



T AFL CODE OF CONDUCT FOR FOOTBALL AND CHEER COACHES

"The purpose of T AFL shall be to provide and promote, through properly qualified guidance and supervision, a clean and wholesome youth football and cheerleading program. It is our intent to teach the basic skills of football, to teach proper conduct and sportsmanship and ultimately, to positively affect the development of our children."

The league was developed for children to learn football and cheer, to have a lot of playing time and to have fun. We know that if these children have fun in a positive environment they will play better and want to stay with the sport as they get older. We also know that coaches of these young athletes have significant influence in the shaping and development of their minds, attitudes and emotions.

I therefore agree:

1. The game, the teams and the league is for our youth...not adults.
2. I will promote the physical and emotional well-being of the players/cheerleaders ahead of any personal desire to win; to emphasize skill development, safety and teamwork over individual accomplishment and "winning-at-all-cost".
3. I will praise the players for competing fairly and trying hard; that doing one's best is more important than winning, so that the players/cheerleaders will never feel defeated by the outcome of the game or his/her performance.
4. I will lead by example; to be a positive role model, to always encourage sportsmanship, to show respect and courtesy and to demonstrate positive support for all players, cheerleaders, coaches, officials, parents and spectators and I will coach my young athletes to do the same.
5. I will not engage in any kind of unsportsmanlike, disrespectful, irresponsible or inappropriate conduct with any official, coach, player, cheerleader, parent or spectator such as booing, taunting, refusing to shake hands, profane language or any obscene or disrespectful gesture.
6. I will not yell negatively at the players/cheerleaders, especially singling a player/cheerleader out. I will never ridicule or yell at a player or cheerleader for making a mistake or losing a competition.
7. I will learn, coach and play by the rules of the game and policies of the league. I will increase my knowledge of the game and coaching techniques as well as coach the players/cheerleaders to play by the rules, resolving conflicts without resorting to hostility or violence.
8. I will follow the T AFL guidelines in relation to coaching requirements, education, training, clinics, USA Football membership, Heads Up Football training as well as increase my knowledge of the game, coaching techniques and safety.

9. I will communicate with all coaches to help develop a unified coaching staff as well as communicate with parents. I will take all steps possible to diffuse any tensions or solve any problems that may arise.

10. I will demand a safe practice and game environment not allowing any behavior or practice that would endanger the health or well being (both physical and emotional) of the athletes and demand a sport environment that is free from drugs, tobacco and alcohol.

11. I will respect the use of equipment of TAFL, its communities and fields (keeping practice and game areas safe, clean and picked up)

12. I will (if possible) attend all scheduled coaches meetings and offer suggestions that may help league operations.

13. Ultimately, I will be instrumental in creating a positive, safe and fun environment, knowing that praise goes a long way. I will make it a goal to make our children feel like winners.

14. I have read the Coaches Code of Conduct of the Thumb Area Football and Cheerleading League and understand the responsibility of coaching and the consequences that can occur for failure to uphold the standards set by The Thumb Area Football and Cheerleading League.

15. I understand that infraction of the Thumb Area Football and Cheerleading League expectations, if not specifically noted, are subject to a variety of disciplinary actions by the local Community and/or the Thumb Area Football and Cheerleading League Board of Directors. Disciplinary action may include dismissal from the program.