

ADDENDUM H. SPORTSMANSHIP RULES

Sportsmanship Rules are established to maintain a positive atmosphere in recreation activities sponsored by the CCPR Department. These rules will be applied to all activities and sports programs in all age groups. Each registered team or group will be provided with this information, and will be required to sign a Memorandum of Understanding stating that they accept the Rules. It is the responsibility of the team manager or coach to inform his/her participants of these rules. Ignorance of these rules will not be considered as an acceptable excuse for violations. League/Organizations have established rules governing conduct. The CCPR will respect those rules and ask leagues/organizations to recognize and adhere to section of the document as it relates to property and personnel of the CCPR.

I. GENERAL INFORMATION

A. Duration of Compliance

1. The Rules of Conduct will be in effect before, during and after each contest, game, match, or practice beginning with department-sponsored preseason practices and continuing through the conclusion of league, tournament, and activity play.
2. All athletic special events will be governed by these rules. These guidelines will apply to all events conducted by the department regardless of whether these events are on county-owned property, school facilities, or rental facilities. Team(s) and/or individual(s) suspended as a result of infractions of the Rules of Conduct will not be given refunds for team, group, or individual fees.

B. Events Governed by Rules of Conduct

1. Each league or group in each sport or activity will have league or activity rules to meet requirements of that particular activity/sport. These league rules will not be considered separate from the Rules of Conduct and violations of league rules can result in suspension.

C. Definitions

1. Participant – any of the following: a player, a coach or assistant coach, a spectator, a team, or an official.
 - a. Participants ejected from a contest, game, match, or practice must leave the facility in an expedient manner (2 minutes or less is considered expedient). Failure to do so will result in calling law enforcement to remove the participant(s) from the location and charges of trespassing.
2. Official – any of the following: an umpire, a referee, a supervisor, or any other Parks and Recreation staff person. Any official has the authority to eject a participant from a Parks and Recreation event or the property on which the activity or sport is being conducted.
3. Suspension – includes:
 - a. Not being able to participate in a contest, game, match, or practice
 - b. Not being a spectator at a contest, game, match, or practice
 - c. Not being allowed to attend any athletic events sponsored by the Parks and Recreation Department.

ADDENDUM H. SPORTSMANSHIP RULES

4. Repeated violations by team(s) or individual(s) will result in more severe penalties.

D. Violations

1. Violations of the Rules of Conduct may result in penalty application in ensuing programs and/or seasons.
2. Penalties applied for any situation or circumstance not specifically covered in these Rules of Conduct will be left to the discretion of the Carteret County Parks and Recreation Director or his/her designee.

II. CONDUCT

- A.** All participants must abide by an official's decision and must refrain from demonstrative expressions of dissent at an official's decision (i.e. kicking or throwing a ball, bat or equipment, speaking rudely to an official, making gestures toward an official, etc.)
- B.** During the course of a game/match, only one coach and/or one captain per team will be allowed to discuss decisions reached by an official with the officials.
- C.** All participants must refrain from using unnecessary roughness against the body and person of an opposing player during the course of the game.
- D.** All participants must refrain from using profane, obscene or vulgar language.
- E.** Penalties for Violation of Rules A-D.
 1. The participant will be ejected from the game/match/practice and be suspended from the next game (regular season or the tournament) played by his/her team.
 2. Participant(s) ejected from an activity/game/match/practice must leave the Facility in an expedient manner (2 minutes or less is considered expedient). Failure to do so will result in an official calling law enforcement to remove participant(s) from the location and charges of trespassing.
 3. A warning will not have to precede the ejection.
 4. Upon investigation of the violation, the Parks and Recreation Director or his/her designee may apply a two-game suspension if the violator's actions endangered the safety of the participants or officials.
- F.** Taunting, mocking, and/or harassment of participants or officials will not be allowed.
- G.** Verbal abuse of the officials or participants will not be allowed.
- H.** Profane, obscene or vulgar language used maliciously toward another participant or official will not be allowed.

ADDENDUM H. SPORTSMANSHIP RULES

- I.** Penalties for Violation of Rules F-H.
 - 1. The participant will be ejected from the game/match/practice and suspended from the next three regular season games, matches or the next tournament games/matches played by his/her team.
 - 2. Participant(s) ejected from an activity/game/match/practice must leave the Facility in an expedient manner (2 minutes or less is considered expedient). Failure to do so will result in an official calling law enforcement to remove participant(s) from the location and charges of trespassing.
 - 3. Should the violation be repeated with less than three regular season games/matches remaining, the suspension will be applied to those remaining games/matches including tournament games/matches played by his/her team and will carry over into the next particular sport/activity that the participant elects to participate in.
- J.** Participants must refrain from pushing, shoving, striking, kicking, laying a hand on or threatening any of these actions against, or confronting in an unruly or obnoxious manner another participant or official.
- K.** The drinking or possession of alcoholic beverages will not be allowed at Parks and Recreation events or on property where they are held.
- L.** Participants are not allowed to attend any Parks and Recreation event or property while intoxicated.
- M.** Participants must refrain from any form of physical attack as an aggressor upon another participant or official.
- N.** Firearms, knives or other weapons are not allowed at Parks and Recreation events, property, or venues in which Parks and Recreation activities and events occur.
- O.** Penalties for Violation of Rules J – N.
 - 1. The participant will be ejected from the game/match and suspended for the remainder of the season. Additional penalties can result in suspension for a minimum of (6) months.
 - 2. Participant(s) ejected from an activity/game/match/practice must leave the Facility in an expedient manner (2 minutes or less is considered expedient). Failure to do so will result in an official calling law enforcement to remove participants for trespassing.
 - 3. The second offense is three (3) years suspension if circumstances warrant, the suspension could be applied indefinitely upon review of the incident.
 - 4. For offenses that are also violations of North Carolina State Statutes, law enforcement will be contacted and arrest warrants sought for assault, public intoxication, illegal possession of firearms, etc.

ADDENDUM H. SPORTSMANSHIP RULES**III. ENFORCEMENT PROCEDURES****A. Departmental Responsibilities**

1. Upon receipt of a written incident report describing a violation, the Parks and Recreation Director or his/her designee will investigate the report and will in turn apply the appropriate penalty in compliance with the Rules of Conduct.
2. The violator will be mailed a formal letter describing the violation and appropriate penalty. Additional copies of this letter will be issued to the team coach/manager, league supervisor, officials, church/company sponsor, etc. as needed. Parent/guardian will be mailed this letter for youth violators.

IV. Appeals**A. Individuals receiving penalties may appeal a ruling as follows:**

1. Suspension less than six (6) months. A written request stating the reason for appeal may be submitted to the Parks and Recreation Director within seven (7) calendar days from the date on the formal penalty letter.
2. Suspension more than six (6) months. A written request stating the reason for appeal may be submitted to the Parks and Recreation Director within seven (7) calendar days from the date on the formal penalty letter. The appeal would then be reviewed by a disciplinary committee consisting of members of the County Parks and Recreation Advisory Board. The disciplinary committee may affirm, overturn, or modify the penalty.
3. Individuals appealing a suspension may expect a response from the Parks and Recreation within one month of the day that the department receives their appeal letter.