

Vineland Blitz Junior Football League

Code of Conduct

The mission of the Vineland Blitz Junior Football League (VBJFL) is to provide a safe, fun learning environment for the youth of our community. We strive to create an opportunity for kids to work together as a team toward common goals. We emphasize sportsmanship, teamwork and respect for authority figures (Directors, Coaches, Game Officials and all volunteers including team moms). Our focus is on developing good life skills through the sports of football and cheerleading.

VBJFL will not tolerate verbal or physical abuse of its volunteer coaches, referees, team moms 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 here at all VBJFL events and practices. While most of the adults and children in the program will abide by this code without being instructed, it is being published to protect the children, the integrity of our program, and emphasize the values of VBJFL.

Coaches Code of Conduct

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. Read the players, spectators, and parents Code. Understand what is being asked of all participants in your sport. 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 (helmet, mouthpiece, pads, etc.) before being allowed to play. Get treatment for an injured player immediately. Co-operate fully with medical personnel in the best interest of the player. 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. 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 called to the best ability of said officials. 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 VBJFL Official Rules for 2013 and assist your players and parents in understanding them.
2. I agree to take part in a National Alliance of Youth Sports or a Rutgers course. (A NAYS or Rutgers certification is required of all coaches per team.)
3. Agree to a background screening of your application with regards to your suitability to work with children.

Athlete's Code

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, officials, and all volunteers including team moms.
5. Know that athletic contests are educational experiences.
6. Give complete attention to the instructions of my coaches and league officials.
7. Attend practice regularly
8. Be dressed and ready @ the start of practice (It is recommended that you arrive to the practice field 15 minutes prior to the start of practice)

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 teammates or players from other teams.
4. Act in any way that may incite spectators.

Parents/Spectators Code of Conduct

As a parent or spectator, I will:

1. Support the coaches, all volunteers including team moms, players, and/or cheerleaders and help teach the value of commitment to the team, sportsmanship, ethical conduct, and fair play.
2. Support my child's team and help my child and VBJFL make athletic contests positive educational experiences
3. Direct constructive criticism of my child's team program to the head coach and/or association officials at an appropriate time. I will work toward a positive result for all concerned.
4. Accept decisions of the game officials (including coaches) on the field as being fair and called to the best ability of said officials. The officials are in charge of all games; their decisions are final.
5. Exhibit exemplary sportsmanship at all times.

6. Emphasize that good athletes strive to be good students that are physically and mentally alert.
7. Strive to make every football/cheerleading activity serve as a training ground for life, and a basis for good mental and physical health by being present to support the children.
8. Abstain from being under the influence of or in possession of and/or drinking alcoholic beverages and the possession or use of any illegal substance on both the game and practice fields.
9. Stay behind the designated spectator line during a game.
10. Tell a coach before removing my child from the practice or game field before practice or the game is complete.
11. Be responsible for repayment of any issued VBJFL equipment that is lost or not returned
12. Make sure my child has eaten prior to practice or a game.
13. Provide transportation/make proper arrangements for player transportation

As a parent or spectator, I will not:

1. Interfere/interrupt the coaching staff during games or practices.
2. Criticize officials or coaches or volunteers including team moms, 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, in work or deed, the authority of the coach of VBJFL.
5. Be disruptive or disrespectful to coaches, officials, other parents or players at any time.
6. Criticize the coaches, officials, players, other parents or the league on social media.
7. Use foul language or profanity at practices, games or any other VBJFL event

Consequences of Behavior

VBJFL is a ZERO tolerance league. If you or your family members violate the rules, you may be removed from the league

At any VBJFL event, practice, or competition, any adult who verbally abuses, attempts to intimidate, is flagrantly rude to, or does not control their language or actions with a player, official, coach, team mom, spectator, or VBJFL board member will be asked to leave the event. He or she will receive written warning regarding their behavior and, upon review from the board, any player, parent or family member may be removed from the league. If the spectator fails to leave upon request, law enforcement authorities may be called to remove the spectator.

Any adult that is removed from the league will be banned from all VBJFL home or away events/games indefinitely.

Any adult who physically assaults an official, coach, or VBJFL board member will be banned from VBJFL for one year from the date of the offense. After one year, the parent may apply for re-instatement. If the adult commits a second offense, he or she will be permanently banned from the VBJFL.

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. There are no refunds once you register your child.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Player Name: _____

Freshmen Sophomores Juniors Seniors