**Bloom Carroll Youth Athletics**

**Code of Conduct**

Playing sports in BCYA means:

* Learning the many difficult skills of the game
* Understanding how to play the game
* Respecting the coaches and decisions of umpires or referees
* Being a team player
* Following rules
* Striving to be a good sport

Winning, though definitely a goal and something all players want to achieve, is secondary. If each player learns his or her part well, winning will occur. If commitment and respect are required, important life lessons will be learned.

All parents and fans must respect our goals and support our coaches, players, and officials. In addition to any rules that may apply to conduct at each field for practices and games, the following shall apply:

1. **Foul and abusive language and conduct are strictly prohibited – by anyone: parent, fan of any age, or coach.**
2. **Extreme aggression toward players, coaches, officials, or parents is prohibited. Including physical aggression if being channeled for reasons other than the activity at hand.**
3. **Rooting should be for your team, not against the opposing team.**Trash talk, taunting, and heckling of the other team is not acceptable, regardless of the unsportsmanlike conduct of opposing players or coaches.
4. **Only the coach should question calls of the referee/umpire – and only calls relating to the proper interpretation of a rule, not judgment calls.** Parents and fans shall refrain from outbursts against the referee/umpire and shall let the coach handle all referee/umpire issues. The coach is ultimately responsible for the behavior and placement of his/her team’s players and parents. Note that only coaches are the only ones permitted to be on the bench or in the dugout.
5. **Parents and fans should respect the proper requests made of them by the coaches, referees, and umpires.**
6. **Parents and fans should inform us of any improper coach conduct**. With a decent number of coaches and teams, the feedback of parents is an important means for us to assess the quality of our coaches. Although there may be circumstances that properly warrant discipline of a player, a coach should primarily resort to employing positive motivation. In addition, coaches must fairly distribute playing time amongst the players and should never place a player in harm’s way – physically or emotionally. We rely on you to report any issues, infractions, and constructive comments.
7. **Sports with BCYA extend beyond the field in our modern era and we hope to not see some of the same behaviors mentioned previously on social media or other electronic communications**.
8. **Infractions of the code of conduct will be on a case-by-case basis and the BCYA will attempt to follow the guidelines listed below to address the issue(s)**. First, we will issue a warning and explain what is deemed unacceptable. Second, we will give a suspension from events depending on severity. From 1 game or practice to one week of all activity. If the problem persists a season long ban. The most severe cases or repeating offenses will get a lifetime ban from participation with BCYA.
9. **Once a season long ban or worse has been deemed necessary there will likely be a request for the party(s) involved to meet with the board of directors to figure out the problem in hopes to resolve the issue**.