Warnervale Public School

Code of Conduct for Parents and Visitors at School Sporting Events

The NSW Department of Education and Communities is committed to improving the social and economic wellbeing of the people of NSW through the provision of high quality education and training. The values that underpin our work include fairness, respect, integrity and responsibility.

Schools and school sporting events should be places where students, staff, parents and visitors feel safe and happy. Ensuring that our school events remain pleasant and safe places for all is the responsibility of every individual who attends.

A Code of Conduct for parents and visitors ensures that everyone who visits a school sporting event is able to do so in a safe and harmonious manner and to ensure that students, staff, parents and other visitors are not subjected to aggressive, hostile or violent behaviours. The aim of this Code is to establish a common understanding of the standards of behaviour expected of all members of the school community.

Parents and visitors to a school sporting event are expected to:

1. Treat all persons associated with any DEC school with respect and courtesy
2. Allow staff to supervise, investigate and manage students without interference
3. Report any physical assaults or threatened physical assaults on students, staff, parents or community members during the course of sporting activities to a school staff member
4. "The role of the spectator is to enhance the players' enjoyment." (P. Coggan, MSW. Public Schools Sports Council)
5. Encourage children to play according to the rules and to settle disagreements without resorting to violence or hostility.
6. Never ridicule or yell at a child be it yours or the opponents for making a mistake or losing a competition.
7. Remember that children learn from example. Appreciate a good performance and skilful plays by all participants.
8. Support all efforts to remove verbal and physical abuse from sporting activities.
9. Respect officials’ decisions and teach children to do likewise.
10. Respect the rights, dignity and worth of all participants regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background and religion.
11. Remember that students play organised sport for their own enjoyment. They are not there to entertain you, and they are NOT miniature professional athletes.
12. Be on your best behaviour. Do not indulge in physical or verbal abuse of players, coaches, officials or other spectators.
13. Applaud good play by your own team and the opposing team.
14. Show respect for your opponents. Without them there would be no game.
15. Never ridicule a player for making a mistake or losing a competition.
16. Do not encourage or condone the use of violence in any form.

Failure to abide by this Code of Conduct will lead to the provisions of the Inclosed Lands Protection Act (1901) and its Amendments being followed.

Your co-operation is sought in maintaining a safe and happy school for all students.

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