

# **Spencer-Van Etten Youth Association**

## **CODE OF CONDUCT**

The mission of the Spencer-Van Etten Youth Association is to sponsor safe, wholesome activities for the youth of S-VE school district with the goal of nurturing their physical, social, and environmental growth. The individual growth of players must be nurtured in an environment that is free of confrontation, poor sportsman-ship, verbal and physical abuse among spectators, players and officials. All persons present at any SVEYA activity are expected to conduct themselves by commonly accepted standards of civility: by acting with integrity, playing fair under any circumstance, and abiding by the rules of the league and the sport.

Players are expected to perform in a manner consistent with the principles of good sportsmanship. Coaches and spectators should act in a manner that reinforces this concept. While competitive play should not be discouraged, physical and/or verbal abuse of opponents will not be allowed. Verbal or gesticulatory dissent with referee's/umpire's decisions will not be tolerated. If disciplined, a player is expected to accept discipline without comment, and the player should be determined not to repeat the behavior that elicited the action. Coaches, parents and spectators must also show respect in disagreeing with referees' decisions. While one cannot expect all referee calls to be accepted without reservation, loud or abusive dissent is unwarranted and will not be tolerated.

Under no circumstance should a player, parent or spectator come onto the field unless invited by the officials. The same level of constraint should be observed after the game is over. Parents and spectators should be made aware that the coach is responsible for their actions on the sideline, therefore he/she can be cautioned, sent off the field, or suspended from future games for the misbehavior of parents and spectators.

While good sportsmanship is expected on the field; participants, parents, coaches and directors shall also be expected to use good judgment, sportsmanship and team building in the forum of Social Media. Social networking sites such as Facebook, Twitter and Google are not to be used to post or tweet any blatantly negative or derogatory comment toward any coach or director, player or parent, organization as a whole or specific board member. The Sport Director and the board of SVEYA will view such actions as breach of this Code of Conduct. Any grievances shall be brought to the coach first, the director second and the lastly the board.

Program directors will ensure that the approach to playing the game is fully disseminated and understood throughout the program.

Program directors must also ensure that, as warranted by specific events, swift and appropriate action is taken to ensure that members of its program do not repeat their mistakes. Occurrences of misconduct may lead to long-term penalties including civil or criminal charges.

**Approved by the SVEYA Board of Directors**