

## **Greater Akron Amateur Soccer Association Code of Conduct**

**Acceptance of this Code of Conduct is a condition of membership and participation in the Greater Akron Amateur Soccer Association (“GAASA”). Clubs that are members of GAASA (“Club”) are required to sign this Code of Conduct on behalf of the Club, as well as require that all Club coaches, players, and the players’ parents or legal guardians sign this Code of Conduct.**

Participation in GAASA-sponsored activities play an important role in promoting the physical, social and emotional development of children. It is therefore essential for parents, coaches and officials to encourage youth athletes to embrace the values of good sportsmanship. Moreover, adults involved in GAASA-sponsored activities should be models of good sportsmanship and should lead by example by demonstrating fairness, respect and self-control.

Participation in GAASA-sponsored activities is also a privilege granted by GAASA, and its state and national affiliations. For purposes of this Code of Conduct, “GAASA-sponsored activities” shall include activities sponsored by or affiliated with GAASA, the Ohio Youth Soccer Association-North, U.S. Youth Soccer Association and/or the U.S. Soccer Federation. Failure to adhere to this Code of Conduct and/or generally accepted standards of community citizenship can result in disciplinary action, including but not limited to the revocation of the participant’s membership in GAASA and/or the Club.

**I therefore pledge to be responsible for my words and actions while attending, coaching, officiating or participating in a GAASA-sponsored activity and shall conform my behavior to the following Code of Conduct:**

1. I will not engage in, nor encourage any other person to engage in, unsportsmanlike conduct with any coach, parent, player, participant, official or any other attendee of a GAASA-sponsored event.
2. I will not engage in, nor encourage any other person to engage in, any behavior which would endanger the health, safety or well-being of any coach, parent, player, participant, official or any other attendee of a GAASA-sponsored activity.
3. I will not, nor will I permit or encourage any other person, to use drugs or alcohol while at a GAASA-sponsored activity and will not attend, coach, officiate or participate in a GAASA-sponsored activity while under the influence of drugs or alcohol.
4. I will not engage in, nor encourage any other person to engage in, the use of profanity at a GAASA-sponsored activity.
5. I will treat, and will encourage my child to treat, every coach, parent, player, participant, official or any other attendee of a GAASA-sponsored activity with respect regardless of race, creed, color, national origin, sex, sexual orientation or ability.
6. I will not engage in, nor encourage any other person to engage in, verbal or physical threats or abuse aimed at any coach, parent, player, participant, official or any other attendee of a GAASA-sponsored activity.
7. I will not initiate, nor encourage any other person to initiate, a fight or scuffle with any coach, parent, player, participant, official or any other attendee of a GAASA-sponsored activity.

**I hereby agree that if I fail to conform my conduct to the foregoing Code of Conduct while attending, coaching, officiating or participating in a GAASA-sponsored activity, I will be subject to disciplinary action, including but not limited to revocation of membership in GAASA and/or the Club. Further, I understand that similar disciplinary action may be taken by GAASA and/or the Club if my conduct in activities not sponsored by GAASA are considered to bring discredit to GAASA and/or the Club.**

**In addition to the above, any member of GAASA who is convicted for any crimes as defined in the Ohio Revised Code-Section 109.572(a)(1) will be subject to immediate revocation of all GAASA membership privileges.**

**We, the undersigned, have read, understand and agree to abide by the above Code of Conduct. We also agree to accept actions taken by GAASA and/or the Club for failure to conform to the Code of Conduct.**

**Club Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Participant's Printed Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent or Guardian's Printed Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Participant's Signature and Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent or Guardian's Signature and Date