

Queen Anne’s County Parks and Recreation Guidelines and Policies

CODE OF CONDUCT

The Queen Anne’s County Department of Parks and Recreation, herein after referred to as “the Department” have adopted a policy in regards to ALL youth and adult sports leagues. All leagues and recreation programs have been designed to incorporate and reflect four major elements:

- Fun
- Self-Improvement
- Sportsmanship
- Skill Development

The Code of Conduct promotes and enforces appropriate athletic conduct and behavior as overseen by the Department of Parks and Recreation and or within the County park system.

The Director of Parks and Recreation Department has the authority to recommend to the County Commissioners suspension or expulsion of leagues, players, coaches and spectators from Queen Anne's County parks and recreation facilities for violations of the Sports Code of Conduct.

DEFINITIONS

- **Applicant** – all individuals and individuals representing groups or organizations, requesting athletic facilities. (fields)
- **Parks and Recreation Department** - Queen Anne’s County Department of Parks and Recreation
- **Nonprofit Status** - Applicants who have submitted 501© (3) nonprofit status documentation from the IRS to the Departments.
- **One-time User applicant** - all applicants, who are not Seasonal Applicants, who are requesting athletic facilities for one-day events, special events, or who have been granted nonprofit status.
- **Activity**- is defined as specified form of action in the area of recreation. An activity may include, but is not limited to, a class, program, sports event, (adult or child) and tournament.

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- **Participant** - is defined as one who takes part in the activity, program, leagues and tournament.
- **Official** – is defined as an authorized authority who supervises the plays of a sport game or event or tournament. i.e., Umpire, Official, League Representative, Coach, County Staff.
- **Definitions of Behavior**
 - Spectators, parents, coaches, participants and leagues shall conduct themselves in a prudent manner at all games and practices.
 - The use, consumption, or presence of any alcoholic beverages, drugs, or intoxicants is prohibited.
 - Use of tobacco is prohibited.
 - Riotous, boisterous, threatening or indecent conduct or the use of abusive, threatening, or indecent language shall not be tolerated.
 - Unauthorized presence on the playing fields shall not be allowed at any time.
 - Harassing the officials will not be tolerated.
 - Opposition of fans by word or gesture will not be tolerated.
 - Permitting an injured participant to enter or reenter the game shall not be allowed at any time. Follow the concussion/injury policy.
 - Disobeying or attempting to circumvent rules and regulations or the intent thereof is not allowed.

Coaches, sidelines personnel, and participant will uphold the CODE OF ETHICS, as well as all rules and regulations of the QAC By-Laws and decisions of the Queen Anne's County Code of Conduct Review Committee (QACCCRC). Failure to comply will result in disciplinary actions and/or suspension.

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Code of Conduct form (attached at the end) is to be signed by all participants/parents/guardians when registering for any Department program.

- **Concussion/Injury**

- All QAC Parks and Recreation Youth sports programs utilizing QAC Board of Education school facilities and fields; In accordance with SB771 and HB858 which amended sections 7-432 and 14-501 of the Annotated Code of Maryland, the Maryland State of Education (MSDE) has developed policies throughout the state of Maryland. The Department addresses the concussion /injury education for non-school related sports programs. QAC Recreation must provide to QAC Board of Education assurance that concussion/injury information has been provided to all participants and their parents or guardians.
- The Department will utilize the recommended website www.cdc.gov which provides materials for use for youth sports. **(see attachments)** All participants and parents must sign a Concussion/Injury acknowledgement statement **(See attachment)**
- An incident or accident report must be filled out and sent to the Recreation Manager within 24 hours of the incident. **(See attachment)**
- After an appropriate medical assessment, any participant sustaining a concussion shall immediately be removed from practice or play. The participant shall not return until cleared by a licensed health care provider to approve return to play. A written note must be provided to the Recreation Manager.

- **QAC Recreation Volunteers - Background Checks**

- All In-House Recreation Volunteer coaches and staff are required to complete a criminal background and drug screening test. The records are maintained at **QAC Human Resources office 107 N. Liberty Street, Centerville, MD 21617.**