

Lancaster Football Association

League Information and Code of Conduct

The mission of the Lancaster Football Association (LFA) is to provide a safe, fun learning environment for boys in grades K-8. We strive to create an opportunity for kids to work together as a team toward common goals. We emphasize sportsmanship, teamwork, and respect for coaches, game officials, and all other game-related personnel. While we are not a farm system for area youth football programs, we recognize the impact we may have on those programs. Our focus is on developing good life skills through the sport of football.

Expected Behavior at the LANCO Fieldhouse

The LFA will not tolerate verbal or physical abuse of coaches, game officials, or players from any parent, player, or spectator. Spectators, as well as the players and coaches, are expected to abide by the Code of Conduct described herein at all LFA events.

All individuals entering the LANCO Fieldhouse agree to abide by the rules and regulations set forth by the LANCO Fieldhouse. Please visit their website – www.lancofieldhouse.com and review their rules and regulations. LANCO Fieldhouse is a non-smoking facility.

Code of Conduct for Parents and Spectators

As a parent or spectator, I WILL:

1. Support the coaches and players, and help teach the value of commitment to the team, sportsmanship, ethical conduct, and fair play. Emphasize good athletes strive to be good students that are physically and mentally alert.
2. Support my child's team and help my child and LFA make athletic contests positive educational experiences.
3. Direct constructive criticism of my child's team program to the head coach and/or association officials. I will work toward a positive result for all concerned.
4. Accept decisions of the game officials on the field as being fair and called based upon their judgment. The officials are in charge of all games; their decisions are final.
5. Exhibit exemplary sportsmanship at all times, including staying behind the field netting during games.
6. Strive to make every football activity serve as a training ground for life, and a basis for good mental and physical health by being present to support the children.
7. Abstain from being under the influence of, or in possession of alcoholic beverages or any illegal substance during game contests.

As a parent or spectator, I WILL NOT:

1. Interfere or interrupt the coaching staff during games.
2. Criticize officials or coaches, direct abuse or profane language toward them, or otherwise subvert their authority.
3. Criticize an opposing team, its players, coaches, or spectators by word of mouth, by gesture, or by deliberately inciting unsportsmanlike behavior.
4. Undermine the authority of the coach or the LFA.

Consequences

At any Lancaster Football Association event, any adult spectator who verbally abuses, attempts to intimidate, is flagrantly rude to, or does not control their language or actions with a player, game official, coach, spectator, or LFA personnel will be asked to leave the event. He or she will receive a written warning regarding their behavior. If the spectator fails to leave upon request, law enforcement authorities may be called to remove the spectator. That spectator will be banned from the next game.

Any adult spectator that commits a second similar offense will be banned from the LFA events for the remainder of that season.

Any adult who attempts to physically assault or has completed an assault on game officials, coaches, or LFA personnel will be permanently banned from the LFA.

The term physical assault includes, but is not limited to: hitting, slapping, pushing, spitting, kicking or striking in any way with any part of the body or any physical implement.

Under no circumstances shall a refund (whole or partial) be issued due to violations of this Code.

Code of Conduct for Coaches

1. As a Team Coach, you (through your actions and words) set the example for your players, parents/guardians, and spectators. You set the tone and lead by example. Be sure the players and parents have read the LFA Code of Conduct. Understand what is being asked of all participants in your sport.
2. Actively promote these Codes. Coaches must place the well-being and safety of each player above all other considerations, including the development of performance. Ensure that each player is correctly dressed with the necessary safety equipment (mouthpiece, footwear, etc.) before being allowed to play. Never either physically or mentally push children beyond their abilities. The game is of minor consideration when compared to the child's future health and well-being.
3. Encourage and guide players to accept responsibility for their own behavior and performance. Never condone unacceptable behavior. Accept the decisions of the game officials on the field as being fair and based upon their judgment. The officials are in charge of all games; their decisions are final. Always be prompt, courteous, and direct when dealing with the League Officials, opposition Coaches, and Referees. Read the LFA Official Rules for and assist your players and parents in understanding them.

Code of Conduct for Players

I Will:

1. Have fun!
2. Be a good sport (win or lose). Be honest and fair.
3. Learn the value of commitment to the team; sportsmanship, ethical conduct, and fair play.
4. Show courtesy and respect to my teammates, opponents, coaches and officials.
5. Know that athletic contests are educational experiences.
6. Give complete attention to the instructions of my coaches and league officials.

I Will Not:

1. Use profanity, talk "trash", or taunt others before, during, or after any game.
2. Display any unsportsmanlike behavior.
3. Criticize my coaches, teammates or players from other teams.
4. Act in any way that may incite spectators.