

2024 Eastern Pennsylvania Youth Football League Rules of Conduct

The Eastern Pennsylvania Youth Football League Rules of Conduct applies to players and every adult and minor associated with players (officers, coaches, parents, guardians, family, friends, and all spectators).

1. We will remember that the game is for the youth and not the adults.
2. We will hold in highest priority the safety and welfare of each player.
3. We will demand a sports environment for children that is free of drugs, alcohol, tobacco, and weapons and will refrain from bringing and/or using any of these items at youth sports events.
4. We will emphasize the ideas of sportsmanship, ethical conduct, and fair play.
5. We will show courtesy and respect to our opponents and the officials.
6. We will refrain from the use of foul or abusive language and/or gestures towards players, coaches, officials, parents, or fans.
7. We will ensure our families, and all fans there to cheer our teams, remain on our side of the field during games (except to use the restrooms or snack stand) and do not congregate on our opponents' side of the field.
8. We will not engage in physical or verbal confrontations with players, coaches, officials, or fans before, during or after practices or games.
9. We will NOT use social media in a manner that negatively impacts players, teams, the Eastern Pennsylvania Youth Football League, or any other organization in the EPYFL.
10. **Safe Zone Designation:** The goal of the Eastern Pennsylvania Youth Football League is to ensure the safety and well-being of all players and cheerleaders while they are at our football events. **All football fields and field complexes are designated as Safe Zones, just as schools are.** No alcohol, drugs (illegal and prescribed), tobacco products or weapons are allowed in these areas while any practices, scrimmages or games are occurring.

A. Punishment for non-compliance of the alcohol, drug, or tobacco Safe Zone Designation:

1. Coach or Organization officer non-compliance – 6 game suspension
 - a. The child(ren) of any coach who violates the alcohol, drug, or tobacco Safe Zone Designation will be suspended from all games for their organizations' next 2 game days.
2. Adult or minor associated with the player non-compliance – 4 game suspension
 - a. The child(ren) of any adult or minor associated with the player who violates the alcohol, drug, or tobacco Safe Zone Designation will be suspended from all games for their organizations' next 2 game days.

B. Punishment for non-compliance of the weapon Safe Zone Designation:

1. Coach, parent, organization officer or any other person – 2-year suspension with the Executive Board having the authority to extend this suspension
 - a. The child(ren) of any coach, parent, organization officer or other person who violates the weapon Safe Zone Designation will be suspended for 1 year from the date of the infraction.

C. All organizations are required to ensure compliance so that their fields and complexes remain alcohol, drug, tobacco, and weapon free.

1. If the league investigates violations of this by-law, the organization will fully cooperate with all aspects of this investigation or risk having all of their teams being declared ineligible for the playoffs that season, in addition to other possible sanctions.

D. No player may change organizations until full completion of any suspensions (for parent, family member, family friend, fan, coach, organization officer) for Safe Zone non-compliance is completed.

E. The league President and Executive Board has the authority to implement any penalties or fines in addition to the ones listed above.

F. There is no appeal of any punishment listed above by the violating person(s) or organization.

Organization: _____

Parent's Name (Printed): _____

Parent's Signature: _____

Child(ren) Name(s): _____

Date Signed: _____