**GENERAL RULES AND CODE OF CONDUCT POLICY**

**SECTION 1. “ZERO TOLERANCE” POLICY:**

A. The Dallas Parks and Recreation Department has adopted a “Zero Tolerance Policy” for all coaches, players, spectators, and other persons. No profanity, fighting, heckling, disrespect, threats, alcohol or tobacco products will be tolerated. Result: you will be banned indefinitely from all Parks and Recreation league sponsored activities and facilities.

B. Dallas Parks and Recreation Department league programs and facilities are designed to offer leisure activities for families, groups, and individuals of all ages with diversified interests. Sporting events are provided by the department as opportunities for friendly competition while promoting a spirit of sportsmanship among participants and a pleasant environment for spectators.

C. Participants, coaches, managers, team representatives, and spectators are expected to conduct

themselves in a sportsmanlike manner, before, during, and after an event.

**SECTION 2. OFFENSES AND PENALTIES:**

A. Designated team representatives and coaches are responsible for the conduct of themselves, team

members, and other appropriate representatives at all times.

B. Conduct. Conduct which may be interpreted by a staff person or game official as threatening to the

administration or control of the contest, including constant complaining, heckling, and bickering will

result in immediate ejection from the contest and playing facilities for an amount of time deemed

necessary by the Dallas Parks and Recreation Department.

C. Abusive Language. No person involved in any Dallas Parks and Recreation Department activity or

facilities will be allowed to use profane, vulgar, excessively loud, or abusive language. Failure to comply

will result in immediate ejection from the contest and playing facility for an amount of time deemed

necessary by the Dallas Parks and Recreation Department.

D. Alcoholic Beverages. Alcoholic beverages are not allowed, including playing facilities, dugouts, parking lots, restrooms, etc. or on any property used by the Dallas Parks and Recreation Department. No person having the discernible odor of alcohol about his or her person will be allowed on the property. Failure to comply will result in immediate ejection from the contest and removal from the premises for an amount of time deemed necessary by the Dallas Parks and Recreation Department. Anyone associated with a youth or adult team that is found with alcoholic beverages in the parking lot, dugouts, basketball gyms, restrooms, etc. is in violation of the law and could result in the entire team being removed from the premises for an amount of time deemed necessary by the Dallas Parks and Recreation Department.

E. Tobacco Products. Cigarettes, cigars, pipes, e-cigarettes, vapes or any other tobacco products are not

allowed within the playing facilities, dugouts, parking lots, restrooms, etc. or on any property used by the

Dallas Parks and Recreation Department. Failure to comply will result in immediate ejection from the contest and playing facility. Coaches and other team representatives will not be allowed to leave the playing facility to use tobacco products during a game.

F. Fighting. Fighting in any form by any person involved in any Dallas Parks and Recreation Department activity or facility will not be tolerated. Fighting shall be defined as “an act or attempted act of violence

by one person towards any other person, including physical or verbal abuse and/or thrown objects.”

**SECTION 3. SUSPENSION WILL OCCUR AS FOLLOWS CONCERNING FIGHTING AND THREATENING:**

A. Threatening a game official, participant, coach, spectator, or representative of the Dallas Parks and

Recreation Department will result in immediate ejection from the contest and a one-year suspension

from all Dallas Parks and Recreation Department sponsored activities and facilities.

B. Physically striking or attempting to strike a coach, player, or spectator will result in immediate ejection

from the contest and a one-year suspension from all Dallas Parks and Recreation Department sponsored

activities and facilities.

C. Physically striking or attempting to strike a game official or representative of the Dallas Parks and

Recreation Department will result in immediate ejection from the contest and a permanent suspension

from all Dallas Parks and Recreation Department sponsored activities and facilities.

**SECTION 4. OTHER GUIDELINES AND PENALTIES CONCERNING YOUTH LEAGUES:**

A. If a player quits or leaves a team for any reason, the coach must contact the Dallas Parks and

Recreation Department.

B. If an incident occurs with a participant in whom the coach feels the participant should be removed from the team, the coach must submit a written statement to the Dallas Parks and Recreation Department outlining the incident and reason(s) for removal. Staff will review the information with the coach and all parties involved before any action is taken.

C. If a player or coach is ejected from the contest by an official, the Dallas Parks and Recreation Department will review the circumstances surrounding the ejection and determine the suspension. The suspension will be final. An ejection will result in at least a one game suspension.

D. The Dallas Parks and Recreation Department reserves the right to determine violations of the above rules, to set penalties for violations, and to set in place other rules of conduct deemed necessary for the proper administration of the program.

**SECTION 5. COACHES:**

A. All coaches, including assistant coaches, must complete a volunteer application, read and sign off on the Expectations of a Coach, and the Code of Conduct. They must also complete a background check form. All coaches, including assistant coaches, must be approved by the Dallas Parks and Recreation Department.

Baseball: a maximum of three (3) coaches are allowed during the regular season for 9-14 age groups

 four (4) coaches are allowed during the regular season for t-ball and coach pitch age groups.

Basketball: a maximum of two (2) coaches are allowed during the regular season.

Soccer: a maximum of two (2) coaches are allowed during the regular season.

**SECTION 6. TEAM ROSTERS:**

A. Dallas Parks and Recreation Department will determine the process in which teams will be formed.

B. Team preferences will not be granted. Request for a specific team and players placed on the same

team will not be accepted. The only guarantee of placement on the same team are siblings and

coaches’ children, provided that staff is made aware of this at registration.

**SECTION 7. DRAFT GUIDELINES:**

1. A separate form will be given with the draft rules/guidelines.

**SECTION 8. SCHEDULING:**

A. All regular season and postseason games will be scheduled by the Dallas Parks and Recreation Department. Games will be scheduled Monday through Saturday. Games may be played in Dallas and

possibly at other locations with other organizations.

B. Every effort will be made to schedule games around conflicting dates, provided that coaches notify staff prior to scheduling preparations. Once the schedule is made, no changes will be allowed.

**SECTION 9. CANCELLATIONS AND MAKE-UPS:**

A. Dallas Parks and Recreation Department will make every effort to play all games if reasonably possible. Coaches will be notified by 3 p.m. if a game will be canceled. If you do not hear anything, teams should report to the playing facility and the official will make the decision.

B. Dallas Parks and Recreation Department will contact the head coach only in the event a game is canceled. Coaches should contact their players concerning inclement weather games.

C. All canceled games will be rescheduled by the Dallas Parks and Recreation Department staff at the

earliest possible date and is final. Both coaches will be notified of the new date, time, and location, which may include Wednesdays and other days that 3 games are not normally played. Officials will be arranged by the Dallas Parks and Recreation Department staff through a booking agent.

D. In the event of a large number of cancellations, the Dallas Parks and Recreation Department may

have to reschedule games at the end of the regular season schedule. The Dallas Parks and Recreation

Department reserves the right to cancel games rescheduled for the end of the season that do not affect

league standings.

**SECTION 10. PRACTICE POLICY:**

A. The Dallas Parks and Recreation Department will make our facilities as readily available for practice as possible. Practices will be limited due to the number of fields/gyms available and the number of teams in our leagues. The Dallas Parks and Recreation Department will set up practice schedules for the preseason at the

coaches meeting. There will be a preseason and in season practice schedule. Dallas Parks and Recreation

Department may cancel practices to reschedule make-up games.

B. Should teams schedule additional practice sessions elsewhere, these sessions must be reported to the

Dallas Parks and Recreation Department. It is the responsibility of the coach to obtain permission at a

practice site not belonging to the Dallas Parks and Recreation Department. The intent is to make

practice time equitable to ensure that no single team enjoys an advantage.

**SECTION 11. TIEBREAKERS:**

In the event two or more teams are tied at the conclusion of regular season play, the following steps will

be taken to break the tie:

A. Head-to-head competition: the record between the two or more teams will be considered.

B. Point spread between the two or more teams; an examination of the final scores between the two

teams will be considered.

C. Least runs/points allowed between the games of the two or more teams.

D. A review of common opponents and each team's record against such teams will be considered.