



Ground Control Lacrosse Club
Parent Code of Conduct

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 principle of sports is achieved when competition reflects these “six pillars of character.”

I therefore AGREE:

1. I will not force my child to participate.
2. I will remember that children participate to have fun and learn and that the game is for the 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 the game and policies of the tournaments.
5. **I will abide by the “24 hour rule”.** Meaning I will allow play to end and wait until the next day to speak to the coaches with a clearer mind about any problems I have on game day.
6. I (and my guests) will be a **positive** role model for my child and encourage sportsmanship by showing respect and courtesy, and by demonstrating positive support for all players, coaches, officials and spectators at **every** sporting event (games or practices).
7. I (and my guests) will not engage in any kind of unsportsmanlike conduct with any official, coach, player or parent (examples may include but not limited to: booing or taunting, refusing to shake hands, or using profane language/ gestures).
8. I will not encourage any behaviors or practices that would endanger the health and wellbeing of the athletes.
9. I will teach my child to play by the rules and to resolve conflicts without resorting to hostility or violence.
10. I will demand that my child treat other players, coaches, officials and spectators with respect regardless of race, creed, color, sex or ability.
11. I will teach my child that doing one’s best is more important than winning, so my child will never feel defeated by the outcome of a game or his/her performance.
12. I will praise my child for competing fairly and trying hard, so my child feels positive every time.
13. I will never ridicule or yell at my child or other participant for making a mistake or losing a competition.

14. I will emphasize the importance of skill development and practices to benefit my child and not the importance of winning. I will also deemphasize competition and winning in the lower age groups.
15. 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.
16. I will respect the officials and their authority during games and will never question, discuss or confront coaches at the game field. I will take the time to speak to coaches at an agreed time and place.
17. I will demand a sports environment for my child that is free from drugs and alcohol and I will refrain from their use at all sporting events.
18. I will refrain from coaching my child or other players during games and practices unless I am one of the official coaches of the team.
19. I also agree that if I fail to abide by the aforementioned rules and guidelines, I will be subject to disciplinary action that could include, but is not limited to the following:
 - **verbal warning by an official, GCLC staff member, and/or head of the organization**
 - **written warning**
 - **parental game suspension with written documentation of incident kept on file by the organization**
 - **parental season suspension. (there will be no refunds given due to suspension)**

We would like to thank you in advance for your cooperation. Lets' have a great season.