

## ***Farmington Rockets Youth Football and Cheerleading Code of Conduct for Coaches***

"The Farmington Rockets Football Program is a volunteer driven, nonprofit organization whose mission is to help the youth of Farmington and Farmington Hills to develop the knowledge of and skills for youth football and cheerleading. We strive to teach and model the values of sportsmanship, teamwork and fair play to each participant and offer a positive, life building experience in a safe and healthy environment. Most importantly, we will have fun."

All coaches, football, cheerleading, and team officials, whether with or without realization of the fact, are looked upon as potential Role Models by the participants. Coaches are the ambassadors of the Conference, and in many cases will be the only contact that a player, cheerleader or parent will have with the Conference. Coaches affect the opinions that participants and parents will perceive of the Michigan Youth Football and Cheer Conference (MYFCC), either positively or negatively and may have a great impact on the future success of this organization.

### **COACHES SHALL:**

1. Follow the rules as prescribed for coaches in the Michigan High School Athletic Association rules and those of the Michigan Youth Football and Cheer Conference. These rules shall be the governing rules of the Farmington Rockets. The rules listed below shall apply if they are not already within the rules and guidelines of the above-mentioned MYFCC.
2. Uphold all rules and regulations adopted by the Michigan Youth Football and Cheer Conference. Each coach should be acquainted with rules of the game and the League. It is the Head Coach's responsibility for having the rules taught and interpreted for their players and all assistant coaches.
3. Strive to make every football/cheerleading activity serve as a training ground for life and a basis for good mental and physical health. Promote and develop the character values of dedication, self confidence, integrity, respect, teamwork, and good sportsmanship.
4. Be aware of the impression that we make on the participants and practice high standards in personal grooming and choice of wearing apparel at practice and any event that is sponsored by the Michigan Youth Football and Cheer Conference.
5. Coaches shall treat all participants the same. There shall not be any favoritism shown or special privileges given to one participant that cannot be given to another. The safety and welfare of their players or cheerleaders should always be foremost in their mind and must never be sacrificed for any personal prestige or selfish glory.
6. Criticize only in a constructive manner, with the intent to benefit and never to humiliate a participant. Coaches should look for ways to compliment and always offer positive reinforcement where possible.
7. Coaches should never place the value of a win over that of instilling the highest desirable ideals and character traits in their players and cheerleaders. Emphasize that winning a game is the result of good TEAMWORK.
8. When scores are such that leads are commanding, refrain from "piling it on", but use this as an opportunity to let all players receive more playing time.
9. Refrain from making negative comments regarding fellow coaches of the MYFCC coaching staff in front of football/cheerleading participants, other coaches and parents while on the practice field, games or Conference sponsored events. If it is felt that fellow coaches are making mistakes or in violation of the Code of Conduct, offer assistance by means of communicating your observations to the Football Commissioner. The Football Commissioner and Unit Director will determine if your observation warrants further action.
10. Coaches alone do not make team or conference policy. However, on the playing and practice fields, the coaching staff is in complete charge and shall not be interfered with except in cases of rule violations and any other conduct deemed by the Board of Directors to be contrary to the welfare of youth participants.

## ***Farmington Rockets Code of Conduct for Coaches*** (continued)

Therefore, all coaches, football, cheerleading and team officials will abide by the Code of Conduct and Rules which follow. If any rules or codes of conduct should be broken, the Farmington Rockets' Board of Directors shall have the authority to impose a penalty. The Board of Directors depending on the violation and the severity of its impact shall determine this penalty, which may result in suspension or expulsion from the Farmington Rockets organization

These categories are generally descriptive of the most obvious types of misconduct and are not to be construed as an exclusive list or as a limitation upon the authority of the Farmington Rockets' Board of Directors to deal appropriately with any other types of conduct which interfere with the good order of the organization.

The following are considered violations of the Code of Conduct and shall apply to any Farmington Rockets' Youth Football and Cheerleading Board member, coach, director, football player, cheerleader, parent/guardian, or fan.

1. Insubordinations, disrespect, or disregard of verbal instruction or direction of the coaches.
2. Open persistent defiance of the authority of a staff member.
3. Taunting players, coaches, officials, Board members, or other parents/spectators by means of baiting, ridiculing, bullying, harassment, stalking, verbal and/or non-verbal threats of physical violence, or displaying physical violence. *Law enforcement authorities may be notified in cases of this misconduct.*
4. Larceny/petty theft/vandalism  
Any theft or vandalism of money, personal or public property of \$5 or more value; and/or theft involving unlawful entry. *Law enforcement authorities may be notified in cases of this misconduct.*
5. Offensive speech/displays  
Speech, communication, or displays which tend to disrupt the orderly conduct of practices or games, including:
  - a. The use of vulgar acts, obscenities, or gestures.
  - b. Racial or ethnic slurs and/or intimidation.
6. Fighting
  - a. The act of physical bullying or quarreling, including bodily contact.
  - b. Incitement – the act of inciting or prompting others to action.
7. Possession, consumption or under the influence of alcoholic beverages, alleged drugs, or performance enhancing drugs are prohibited at all times. *Law enforcement authorities may be notified in cases of this misconduct.*
8. The use of smoking materials or substances (cigarettes, cigars, etc) on school grounds is strictly prohibited. *Law enforcement authorities may be notified in cases of this misconduct.*
9. Possession or use of weapons  
The term weapons shall mean any object or instrument of which the principal use is to inflict injury or physical harm upon the person of another, or the use of which may result in pain or suffering. *Law enforcement authorities may be notified in cases of this misconduct.*
10. Failure to accept decisions of the game officials on the field as being fair and called to the best ability of said officials.
11. Criticism of an opposing team, players, coaches or fans by word of mouth or gesture.
12. Failure to insure all equipment be cared for properly and is not allowed to be used in an abusive or destructive manner.
13. Deliberately inciting unsportsmanlike conduct.
14. Any fan, coach, parent, player, or cheerleader that becomes a nuisance and out of control will be asked to leave.

**Farmington Rockets Youth Football and Cheerleading**  
**Code of Conduct for Coaches**

Attached is the Code of Conduct document, after reading the document, please sign and return this form to acknowledge that you have read and understand the policy. The Code of Conduct policy applies to any Farmington Rockets' Board member, Coach, Director, Football Player, Cheerleader and Parent/Guardian. Turn in all documents to the Farmington Rockets Registrar or mail to: Farmington Rockets, P. O. Box 314, Farmington, MI 48332

Printed Coach's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Coach's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_