



Tucson Parks and Recreation
A Nationally Accredited Agency

SPORTS CODE OF CONDUCT

PLAYER / COACH / SPECTATOR CODE OF CONDUCT

All Adult Sports Leagues are designed as recreational activities. All Coaches/Managers are responsible for the Code of Conduct of each player and all obvious spectators at all times before, during and after the game. Actions which violate the Code of Conduct are the responsibility of the individual and penalty administration shall be the Sports Unit duty as per established guidelines outlined in this manual.

ALL RULES WILL BE STRICTLY ENFORCED BY SPORTS STAFF, OFFICIALS AND THE UMPIRE-IN-CHIEF (UIC). EACH TEAM MANAGER IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE CONDUCT OF HIS OR HER INDIVIDUAL PLAYERS AND SPECTATORS. MISCONDUCT MAY RESULT IN PENALIZING AN INDIVIDUAL OR TEAM FROM ALL CITY OF TUCSON SPORTS LEAGUES.

As coaches, athletes, officials and fans, we must work together to create an atmosphere of fairness, integrity and respect.

All adult sports leagues are designed as recreational activities and are intended to promote a friendly atmosphere of fun for all those involved. All coaches and or managers are responsible for the conduct of each player and all obvious spectators at all times before, during and after the game. Actions which violate the Code of Conduct are the responsibility of the individual and penalty administration is the duty of the Sports Office per the established guidelines outlined in the softball rulebook.

- **RESPECT** the rules
- **RESPECT** the officials and their decisions
- **RESPECT** the opponents and their spectators
- **PLAY** by the rules
- **ENSURE** that athletes do not taunt or bait opponents, officials and spectators
- **NO** blatant intimidation or humiliation of any players, coaching staff, officials, sports staff or spectators will be permitted
- **MAINTAIN** your self-control at all times
- **SPECTATORS** will be the responsibility of the Coach/Manager and their behavior may have an impact on your team

DISORDERLY CONDUCT

Please ensure that all your players, coaches and obvious fans understand the rules of disorderly conduct.

The City reserves the right to eject or cause to be ejected any person or persons considered by staff to be disorderly. Disorderly conduct includes, but is not limited to, conduct committed with the intent to disturb the peace or quiet of a facility, group of people or individual person by engaging in fighting or seriously disruptive behavior; or by making unreasonable noise; or by using abusive or offensive language with the likely result of provoking physical or verbal retaliation. Neither the City nor its employees shall be liable for any damages that may result from such action.

THE SPORTS UNIT DECISION SHALL BE FINAL.

DEFINITIONS

- **Player** - The person who “participates” in the game. The person must be on the team’s roster card and have a Sports Stamp by their name.
- **Manager/Coach** - The person designated as the team spokesperson; may be a player or non-player, but acts as team representative.
- **Spectator** - The person who comes to the ball field to watch leisure entertainment with no physical involvement.
- **Team Member** - Coach, manager, player, non-player, team representative and obvious fan.
- **Participation** - Active involvement in the game, including sitting on the bench, coaching, etc.
- **Sports Official** – The person on the ball field who administers the Sports League program on site, Officials, scorekeeper, etc.
- **Disqualified Player** – Player prohibited from playing but can remain in the team area or serve as coach/manager.
- **Ejected Player** – An ejected player must leave the grounds and have no contact with the officials or players in the game.
- **Rainout** – A game that cannot be played due to weather or field conditions.

ENFORCEMENT PROCEDURES

1. The game official may eject a player or disqualify a player from a current game.
2. An ejected player has one minute to remove him/herself from the park ____Failure to leave will cause his/her team to forfeit.
3. Any player who is not allowed to participate in the team’s next games(s) is further not allowed to attend and/or coach City League games during the suspension. The ejected player is banned from the facility (park) during this period.
4. Any player who is ejected from his/her teams last tournament game shall not play in the first game(s) of the following season they are registered to play in. The number being equal to the penalty imposed.
5. Any team member ejected by a Sports Official during any tournament game shall not play or coach in the remainder of their tournament. Once the suspension is served, the player may attend the remaining tournament games as a spectator.
6. Any player ejected twice from City League games; the two ejections consisting of two or more games; will be ineligible for the remainder of the season.
7. Any player ejected three times from City League games; the three ejections consisting of one or more games; will be ineligible for the remainder of the season.
8. The Code of Conduct is not protestable.

PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

1. Once lineups have been turned into the scorekeepers, any and all players may be questions as to their legality by team managers/coaches, officials, scorekeepers, and other Sports Unit Staff. Roster cards and player I.D. numbers must be provided to resolve questions on the field.
2. Managers/Coaches my not question the eligibility of a player after a games has concluded. Sports Unit staff may look into the eligibility of a player at any time before, during and after a games.
3. The player in question must provide proper identification with five minutes of being asked for I.D. If the player fails to provide proper identification, then the game is declared a forfeit.
4. Player Identification: All City League players must carry proper identification that includes a photograph and identification number (that matches the team roster and the Sports Unit Roster Card) to all games.

REGULATIONS AND PENALTIES

A. Physical Contact Misconduct

- 1) **No Individual Shall:** At any time be guilty of a physical attack, strike, shove, threaten to strike or lay a hand on a sports official, coach, spectator or player.
- 2) **No Individual Shall:** Use unnecessarily rough tactics during the course of a game.
- 3) **No Individual Shall:** Threaten an official, employee, player or spectator with future violence such as, “I will take care of you later” or “I’ll meet you in the parking lot”, etc.
- 4) **No Individual Shall:** Damage City or the opposing team’s equipment or property.
**Assault charges may be field for the above examples of misconduct*

Minimum Penalty: Ejected from current game and suspended for 2 additional games (rainouts do not count).

Maximum Penalty: Banned from all city leagues for life

B. Verbal and Visual Misconduct

- 1) **No Individual Shall:** Engage in an abusive verbal attack upon any official or individual on or off the field of play.
- 2) **No Individual Shall:** Use trash talk, profane, obscene or vulgar language under any circumstance on or off the field of play.
- 3) **No Individual Shall:** Engage in an objectionable demonstration of dissent or unsportsmanlike conduct such as throwing any equipment (bat, glove, helmet, etc.) or any other forceful action.
- 4) **No Individual Shall:** Except the coach/manager, contest the decisions of an official.
- 5) **No Individual Shall:** Intentionally delay the course of a game by removing the ball from the field of play.
- 6) **No Individual Shall:** Display any unsportsmanlike conduct not before mentioned in the regulations and penalties, but deemed unsportsmanlike by an official or sports staff.

Minimum Penalty: Warning from sports official or staff.

Maximum Penalty: 1 year suspension from all city league play.

C. Player Misconduct

- 1) **No Individual Shall:** Allow a spectator to play in a game unless the individual is on the team’s official roster.
Penalty: Game will be forfeited and the coach and player will be suspended for 1 additional game.
- 2) **No Individual Shall:** Play on another team on the same night or play in two divisions.
Penalty: Game will be forfeited and the coach and player will be suspended for 1 additional game.
- 3) **No Individual Shall:** Use an illegal or banned bat (per ASA banned bat list) during game play.
Penalty: Ejected from game.
- 4) **No Individual Shall:** Play in any games that they have been ejected/suspended from.
Penalty: Game will be forfeited and player will be suspended for an additional 2 games.

D. General Misconduct

- 1) **No Individual Shall:** Refuse to abide by an official’s decision.
- 2) **No Individual Shall:** Appear on the field of play under the influence of alcohol or drugs.
- 3) **No Individual Shall:** Consume alcoholic beverages before or during a scheduled game
- 4) **No Individual Shall:** Smoke outside of designated smoking areas such as the field of play or dugout (including e-cigarettes).
- 5) **No Individual Shall:** Use casual profanity that is directed at themselves, teammates, opposing team members or spectators out of frustration.
- 6) **No Individual Shall:** Display any unsportsmanlike conduct not before mentioned in the regulations and penalties, but deemed unsportsmanlike by an official or sports staff.

Minimum Penalty: Warning from sports official or staff.

Maximum Penalty: 1 year suspension from all city league play.