



## ATHLETE CODE OF CONDUCT

The Watchung Hills Soccer Association (“WHS”) maintains a high standard of athletic behavior for its athletes. All athletes shall conform their behavior to the following code of conduct while participating in any youth sports event and will:

1. Be courteous, respectful, and practice good sportsmanship at all times.
2. Be respectful by using appropriate language in appropriate tones when interacting with other athletes, coaches, officials, parents, and spectators.
3. Not criticize, blame, or dispute with other athletes, coaches, officials, parents, or spectators.
4. Not use or make obscene gestures, provocative language, or inappropriate language around athletes or coaches.
5. Not direct obscene gestures, provocative language, or inappropriate language toward officials, coaches, opponents, or spectators.
6. Not taunt, use obscene gestures, or engage in boastful celebrations that demean fellow athletes, coaches, or staff.
7. Treat everyone fairly regardless of gender, ethnic origin, race, religion, or sexual orientation.
8. Treat all athletes, coaches, officials, parents, and spectators with dignity and respect.
9. Not use, or condone the use of tobacco products, drugs, or alcoholic beverages.
10. Abide by all rules and regulations set down by the coach and the Association.
11. Be respectful by not fighting or damaging the property of others.
12. Not strike or physically abuse an official, coach, player, parent or spectator.
13. Not intentionally incite participants or spectators to abusive action.
14. Be fully prepared for practices and games.



15. Take a hands-on role in administering this code of conduct.
16. Refrain from any activity that could be considered harassment, intimidation, bullying, hazing, or any other form of misconduct. This includes, but is not limited to, negative, harmful or disparaging actions on social media toward teammates, coaches, officials, spectators, or opposing teams.
17. Be courteous and respectful to all athletes, coaches, officials, parents, and spectators. Improper behavior will not be condoned, which shall include, but is not limited to, theft, vandalism, rude behavior, or inappropriate language.
18. Not be publicly critical of officials, coaches, or athletes.
19. Enthusiastically encourage your own team.
20. Accept the decisions of officials.
21. Not endanger the safety and comfort of the players or other spectators.
22. Understand and follow the rules of the contest.
23. Display respect for all individuals participating in the athletic event.
24. Treat opponents in an empathetic manner.
25. Congratulate opponents in victory or defeat.

Any athlete who fails to conform his/her conduct to the foregoing while participating in a WWSA sports event will be subject to disciplinary action, as determined by the Board of Directors for serious offenses, or by the game official, coach, or league representative for minor infractions. Disciplinary action may include, but not limited to:

1. Verbal warning.
2. Written warning.
3. Suspension or immediate ejection.
4. Suspension from multiple events.
5. Season suspension or multiple season suspension.

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