

<p>Foxboro Youth Football & Cheerleading, Inc.</p> <p>Standard Operating Policy (S.O.P.) FYFC-07</p> <p><i>Conduct and Discipline</i></p>	<p>Effective Date 7/15/2025</p> <p>Supersedes S.O.P. Dated 6/3/20</p>
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POLICY

It is the policy of FYFC to promote an atmosphere where the essential elements of character building and ethics in sports are embodied in the concept of sportsmanship and six core principles: respect, trustworthiness, responsibility, fairness, caring, and good citizenship. The highest potential of sports is achieved when competition reflects these principles. It is to be expected that at all times, on and off the field, that FYFC administrators, coaches, parents, players, and cheerleaders conduct themselves in a positive manner, and that nothing less than satisfactory behavior be tolerated. The codes of conduct identified in the AYF (American Youth Football) rulebook, and by the EMAYFC (Eastern Mass American Youth Football & Cheer) League, will serve as guidelines for FYFC. Disciplinary actions handed down by the League for offenders will be followed. At no time will FYFC override, or lessen any disciplinary action handed down from a higher-level authority. Additional consequences determined by the Board of Directors for FYFC may also be applied.

Standard Practices

1. Any occurrence of misconduct or misbehavior should be immediately reported to a member of the Board of Directors to investigate and address.
 - ◆ The severity of the offense will determine whether the President of FYFC, or the Disciplinary Committee needs to be involved. It will also determine the level of discipline and punishment.
 - ◆ Furthermore, should the issue get reported to the League where a disciplinary action will result, the President or his designee, acting on behalf of the League, will administer that punishment.
 - ◆ A register will be kept on offenders and offenses. This will serve as a record should there be a recurrence and further discipline is needed.

2. Additionally Head Coaches and their assistants have the authority to deal with inappropriate conduct should it occur. This authority includes, but is not limited to, the time before, during, and after practice, games, or competitions; any FYFC sponsored activity in Foxboro or another town. Ultimately the Head Coach is responsible for the behavior of their staff, team, squad, parents and fans, and may be held accountable for any violation of the code of conduct.

3. It shall be against the rules of FYFC for a board member, coach, player, cheerleader or spectator to threaten, harass, or intimidate football officials in any way. This includes before, during, or after all games sanctioned by FYFC. Failure to comply with this rule could result in immediate expulsion from the game and field area (in sight and earshot of the official). Any physical contact could result in legal action by FYFC or others.

4. With the growth and popularity of social media FYFC has taken steps to address inappropriate conduct related to the program, its Directors, coaches and members. There will be zero tolerance for any social media messaging, postings, activities, etc. that are abusive, harmful, offensive, or disrespectful in any way, shape or form.
 - ◆ All members of FYFC will be required to adhere to the Social Media Policy and required to sign the form for themselves or as a representative for their entire family.

5. There will be Code of Conduct forms for coaches, players/cheerleaders, and parents to sign.
 - ◆ Coaches, players and cheerleaders take responsibility for their own actions.
 - ◆ Parents will be signing as the representatives of their family and guests and take responsibility for the actions of any of them

6. **When participating in FYFC activities administrators and coaches are expected to:**
 - ◆ Know the rules of the game and abide by them.
 - ◆ Provide positive support, care, and encouragement for all players, cheerleaders, coaches, and officials at every practice, game, competition or other FYFC event.
 - ◆ Place the physical and emotional well being of the children ahead of any personal desire to win, and provide a safe and healthy environment for play.
 - ◆ Refrain from the use of profanity or vulgar language.
 - ◆ Teach the children to treat other players, cheerleaders, coaches, fans, and officials with respect regardless of race, sex, creed, or ability.
 - ◆ Do not use alcohol, tobacco, illegal and non-prescriptive drugs, anabolic steroids, or any substance to increase physical development that is not approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration, U.S. Surgeon General, or the American Medical Association.
 - ◆ Refrain from fighting or provoking other coaches, officials, parents, and spectators in person and through social media.

When participating in FYFC activities players and cheerleaders are expected to:

- ◆ Know the rules of the game and abide by them.
- ◆ Demonstrate good sportsmanship and refrain from harassing, or making negative remarks to teammates, opposing players, cheerleaders, referees, judges, coaches, and spectators.
- ◆ Refrain from the use of profanity or vulgar language.
- ◆ Refrain from fighting or provoking other players/cheerleaders in person and through social media.
- ◆ Play/cheer hard and aggressively, but fairly.
- ◆ Respect all equipment, and use it safely and appropriately.
- ◆ Do not use alcohol, tobacco, illegal and non-prescriptive drugs, anabolic steroids, or any substance to increase physical development that is not approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration, U.S. Surgeon General, or the American Medical Association.
- ◆ Know the AYP and FYFC academic eligibility and participation rules.
- ◆ Listen to the coaches and work diligently to learn the sport.

When participating in FYFC activities parents are expected to:

- ◆ Provide positive support, care, and encouragement for their child and for all players, cheerleaders, coaches, and officials at every practice, game, competition or other FYFC event.
- ◆ Place the physical and emotional well being of their child ahead of any personal desire to win.
- ◆ Assist FYFC administrators and coaches to provide a safe and healthy environment for play.
- ◆ Do not use alcohol, tobacco, illegal and non-prescriptive drugs, anabolic steroids, or any substance to increase physical development that is not approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration, U.S. Surgeon General, or the American Medical Association.
- ◆ Know the AYP and FYFC academic eligibility and participation rules.
- ◆ Provide support for officials, FYFC administrators, and coaches to provide a positive, enjoyable experience for all.
- ◆ Teach their child to treat other players, cheerleaders, coaches, fans, and officials with respect regardless of race, sex, creed, or ability.

- ◆ Do not use profanity or vulgar language.
 - ◆ Refrain from fighting or provoking other parents, spectators, coaches, and officials in person and through social media.
 - ◆ Promise to help their child to enjoy the youth football/cheerleading experience within their own personal constraints by volunteering within the program.
 - ◆ Accept responsibility to control the behavior of relatives and friends at practice sessions, games and competitions.
7. If an individual violates the terms and conditions of the FYFC Code of Conduct, this policy, the AYF rule book, or EMAYFC League rules, they will be informed of the violation and the subsequent discipline, within a reasonable amount of time from the time the incident was reported, but not more than three business days. A progressive discipline schedule is recommended, but does not have to be used. Depending on the incident, its severity or any recurrence, any of the following punishments may be used for individuals who commit a violation.
- ◆ A verbal warning.
 - ◆ Suspension from part or all practices.
 - ◆ Suspension from part or all of a game or competition.
 - ◆ Suspension for more than one game or competition.
 - ◆ Expulsion from the premises for the remainder of practice, game or competition.
 - ◆ Permanent expulsion from FYFC and all of its activities. Also known as a "letter of dis-invite".
8. If an individual feels they are not guilty of a violation, or that the punishment is unfair or excessive, they can request an appeal hearing with the FYFC Disciplinary Committee.
- ◆ That request must be submitted in writing to the President of FYFC within two business days of receiving notice of the punishment.
 - ◆ A hearing must be scheduled within 7 days after the receipt of the request.
 - ◆ During this time the punishment will be placed on hold.
 - ◆ If the individual is successful in their appeal, the punishment will be dismissed.
 - ◆ If the individual is unsuccessful, the punishment takes effect immediately.
 - ◆ If the individual chooses to further appeal the decision to the EMAYFC League, it must be done through the President of FYFC following the league's rules for appeal. During that process the punishment will remain in force.

Policy Modification and Termination Rights:

FYFC reserves the authority to modify, amend, suspend or discontinue this policy, including its standard practices and administrative procedures, at any time at its sole discretion.

Approved by the Board of Directors