

Spectator Code of Conduct

Spectators shall:

1. Show respect for all players, coaches, and officials regardless of their own team loyalty. This is essential for raising the standards of good sportsmanship.
2. Cheer in a positive manner and encourage fair play; profanity and objectionable cheers or gestures are offensive. Cheering must not be designed to heckle, denigrate or unsettle anyone at the field. For example, jeering is always bad sportsmanship. Negative comments are totally unacceptable (whether to players or umpires). Vocal support for any team should never encourage violence or rough or illegal play.
3. Cheer good plays of all participants; avoid booing opponents. Good play by either team should be recognized by applause.
4. Recognize the umpire as a person of integrity and qualification, and respect the decisions accordingly.
5. Support the umpires and coaches by trusting their judgment and integrity.
6. Refrain from creating disturbances that are detrimental to the flow of the game and/or the safety of the participants involved.
7. Help provide a safe and fun environment.
8. Be responsible for their own safety.
9. Be located only between the 23m lines.
10. Not coach from the sideline. Such behaviour is to be actively discouraged by the umpires.
11. Refrain from encroaching on the field of play. This is totally unacceptable and will be dealt with by the umpires immediately.
12. Set an example by their self-control and deportment at matches.
13. Be supportive after the game. Win or lose recognize good effort, teamwork and sportsmanship.

Avoid Unsportsmanlike Conduct

Unsportsmanlike Conduct occurs when a player, coach, or spectator at any time while on field or in the area of a Springfield game conducts her/himself in an abusive, offensive, or illegal manner prior to, during, or after a game. This includes but is not limited to:

- a) fighting
- b) causing property damage at a game site
- c) entering into an argument with an umpire as to a decision that has been made
- d) attempting in any way to influence the decision of an umpire
- e) using threatening, profane, or obscene language or gestures at any time during a game
- f) baiting, taunting, or any other act which is intended or designed to embarrass, ridicule, or demean others under any circumstances, including on the basis of gender, place of origin, color, sexual orientation, religion, political belief, or economic status.

Failure to adhere to the code of conduct by a spectator, **who is properly identified as being associated with a team**, will first result in:

- a) the stoppage of play,
- b) a green card to the captain of the team with which the spectator is associated, and
- c) and a request by the umpires to the captain of that team to address the offending spectator, asking that the disruptive activity cease immediately.

If such behaviour continues, a yellow card will be given to the team captain. The offending spectator must then immediately leave the property where the game is taking place for the remainder of that game. Failure of the spectator to leave the area will result in the immediate stoppage of play and the forfeiture of the game by the team with which the spectator is associated.

Failure to adhere to the code of conduct by a spectator **who is not identified with either team will result** in the stoppage of play with no penalty to either team. The holder of the field permit has the responsibility to deal with the situation and call the police if necessary.

Remember, safety comes first.