



Adopted 1/15/14

## RULES OF CONDUCT

The following RULES OF CONDUCT are sportsmanship guidelines utilized to maintain a positive atmosphere in recreational activities sponsored by SWAC. These rules will be applied to SWAC tournaments. Each registered team coach/manager will be provided with this information and it is their responsibility to inform his/her participants. Ignorance (lack of knowledge) of these rules will not be considered as an acceptable excuse for violations.

### GENERAL INFORMATION.

\*\*\*In the spirit of sportsmanship all coaches are encouraged to play each player on the roster.

\*\* The RULES OF CONDUCT will be in effect before, during and after each game, match, practice or recreational activity beginning with the coaches meeting continuing through the conclusion of the tournament. All SWAC events will be governed by these rules. These guidelines will apply to all events conducted by the department regardless tournament location.

\*\*Each tournament will have rules to meet requirements of that particular program (i.e. parents, coaches, spectators, etc.) These rules will not be considered separate from the RULES OF CONDUCT and violations of tournament rules can result in ejection.

\*\* Team(s) and or individual(s) ejected or removed as a result of infractions of the RULES OF CONDUCT and violations will not be given refunds for team(s) or individual fees.

\*\*Participants – any of the following: a player, a coach or assistant coach, individual participant, a spectator, a team, scorekeeper or an official.

\*\*Official – any of the following: an umpire, a referee, a supervisor, a scorekeeper or any other SWAC staff person.

\*\* Any official, tournament director, or assistant staff has the authority to eject a participant from a SWAC event.

\*\*Participants ejected from a game or recreational activity must leave the facility in an expedient manner (2 minutes or less is considered expedient). Failure to do so will result in the forfeiture of game or match or more severe penalty. The exception to this rule will be youth participants. They will be sent to the bench with an adult supervisor.

\*\*Repeated Violations by team(s) or an individual(s) will result in more severe penalties as decided by the SWAC Committee.

\*\*Violations of the RULES OF CONDUCT at the conclusion of the SWAC tournament may result in penalty application in succeeding program and or seasons.

\*\*Penalties applied for any situation or circumstance not specifically covered in the RULES OF CONDUCT will be left to the discretion of the SWAC Board under the advisement of NCRPA.

\*\*\*Suspension – Includes not being able to participate in, not being a spectator at events, not being able to attend any athletic/recreational events sponsored by SWAC.

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1. All participants must abide by an official's decision.
2. All participants must refrain from demonstrative expressions of dissent at an official's decision (i.e. kicking or throwing ball, bat or equipment, speaking rudely to an official).
3. During the course of tournament play only the active head coach and or captain of per team will be allowed to discuss decisions reached by an official with the officials.
4. All participants must refrain from using profane, obscene or vulgar language. Taunting, mocking and or harassment of participants or officials will not be allowed.
5. Profane, obscene or vulgar language used maliciously toward another participant or official will not be allowed.
6. Participants must refrain from physically or verbally threatening another participant or official in a hostile manner.
7. The drinking or possession of alcoholic beverage or illegal drugs will not be allowed at any SWAC event.
8. Participants are not allowed to attend any SWAC event or be on the property while intoxicated.
9. Participants must refrain any form of physical attack as an aggressor upon another participant or official.

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All violations and penalties under this category must be reported to the SWAC Committee.

### APPLICATION OF THE RULES OF CONDUCT

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\*\*Upon receipt of a written report describing a violation, the SWAC committee will investigate the report and will in turn apply the appropriate penalty in compliance with the RULES OF CONDUCT.

\*\* The violator will be mailed a formal letter describing the violation and appropriate penalty. Additional copies of this letter will be issued to the Sponsoring department head. Parent/guardian will be mailed this letter for youth violators.

\*\*Penalties will begin immediately upon notification by the SWAC committee.

\*\*If the individual receiving the penalty wishes to appeal the ruling, he/she may do so if the penalty is a suspension of twenty-four (24) months or longer. A written request stating the reason for appeal must be submitted to the sports chair at NCRPA within fourteen (14) calendar days from the date of the formal letter. The appeal would then be reviewed by the SWAC chairs. The SWAC chairs may affirm, overturn, or modify the penalty.

\*\*Penalties of less than twenty four (24) months are not appealable to the SWAC Chairs.

\*\*Violation of the Code of Conduct can result in a single game ejection to a lifetime ban.

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