

Oak Hills Little  
Highlanders Youth  
Football Association  
(BYFA)  
Code of Conduct

## Change Log

Date	Changed By	Section	Description
1/10/2010	Gerry Pecora	All	Document Creation

## Table of Contents

Change Log.....	1
Table of Contents.....	2
1. Code of Conduct.....	3
1.1. Player’s Code of Conduct.....	3
1.2. Coach’s Code of Conduct.....	4
1.3 Team Mom’s Code of Conduct.....	5
1.4. Spectator’s Code of Conduct.....	5
1.5. Practice and Game Facility Rules.....	5
1.6. Review of the Code of Conduct.....	6
1.7. Code of Conduct Exceptions Jurisdiction.....	6
1.8. Reporting Improper Conduct.....	6
1.9. Addressing Improper Conduct.....	6
1.10. Offensive Actions.....	7
1.11. Penalty for Ejection from a Game.....	7
1.12. Submission of Appeals.....	7

# 1. Code of Conduct

- BYFA is designed to be a competitive and instructional association, that will benefit all players, coaches and parents.
- This Code of Conduct has been established and adopted to ensure the guiding principles of the Oak Hills Youth Football Association are understood and met by all individuals associated with this league. The Oak Hills Youth Football Association values sportsmanship, fair play, skill development, and mutual respect among all players, coaches, officials and spectators.
- The following code of conduct will be strictly enforced throughout the football season.
- The Code of Conduct applies to all activities associated with BYFA. These activities include, but are not limited to, signup sessions, meetings, practices, games and any activities, attended under the BYFA banner.

## 1.1. Player's Code of Conduct

- Each **player** will ensure that his/her playing conduct is that of a young lady or gentleman fairly competing to the limit of his/her ability. To satisfactorily meet these responsibilities, the **player** is expected to:
  - o Know the rules and abide by them.
  - o Respect all Coaches and Team moms at all times
  - o Regularly participate in all team practices
  - o Respect the game officials and refrain from addressing them or commenting on their decisions during the play of the game.
  - o Avoid the use of abusive language or profanity, humiliating remarks, and/or gestures of ill temper, and physical assault upon another player at any time.
  - o Respect the coaches, players, and fans of the opposing team and demonstrate appropriate gestures of sportsmanship at the conclusion of game. Be humble and generous in victory and proud and courteous in defeat.
  - o Realize, accept, and practice the principle that a team's reputation is built not only on its playing ability but also on the sportsmanship, courtesy and manners of each individual player.
  - o Respect all Oak Hills Local School District staff and property.
- The Player's Code of Conduct applies to all activities associated with BYFA. These activities include, but are not limited to, signup sessions, practices, games and any activities, attended under the BYFA banner.

## 1.2. Coach's Code of Conduct

- Each **coach** will ensure that his/her conduct is that of a responsible adult fairly competing to the limit of his/her ability. To satisfactorily meet these responsibilities, the **coach** is expected to:
  - o All Coaches are required to sign a criminal background check authorization form.
  - o The Head Coach is responsible for the proper registration and qualification of players assigned to the organization. (for more details refer to BYFA By-Laws)
  - o When using email or any social media (e.g. Facebook) refrain from any negative comments regarding coaches, team moms, board members, players, other spectators, competitors and the association.
  - o Know the Ohio Valley Youth Football rules and abide by them.
  - o Instruct team members in the rules and coach his team in such a way as to motivate each player to compete according to the rules at all times.

- Respect the game officials and refrain from questioning their decisions in a disrespectful or abusive manner.
- Ensure that fans of his team conduct themselves with sportsmanship and maturity at all times while in attendance at practice and game sites; assist the game officials in maintaining control of spectators during the games.
- Ensure that all team moms, players, spectators/fans do not engage in any discussions with game officials.
- Respect the coaches, players, and fans of the opposing team both during the play of the game and at its conclusion, win or lose.
- Respect all Oak Hills Local School District staff and property.
- Teach each player, especially through personal example, to be humble and generous in victory and proud and courteous in defeat.
- Avoid actions, language, and/or gestures that may be interpreted as hostile and humiliating.
- Realize, accept, and practice the principal that a team's reputation is built not only on its playing ability, but also on its sportsmanship, courtesy, and manner.
- All Coaches will ensure that all attendees at practice and game fields abide by facility rules (see section 1.5 for details)
- Coaches must comply with all responsibilities, expectations and behaviors detailed in the BYFA By-Laws
- The Coach's Code of Conduct applies to all activities associated with BYFA. These activities include, but are not limited to, signup sessions, practices, games and any activities, attended under the BYFA banner.

### 1.3. Team Mom's Code of Conduct

- Each **team mom** will ensure that his/her conduct is that of a responsible adult. To satisfactorily meet these responsibilities, the team mom is expected to:
  - All team moms are required to sign a criminal background check authorization form.
  - Team moms will abide by and support the decisions of the BYFA board and coaches on all football related subjects.
  - Team moms observing improper behavior of any board member, coach, team mom, player or parent will be provided the opportunity to file a complaint following the process identified in section 1.8
  - When using email or any social media (e.g. Facebook) refrain from any negative comments regarding coaches, team moms, board members, players, other spectators, competitors and the association.
  - Respect the game officials and refrain from questioning their decisions in a disrespectful or abusive manner.
  - All team moms will ensure that all attendees at practice and game fields abide by facility rules (see section 1.5 for details)
  - Respect the coaches, players, and parents of the opposing team both during the play of the game and at its conclusion, win or lose.
  - Respect all Oak Hills Local School District staff and property.
  - Avoid actions, language, and/or gestures that may be interpreted as hostile and humiliating.
  - Realize, accept, and practice the principal that a team's reputation is built not only on its playing ability, but also on its sportsmanship, courtesy, and manner.

- The Team Mom Code of Conduct applies to all activities associated with BYFA. These activities include, but are not limited to, signup sessions, practices, games and any activities, attended under the BYFA banner.

#### 1.4. Spectator's Code of Conduct

- Each **spectator** will ensure that his/her conduct is that of a responsible adult or youth who are positively encouraging all participants to the limit of his/her ability. To satisfactorily meet these responsibilities, the **spectator** is expected to:
  - o Respect the rules of the game.
  - o Respect all Board members, team coaches, team moms, players and fans.
  - o When using email or any social media (e.g. Facebook) refrain from any negative comments regarding coaches, team moms, board members, players, other spectators, competitors and the association
  - o Spectators observing improper behavior of any board member, coach, team mom, player or other spectator will be provided the opportunity to file a complaint following the process identified in section 1.8
  - o Respect the game officials and refrain from questioning their decisions or from addressing them in a loud, disrespectful or abusive manner
  - o Cheer for their team in a positive, supportive manner, refraining at all times from making hostile, negative, or abusive remarks about coaches, players and members of the opposing team.
  - o Refrain at all times from coming to team sidelines or onto the playing field, and from throwing objects or other foreign materials onto the field of play and exit in an orderly manner at the conclusion of the game.
  - o Spectators assigned to down chain and marker duties will refrain from any discussion with coaches, referees and players. As these duties are impartial these spectators also must refrain from any loud support of their team
  - o Alcohol and Drugs will not be tolerated at any practice or game fields (this also includes parking lots)
  - o Follow all practice and game field rules (defined in section 1.5), respecting at all times the property of others.
  - o Leave grounds in a timely fashion after the conclusion of a game.
  - o Demonstrate appropriate gestures of sportsmanship at the conclusion of a game, win or lose. Do not interact in a negative fashion with fans, players or coaches of the opposing team or game officials.
  - o Realize, accept, and practice the principal that a team's reputation is built not only on its playing ability, but also on the sportsmanship, courtesy, and citizenship of its fans.
- The Spectator's Code of Conduct applies to all activities associated with BYFA. These activities include, but are not limited to, signup sessions, practices, games and any activities, attended under the BYFA banner.

#### 1.5. Practice and Game Field Rules

- Absolutely NO DRUGS OR ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES. Only non-breakable drink containers are permitted on the properties (glass is strictly prohibited)
- At the end of each practice/game, each team will be required to remove any trash or litter from the site
- All siblings and guests are to have parental supervision at all times, and will be held accountable for any damage incurred. No youth (sibling or otherwise) is permitted inside any school building without parental accompaniment regardless of the reason.

- When practicing at Oak Hills Assembly of God (church) located next to Dulles - use of their driveway and parking lots is prohibited for player drop-off, pick-up, parking or practice observation. Use of the churches playground equipment is also prohibited. Nearby Dulles Elementary School has ample parking available, and various playground equipment suitable for all children.
- No coolers are to be brought on the field during game time.

## 1.6. Review of the Code of Conduct

- Each Head Coach is responsible to see that their assistant coaches, players, team moms, and spectators abide by the respective Code of Conduct.
- The Head Coach will be provided with copies of the Code of Conduct prior to the start of the season. It is the coach's responsibility to review the Code of Conduct with their assistant coaches, team mom, players, and spectators.
- The Code of Conduct will be available on the Oak Hills Youth Football Association website at [www.littlehighlanders.com](http://www.littlehighlanders.com) for review.
- The Code of Conduct for coaches, players, team moms, and spectators will be thoroughly discussed at the pre-season parents meeting.

## 1.7. Code of Conduct Exceptions Jurisdiction

- A Disciplinary Committee lead by the Association Vice President will be created.
- The Committee will be comprised of the Board Vice President, Football Coordinator, Assistant Football Coordinator, disciplinary coordinator, and a parent (randomly selected when necessary.)
- All issues will be reviewed and penalties decided by the Vice President upon review with the President and members of the Executive Board.

## 1.8. Reporting Improper Conduct

- Oak Hills Youth Football Association provides a forum on its website to allow coaches, players, parents, spectators and officials to report issues they observe before, during or after practices and games. The link to this "Report Issues" forum can be found under Contact Us on the association website at [www.littlehighlanders.com](http://www.littlehighlanders.com)
- If reporting an issue you must provide valid name and contact information. If this is not provided the issue will be voided.

## 1.9. Addressing Improper Conduct

- Conduct of coaches, team moms, players or spectators detrimental and contrary to the BYFA Code of Conduct will be reported to the BYFA Disciplinary Committee.
- The BYFA Disciplinary Committee will review the circumstances surrounding the conduct and determine an appropriate response in a timely manner. During this time; individuals in questions will be provided an opportunity to meet with the Disciplinary Committee.
- The decision of the BYFA Disciplinary Committee can result in warnings, suspension from further participation for whatever period of time deemed reasonable and appropriate or expulsion from the Association.
- If a coach, team mom, or parent is expelled from the association, any child associated with that person is also expelled from the association.
- If a player is suspended from the Oak Hills Local School District, they can not participate in the BYFA for the duration of their suspension.
- If a player is expelled from the Oak Hills Local School District, they can not participate in the BYFA. If they are currently on a team, they will be removed from that team.
- There are no refunds as a result of any person being removed from the association.

### 1.10. Offensive Actions

- This is not an exhaustive list. The definition of an Offensive Action will be determined by the Disciplinary Committee on a case by case basis.
- No coach, team mom, player, parent/guardian or spectator will:
  - o Fail to return BYFA owned football equipment
  - o Refuse to abide by an official's decision.
  - o Perform an objectionable demonstration by throwing equipment or any other forceful action.
  - o Performance of any lewd behavior.
  - o Use of email or social media (e.g. Facebook) for the communication of derogatory comments on any coach, team mom, board member, player, official, spectator, opposing coach, OHLSD school staff and the Association.
  - o Delivering verbal abuse upon any board member, coach, team mom, player, opposing coach, official, spectator or OHLSD school staff.
  - o At any time stalk, tail or attempt to intimidate any board member, player, coach, team mom, opposing coach, official, spectator or OHLSD school staff.
  - o At any time, lay hands upon, push, shove or strike any board member, coach, team mom, player, opposing coach, official, spectator or OHLSD school staff.
  - o At any time, deliver a physical attack upon any board member, coach, team mom, player, opposing coach, official, spectator or OHLSD school staff.

### 1.11. Penalty for Ejection from a Game

- All ejections from a game will be considered Code of Conduct violations. Any coach, team mom, player or spectator ejected from a game will have the circumstances reviewed by the Disciplinary committee and may be suspended for at least One (1) game. The Disciplinary Committee will define any and all penalties.

### 1.12. Submission of Appeals

- All decisions of the Disciplinary Committee are final and cannot be appealed.
- Any Disciplinary Committee Decisions for December will be made jointly between the outgoing and incoming Committee with implementation in January.