

## **Washington Township Youth Association Discipline Policy**

It is the goal of the Washington Township Youth Association (WTYA) to maintain a wholesome, safe, and enjoyable atmosphere for all who participate in and attend our sports programs. To ensure this environment, disciplinary actions may be implemented on youth members/visitors. The following protocol is designed in an attempt to fit the necessary consequences to the seriousness of the offense committed by the youth members/visitors.

Very dangerous, vicious, or malicious behavior (actions that, in the opinion of the Coaches, Directors or WTYA Board members, many result in physical harm, are directly aimed at any individual or group with the intent to harass, intimidate, etc., or are considered by the same to be a complete disregard for the rules provided) may dictate that some steps be skipped and decisions as such will be made by the WTYA Board members.

- I. For infractions considered minor, the Coach has the ability to implement disciplinary actions on a player. Minor infractions are considered swearing, unsportsmanlike conduct, and disrespectful behavior towards coaches/players/referees, etc.
  - There should be an initial verbal warning followed by discussion with the child's parent/guardian.
  - Repeated offenses will result in a written warning using the Disciplinary Action Report.
  - A copy of the Disciplinary Action Report will be signed by the Coach, child and parent/guardian. A copy of the Report will be sent to the Director of the sport.
  - Once a written warning is issued, repeated offenses will result in disciplinary actions including missing game-time. The Director, with input from the Coach, will make the decision on play suspension. If immediate discipline is required, such as during a game, the Coach will make the decision on the length of time (one quarter/half/remainder of game, etc.). Any disciplinary action taken by the Coach must be reported to the Director as soon as can be reasonably expected but in no event longer than 12 hours from the time of the incident. The Director will then notify the President and Vice President of actions taken.

- Continued offenses beyond the initial suspension of play will result in longer suspensions and the possible removal of the child from the Team. The WTYA Board, with input from the Director and Coach, will make the final decision on further actions.
- II. In the event of more serious infractions such as physical or verbal abuse, directly aimed at any individual or group with the intent to harass, intimidate, etc., the Coach may take immediate action including the suspension of play.
- The infraction and disciplinary measures will be reported to the Director as soon as can be reasonably expected but in no event longer than 12 hours. The Director will then notify the President and Vice President as to the incident and actions taken.
  - A Disciplinary Action Report will be completed and signed by the Coach, child, and parent/guardian. A copy of the Report will be provided to the Director, President and Vice President. The Director, with input from the Coach, will decide on additional disciplinary measures if/as needed.
  - A second violation of such nature will result in an automatic suspension of play for a time to be decided by the WTYA Board, with input from the Director and Coach.
  - Continued offenses will result in longer suspensions and the possible removal of the child from the Team. The WTYA Board, with input from the Director and Coach, will make the final decisions on further actions.
- III. In the event of infractions involving the damage/vandalism of any property or the entering /attempt to enter facility location OFF LIMITS to the Public; automatic disciplinary measures will be taken immediately.
- Participation by the child will cease immediately until the Director can review the issue.
  - All infractions of this nature will require a Disciplinary Action Report completed and signed by Coach, child and parent/guardian.
  - Upon the review of the situation, the Director will make a decision as to the proper disciplinary actions. Actions may include suspending to revoking participation by the child, community services or a combination thereof depending on the nature of the violation.
  - A second such violation will result in the automatic suspension of the child from any WTYA sponsored event for a time up to one year.

- The WTYA Board will vote on the length of time and /or other disciplinary action taken for a second violation.
- All actions taken by the WTYA Board are FINAL. See Section V for the appeal process.

#### IV. Carry over of Disciplinary actions between Sports.

- Based on the nature and the severity of the violation, discipline may be carried out across multiple sports seasons. Such instances will be reviewed by the WTYA Board, Director and Coach of the sport in which the incident occurred and a final decision will be voted on.

#### V. Appeal Process

- Once disciplinary actions have been formally assigned to the youth member, the parent/guardian has the right to appeal as follows:
  - **Appeals must be submitted within one week of the notification of the disciplinary action assigned.**
  - **Parent/guardian must email the Director and/or the WTYA President requesting the appeal.**
  - **The appeal will be heard by the WTYA Board at the next scheduled monthly meeting. If the request for an appeal occurs less than one week before the monthly scheduled meeting, the appeal hearing will take place the following month.**
  - **In the event a more timely decision is necessary, a special meeting may be requested to hear the appeal.**
- Once the appeal hearing has been completed a final decision will be made by the WTYA Board and the parent/guardian will be advised.
- Action taken at this time is final.

VI. Disciplinary Action for Non-players (siblings, friend, etc.): If a Violation of the Policy involving the above occurs; the Coach, Director or Referee may ask the violator to leave the event. If the party refuses, law enforcement should be contacted. The WTYA reserves the right to revoke the violator's future attendance at WTYA events. Parents/guardian will be held to the code of conduct.

VII. Changes to this Policy may be implemented by a majority vote of WTYA Board Members.

**WTYA DISCIPLINARY ACTION REPORT**

ATHLETE: \_\_\_\_\_ SPORT: \_\_\_\_\_

GRADE: \_\_\_\_\_

|                                       |
|---------------------------------------|
| INFRACTION:                           |
| <i>DATE:</i> _____ <i>TIME:</i> _____ |
| <i>LOCATION:</i> _____                |
| DESCRIPTION:                          |
| DISCIPLINARY ACTION TAKEN:            |

NAME

DATE

SIGNATURE

COACH: \_\_\_\_\_

ATHLETE: \_\_\_\_\_

PARENT: \_\_\_\_\_