



Athletic Code of Conduct

Thank you for participating in the City of Avondale's Adult Sports Program(s). This program is offered for your recreational enjoyment, therefore, your cooperation and sportsmanship are essential to the overall success of the program. All players, coaches, managers and spectators are expected to act in an acceptable manner during the entire program. The City of Avondale Parks, Recreation and Libraries Department reserves the right to take action referenced in this policy against players, coaches, managers and spectators not acting in an acceptable manner, including, but not limited to suspension from games, expulsion from the park and participation in any future programs.

These definitions provide information and direction to participants regarding standards of behavior, as well as consequences of participant/team misconduct.

Each participant is expected to do the following:

- ❖ Demonstrate courtesy, even when others do not
- ❖ Behave in a responsible manner, always exercising self-discipline.
- ❖ Respect the rights and privileges of other participants and staff
- ❖ Respect City of Avondale property and the property of others
- ❖ Cooperate with and assist staff in maintaining safety, order and discipline
- ❖ Respect the game officials even when you do not agree with their calls
- ❖ Respect Department staff and facility rules and regulations being enforced
- ❖ Be mindful of your conduct. Make sure no action occurs that could reflect adversely on your sponsor or team.

Unacceptable behaviors include the following:

- ❖ Failure to conform to City of Avondale rules, regulations and ordinances
- ❖ Being involved in an instance of any form of insubordination
- ❖ Use of profanity, vulgar language or obscene gestures
- ❖ Defacing and/or damaging City property or the property of others
- ❖ Engaging in inappropriate physical or verbal contact
- ❖ Running, pushing, shoving, littering, or throwing objects (which are not part of the supervised activity)
- ❖ Involvement with weapons or illegal substances
- ❖ Inappropriate action of even one player can reflect upon your entire team
- ❖ Smoking or use of any tobacco products including smokeless tobacco while youth activities are in session.

The Athletic Code of Conduct applies to all players, coaches, managers and spectators. The Code of Conduct applies to participants as individuals or as a team; and the penalties can be applied on an individual or an entire team. This Code becomes effective as soon as participants arrive at the facility of play and remains in effect until the participants leave the facility.

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LEVEL I

Minimum Penalty: Verbal Warning, official may remove individual from game

Maximum Penalty: Ejection from current game, plus one (1) game suspension and probation for remainder of season

Team Penalty: If two (2) or more participants are involved from the same team, then the game **will be** forfeited by that team. The participants and/or team involved will be penalized as noted above. **If a coach is involved in a code of conduct violation the maximum penalty is automatic.**

No Participant Shall:

- A. Be guilty of objectionable demonstration of dissent at an official's decision by throwing playing equipment or any other forceful action.
 - B. Discuss with an official, in any manner, the decision reached by an official except the manager, coach or captain.
 - C. Use profane, obscene or vulgar language/behavior
 - D. Refuse to abide by official's decisions.
 - E. Be guilty of smoking on the field of play.
 - F. Drink or be in possession of alcoholic beverages on the field of play, including dugouts.
 - G. Discuss publically with spectators in a derogatory manner any play, decision, or personal opinion of other individuals.
 - H. Mingle with or fraternize with spectators during the course of the game in a way that negatively affects the game in any way.
 - I. Permit anyone to remain in the dugout or on the player's bench, unless an active team member (managers, coaches, players and/or team scorekeepers).
 - J. Leave trash on the playing field, including dugouts.
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LEVEL II

Minimum Penalty: Ejection from current game, plus one (1) game suspension and probation for remainder of season.

Maximum Penalty: Suspension from league (team and/or individual) and probation for one (1) year and/or assault charges filed.

Team Penalty: If two (2) or more participants are involved from the same team, then the game is forfeited by that team. The participants and/or team involved will be penalized as noted above. **If a coach is involved in a code of conduct violation the maximum penalty is automatic.**

No Participant Shall:

- A. Be guilty of an abusive verbal attack upon any individual
- B. Unnecessary rough tactics in the play of game.
- C. Play under another individual's name, falsify name, or falsify signature on official roster form.
- D. Violate Level I Code of Conduct while on probation for a previous incident.

LEVEL III

Minimum Penalty: Suspension from league (team and/or individual) and probation for one (1) year and/or assault charges filed.

Maximum Penalty: Suspension from all City of Avondale Recreation Department activities for one (1) year (team and/or individual), probation for two (2) additional years and/or assault charges filed.

Team Penalty: If two (2) or more participants are involved from the same team, then the game will be forfeited by that team. The participants and/or team involved will be penalized as noted above. **If a coach is involved in a code of conduct violation the maximum penalty is automatic.**

No Participant Shall:

- A. Infringe upon the individual's safety or the safety of others.
- B. Be guilty of an abusive verbal attack upon any official or city staff
- C. Directly or indirectly threaten another individual including officials and/or city staff. (Assault charges may be filed)
- D. Attempt to damage, destroy or steal City property and/or property of others.
- E. Violate Level II Code of Conduct while on probation for a previous incident.

LEVEL IV

Minimum Penalty: Suspension from all City of Avondale Recreation Department activities for one (1) year (team and/or individual), probation for two (2) additional years and/or assault charges filed.

Maximum Penalty: Life suspension from all City of Avondale Recreation Department activities and/or assault charges filed.

Team Penalty: If two (2) or more participants are involved from the same team, then the game will be forfeited by that team. The participants and/or team involved will be penalized as noted above. **If a coach is involved in a code of conduct violation the maximum penalty is automatic.**

No Participant Shall:

- A. Lay a hand upon, shove, strike, or threaten to strike an official or individual. (Assault charges may be filed)
- B. Be guilty of a physical attack upon any official or individual. (Assault charges may be filed)
- C. Be guilty of damaging, destroying or stealing city property.
- D. Be guilty of possessing and/or using altered equipment, i.e. softball bats.
- E. Be guilty of throwing equipment at any official or individual with intent to harm or intimidate. (Assault charges may be filed)
- F. Be guilty of possessing a weapon on or off the playfield.
- G. Gamble upon any play or the outcome of the game with other spectators, player, manager, coach, or opponent.
- H. Violate Level III Code of Conduct while on probation for a previous incident.

The City of Avondale Recreation Department works hard to offer fun, recreational sports leagues as a service and need for our community. We will not tolerate individuals or teams jeopardizing our commitment to this service.

SUSPENDED PARTICIPANT:

- ❖ If a player is ejected during the game the suspension is for the remainder of the current game and the teams next scheduled game.
- ❖ Suspended participants must remove themselves immediately (2 minutes clause) from the confines of the contest area (park or gym), or the area as designated by the site supervisor.
- ❖ If the suspended participant does not remove themselves immediately, their teammates or coaches are responsible for their removal or a forfeit will be called.

TWO (2) MINUTE CLAUSE:

- ❖ Two (2) minutes shall be allowed for the suspended participant(s) to remove themselves from the designated playing area (park or gym). If this time limit is not met then the game will be forfeited to the opponent.
- ❖ Suspended participant is not allowed to attend any game for that period of which he/she is suspended. The participant must remain off the premises for that period or a forfeit will be called.
- ❖ Participant suspended from one City of Avondale league team will result in a suspension for all other City of Avondale Leagues, i.e. if you play on more than one team, you will be suspended from all other teams within the City.

MANAGERS/TEAM RESPONSIBILITY:

- ❖ Managers will be responsible to see that all their players and spectators know and abide by the rules/regulations and Athletic Code of Conduct, before, during and after games.
- ❖ Managers shall be the official representative of the team and spectators unless he/she designates one of the players as the team captain prior to the game. Only the manager and/or designated team captain may discuss a call or decision made by the official(s).
- ❖ Team penalties may be imposed if multiple individuals, from the same team, violate this code of conduct. Remember... games can be forfeited for any violations.
- ❖ Managers/Coaches may also have penalties imposed on them for their team's/player's actions.

SPECIAL NOTES:

- ❖ Any and all situations not specifically covered in the Athletic Code of Conduct, shall be acted upon by the game official(s), site supervisor(s), league supervisor, or other City Staff. All such actions shall be the basis for similar situations and such rulings shall be final and become part of, Athletic Code of Conduct.
- ❖ Any participant, who incurs an indebtedness to the City of Avondale (returned checks, failure to pay league fees, failure to return City equipment, imbursement of damage, or other forms where money is owed to the City) and does not correct this matter within a prescribed time period will be suspended from all City of Avondale activities until corrected.
- ❖ Any Code of Conduct suspension will be transmitted to all sanctioned leagues and tournaments sponsored by the City of Avondale.
- ❖ Participants, who feel justified to appeal any decision that pertains to the Athletic Code of Conduct, must abide by the decision at the time of enforcement. Participant(s) may submit, no later than 24 hours after the incident, a protest, in written form (email or fax is acceptable), to league coordinator.
- ❖ By signing the team roster all players, coaches, and managers attest that they have read and understand this Athletic Code of Conduct. They further agree to abide by this Code of Conduct.