with a forfeit.

**Maximum Penalty:** Suspended from the league for one year. Forfeiture of fees/ no refunds given.

3. NO PLAYER/COACH SHALL; refuse to abide by officials' decisions. Officials are required to immediately suspend the player from further play and report such player to the League Director.

**Minimum Penalty:** Ejected from that game. Game may be declared a forfeit.

**Maximum Penalty:** Suspension from the league for two games.

4. NO PLAYER/COACH SHALL; threaten to strike, be involved in a physical altercation or verbally threaten another player, coach, spectator, official, umpire or staff member.

**Minimum Penalty:** Ejection from that game, receive at least a one-game suspension from the next scheduled game (possible suspension for remainder of the year or longer) and be placed on probation.

**Maximum Penalty:** Placed on indefinite suspension and/or assault charges filed. Forfeiture of fees/no refunds given.

5. NO PLAYER/COACH; who is ejected from a game may remain in the facility or field. He or she must leave playing area within two (2) minutes.

**Minimum Penalty:** They must leave facility (official's judgment).

**Maximum Penalty:** Failure to leave immediately can result in a forfeit. If a forfeit is declared the offending player is suspended for two games and depending on the severity of the offending players actions may result in a suspension for life from South Suburban programs.

6. Teams are responsible for their players and spectators conduct before, during, and after the game. All spectators, as well as participants must conform to all school district regulations and South Suburban Park and Recreation District regulations. Improper behavior will not be tolerated in South Suburban programs.

**Minimum Penalty:** Verbal warning to the coach, technical fouls/penalties assessed.

**Maximum Penalty:** Forfeit of the game, possible arrest and prosecution, forfeiture of remaining games, and no refund of fees.

## ENFORCEMENTS:

1. All suspensions carry an automatic probation period. Once a player(s), coach, and/or team have been placed on probation, their conduct will be evaluated throughout the remainder of the season. Further conduct violations will result in a minimum suspension extending through the remainder of the season, as well as forfeiting all fees paid to date.
2. Warning methods: verbal and written notices
3. Suspended coach or player: Suspension from the playing area will result in the League Director investigating the suspension.
4. If a suspended coach, player or spectator does not leave the contest area, the authorities will be called.
5. The official, supervisor, league director, or other South Suburban staff shall be responsible for suspending the offending parties from the playing area.

6. The League Director has “elastic power” in determining suspensions, penalties, or rule interpretations. Officials will have the authority to penalize for unsportsmanlike behavior. This is a judgment call by the official and cannot be protested. There will be no tolerance for those that deviate from the league code of conduct.
7. Ejected or suspended, participant(s) in question may not come to contests as a spectator during their suspension or ejection period. This includes parking lots.
8. Correct name and phone number of ejected individual(s) must be given to proper authorities before leaving facility.

**DUE PROCESS:**

All ejections are subject to review by the League Director or his/her designee.

1. All ejections will be considered final.
2. A Suspension Review Board will be set up to hear any review of a suspension as deemed necessary for due process. The Suspension Review Board will consist of the following:
  - a. South Suburban Sport Coordinator (League Director)
  - b. South Suburban Department Supervisor
3. Notice of suspension must be made immediately by the official or authorized staff issuing an ejection. In the event of an extended suspension, the suspended person will be notified in writing of any disciplinary action taken.
4. A suspended player has three (3) business days from the receipt of the disciplinary notice to make an appeal in writing. Appeal must be submitted in writing to the League Director who in turn has an obligation to submit to the Department Supervisor for review.