

*The essential elements of character-building and ethics in sports are embodied in the concept of sportsmanship and six core principles: trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring, and good citizenship. The highest potential of sports is achieved when competition reflects these six pillars of character.*

As a parent/guardian, I promise to **LEAD BY EXAMPLE**, and therefore agree:

1. I will not force my child to participate in sports;
2. I will remember that children participate to have fun and that the game is for the youth;
3. I will inform the Coach of any physical disability of ailment that may effect the safety of my child or the safety of others;
4. I will learn the rules of the game and policies of the league;
5. I (and my guests) will be a positive role model for my child and encourage sportsmanship by showing respect and courtesy, and by demonstrating positive support for ALL players, coaches, officials and spectators at every practice, game and/or sporting event or tournament in this membership and visiting teams;
6. I (and my guests) will not engage in unsportsmanlike conduct such as taunting, refusing to shake hands, profane language or gestures;
7. I will not encourage any behaviors or practices that would endanger the health and well-being of the athletes in our membership or visiting teams;
8. I will teach my child to play by the rules and to resolve conflicts without resorting to hostility or violence;
9. I will demand that my child treat other players, coaches, officials and spectators with respect regardless of race, creed, color, sex and ability;
10. I will teach my child that doing one's best is more important than winning so that my child will never feel defeated by the outcome of a game or his/her performance;
11. I will praise my child for competing fairly and putting forth his/her best effort and making my child feel like a winner every time;
12. I will never ridicule or berate my child or any other child for making a mistake or losing a competition;
13. I will emphasize skill development and practices and their benefit over the importance of winning, I will de-emphasize games and competition in the lower-age groups;
14. I will promote the emotional and physical well-being of ALL athletes in our membership and visiting teams ahead of any personal desire I have for my child to win;
15. I will respect the officials and their authority during games and will not question, discuss or confront coaches at the game field, but will make time to speak at agreed upon place and time;
16. I will demand a sports environment for my child free from drugs, alcohol, tobacco. I will refrain from use of same at all activities organized by this membership or visiting organizations;
17. I will refrain from "coaching" my child unless I am an official coach or assistant coach of that particular team.

*I agree that I have read and understood the above and realize that should I not adhere to the policies the consequences may include verbal warning, written warning, suspensions, forfeits and/or revoking of one's membership of the Bridesburg Cougars organization.*

SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_