

Youth Sports Parent Code of Conduct



Preamble

The essential elements of character building and ethics in sports are embodied in the concept of sportsmanship and six core principles: trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring, and good citizenship. The highest potential of sports is achieved when competition reflects these “six pillars of character.”



I therefore agree:

1. I will not force my child to participate in wrestling.
2. I will remember that children participate to have fun and that the sport is for youth, not adults.
3. I will inform the coach of any physical disability or ailment that may affect the safety of my child or the safety of others.
4. I will learn the rules of wrestling and the policies of the ISWA.
5. I will be a positive role model for my child and encourage sportsmanship by showing respect and courtesy, and by demonstrating positive support for all wrestlers, coaches, officials and spectators at every practice, tournament, or other event.
6. I will not engage in any kind of unsportsmanlike conduct with any official, coach, athlete, or parent such as booing and taunting, refusing to shake hands, or using profane language or gestures.
7. I will not encourage any behaviors or practices that would endanger the health and well-being of the athletes.
8. I will teach my child to obey the rules and to resolve conflicts without resorting to hostility or violence.
9. I will demand that my child treat other wrestlers, coaches, officials and spectators with respect regardless of race, creed, color, gender or ability.
10. I will teach my child that doing one's best is more important than winning, so that my child will never feel defeated by the outcome of a match or his/her performance.
11. I will praise my child for competing fairly and trying hard, and make my child feel like a winner every time.
12. I will never ridicule or yell at my child or other participants for making a mistake or losing a competition.
13. I will emphasize skill development and practices and how they benefit my child over winning. I will also de-emphasize competition in the lower age groups.
14. I will promote the emotional and physical well-being of the athletes ahead of any personal desire I may have for my child to win.
15. I will respect the officials and their authority during competition and will not confront coaches during a match.
16. I will demand a sports environment for my child that is free from drugs and alcohol, and I will refrain from their use at events.

By participating in an ISWA sanctioned tournament as a parent athlete or volunteer, I agree to follow these guidelines in order to insure a positive, safe and enjoyable environment for all.