



HYP'S SPORTSMANSHIP POLICY

This policy has been written and approved by Harrisburg Young Professionals Executive Board, Board Members, and Sports and Fitness Committee, to help maintain a healthy balance between sportsmanship, gamesmanship, and the safety of individuals who are involved with sporting events and activities (Athletes, Game Officials, Spectators, and Volunteers). Sportsmanship is the most important aspect of Harrisburg Young Professional Sports Leagues. It is our goal to create a fun atmosphere for all athletic levels and abilities.

“ZERO TOLERANCE” for Dissent and Unsportsmanlike Conduct

Harrisburg Young Professionals, by this document, will be enforcing a “Zero Tolerance Policy”. The following is intended to outline the penalties for failing to comply with the premise of this policy with game officials, volunteer supervisors, board members, and employees of HYP:

Any athlete, spectator, or game official violating this policy will be subject to disciplinary action as determined by the Executive Board of Harrisburg Young Professionals. Disciplinary action may include:

- Probation
- Suspension
- Permanent expulsion of an individual, team, or game official for one year for all HYP Sports.

“Dissent” includes, but is not limited to:

- Questioning a game official’s call by a Non-Captain. (*Captains talk to the opponent Captain first, before confronting game official on an issue*).
- Voicing excessive displeasure with a call in a manner that can be heard by game officials, athletes, and spectators.

“Unsportsmanship” includes, but is not limited to:

- All actions, behavior, and language deemed to be inappropriate by and in accordance with Rules of Fair Play and the Spirit of the Game.

THE RESPONSIBILITY OF TEAM CAPTAINS

The team captain should lead by example. Each team captain is responsible for aiding in controlling all teammates and team followers, and to represent his/her team as a spokesperson in the case of appeals to the field/court game officials during game play. The team captain has the responsibility to inform all teammates about HYP’s Sportsmanship Policy, sport’s rules, and the Athlete and Spectator Code of Conduct enforced for the sport the team is participating in.

The team captain has the responsibility to inform the game official/Court or Field Supervisor of the name and jersey # of his/her teammate who received an unsportsmanlike conduct or an ejection for documentation. Captains are encouraged to talk to the Game Official(s) before or after a game about calls or when the game is not in play, in a respectful and responsible manner.

THE RESPONSIBILITY OF ATHLETES

All athletes are responsible for reading and reviewing the HYP Sportsmanship Policy, HYP Athlete & Spectator Code of Conduct, and rules of the sport in which they are participating. An athlete has the responsibility to respect the game, play fair, and follow the rules set forth by HYP. A player must show compliance with the authority of game officials and HYP Staff/Volunteers. Each player is expected to demonstrate good sportsmanship before, during, and after the game and to respect the use of HYP sports facilities, whether owned by HYP or rented from third parties, and HYP equipment (Kickballs, Footballs, Cones, bases, Dodgeballs, etc.)

BREAKDOWN BETWEEN A WARNING AND AN EJECTION

All game officials, approved volunteer supervisors, Sports & Fitness Committee Co-Chairs, and HYP Staff/Volunteers can give warnings, unsportsmanlike conduct infractions, and ejections for the safety of everyone involved.

Warning- Game Officials/Supervisors may give out a warning to players on teams as a precaution of stopping what they are doing, that may be deemed unsportsmanlike. An Unsportsmanlike Conduct Infraction or an Ejection may be given for continuing to act in an unsportsmanlike manner.

Unsportsmanlike Conduct Infraction- An athlete may be subject to an unsportsmanlike conduct infraction for acts such as inappropriate language, touching, gestures, or behavior; persistently arguing with game officials; deliberately attempting to injure an athlete on the opposing team; taunting; arguing with the opposing team; or any other action that a game official may deem to be unsportsmanlike.

- When an unsportsmanlike conduct infraction is issued, the infraction will be continued for the remainder of the day.
- When an unsportsmanlike conduct infraction is issued to an athlete, the captain or co-captain will receive a warning too. (Co-Captain represents if the captain is not present or was ejected).
- If a *specific player* received (2) Unsportsmanlike Conduct Infractions in the same sports season, then the player(s) will be suspended for the remainder of the season. If a player receives their (2nd) Unsportsmanlike Conduct Infraction in the team's final game of the season, then that player will be suspended for the next sports season that the individual is registered for.
- If an athlete on a team receives an unsportsmanlike conduct infraction, it will continue with the team for the rest of the season.
- If a team or athlete receives (2) unsportsmanlike conduct infractions throughout the season, the captain will be suspended for (1) game. (Ex: Player A (unsportsmanlike conduct infraction-Week 1) + Player B (unsportsmanlike conduct infraction -Week 4) = (Team Captain suspended for Week 5)

Team captains should report any issues involving opponents to 1) Opponent's Captain first 2) then to game officials and let the game officials take appropriate action!

Ejection- An athlete ***DOES NOT*** need to have a warning or an unsportsmanlike conduct infraction called before an ejection. An athlete is subject to an ejection if the behavior is deemed violent, threatening, harassing, and inappropriate prior, during, or after a game. ***If an athlete is ejected from a game, he/she/they will be removed and must leave the premises of the facility immediately.***

- If a player is ejected in any Post-Season play (Playoff Game or Bowl Game) the player will be subjected to at least a 1-year suspension by the HYP Executive Board, depending on the incident.
- All ejections are subject to review by the HYP Executive Board.

PROCEDURE FOLLOWING AN EJECTION:

1. All ejections of athletes will be recorded by game official(s) or Court/Field Supervisors, who will give the name(s) of the individual(s) and the athlete(s) number to the HYP Executive Director following the games for the day.
2. The HYP Executive Director will follow-up with the game official(s) for a report about the incident that occurred. The game official(s) must provide a written report of the incident no later than the day after the game.
3. Once the report is received from the game official(s), the HYP Executive Director will do the following:
 - a. Contact both team captains who were playing during the game to understand the incident. Captains will have up to 24 hours following the email from the HYP Executive Director to provide a written response.
 - b. Contact the individual(s) who was(were) ejected to give the individual(s) an opportunity to be heard and provide his/her/their side of the story. The individual(s) will have up to 24 hours following the email from the HYP Executive Director to provide a written response,
4. Once the reports/responses are received from the game officials, team captains, and the individual(s), the HYP Executive Director will review the incident and facts and prepare a report for the HYP Executive Board. The HYP Executive Director must present the report to the HYP Executive Board within two (2) days of receiving the foregoing reports/responses.
5. Within three (3) days of receiving the report from the HYP Executive Director, the HYP Executive Board will decide what action to take, which may include probation, suspension, or permanent expulsion of the individual(s), team, or game officials for one year from all HYP sports. The HYP Executive Board will prepare a written verdict and provide a copy to the HYP Executive Director. The verdict of the HYP Executive Board is final and not appealable.
6. The HYP Executive Director will inform the team captains, individual(s), and game official(s) through email or phone about

the final verdict of the HYP Executive Board. The HYP Executive Director will also send a copy of the written verdict to the team captains, individual(s), and game officials.

7. If the HYP Executive Director is unavailable or the position is vacant, the responsibilities of the HYP Executive Director set forth in this procedure will be carried out by an HYP Staff member or other individual designated by the HYP Executive Board.
8. No refunds will be issued to athletes who are ejected, suspended, or permanently expelled for one year from all HYP sports. **There are no exceptions to this rule.**

STEPS ONCE VERDICT IS CONCLUDED

1. Depending on the verdict by the HYP Executive Board, teams may NOT use “sub-athletes” while athletes who are non-active during their probation, suspension, or permanent expulsion for the season. **If you have a suspended athlete, teams CANNOT use sub-athletes to fill those spots.**
2. A required roster check will be issued to the team who received an ejection in the previous game for every future game until the ineligible athlete(s) returns to play following their suspension.
3. If the sport has numbers on athlete’s jerseys, the jersey number(s) of the suspended athlete(s) will be ineligible to participate and may result in a forfeit if participating in the competition.
4. If a suspended athlete(s) chooses to participate in a game while suspended, the athlete’s team will forfeit the game. The suspended athlete(s) and captains will be subject to additional penalties.

STEPS OF APPEALING AN EJECTION

1. All ejections can be appealed. Players must submit an appeal by email to sports@hyp.org within 24 hours of the infraction. Provide in detail the incident and reason for the appeal. Appeals will be handled pursuant to the “Procedure Following an Expulsion”.
2. A decision of a game official(s) or Court/Field Volunteer Supervisor, Sports and Fitness Committee Co-Chairs, and the HYP Staff/Executive Director to remove a player from the current game, or next scheduled game is not appealable.
3. Teams cannot challenge a call by game officials once a game is completed. Once the game is completed then the game stands and no calls can be reversed. If the suspension is related to a sports rule, it may not be appealed.

Unacceptable Behaviors include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Verbal or physical abuse of an opponent, volunteers, game officials, athletes, or spectators.
- Fighting or violence before, during, or after a game.
- Taunting or disparaging name-calling and use of profanity or other disrespectful language.
- Questioning, disagreeing with, or harassing game officials in an unprofessional manner.
- Booing a game official’s call.
- Blaming loss of a game on the game officials or calling them unqualified.
- Use of alcohol or drugs, this is a direct violation of HYP’s No Alcohol Policy, as set forth in the sports rules.
- Other actions that may be unsportsmanlike to athletes, game officials, spectators, and approved volunteers.

Acceptable (Expected) Behaviors include the following:

- Congratulating teammates and opponents for effort and excellent performances.
- Shaking hands with opponents and thanking game officials before and after games.
- Treat competition as a “GAME” instead of a “WAR”.
- Show concern for an injured athlete, regardless of team.
- Accept victory with grace and defeat with dignity.
- Any other actions that may show sportsmanship to athletes, game officials, spectators, and approved volunteers

Game Jersey Policy

All players are required to wear their HYP issued jersey during game play following the 2nd week of the season. Following the 2nd week of the season, anyone who does not have their jersey, one (1) point/run will be given to the opposing team. If a player’s jersey is lost or destroyed, he/she/they must contact HYP at sports@hyp.org or call the office at 717-257-0406 to purchase a replacement. Replacement jerseys will not be provided for free by HYP.



HYP'S ATHLETE & SPECTATOR CODE OF CONDUCT

Harrisburg Young Professionals is committed to continuing to make Harrisburg a better place to live, work, and play while developing and retaining future leaders. As a participant in HYP Sports Leagues, you will represent yourself, your family, the city of Harrisburg, your employer, your team, and HYP.

Our Sports Leagues are a great opportunity for participants to socialize with friends, network with other athletes, enjoy a family atmosphere, and be competitive, but mostly to have **fun**. The HYP Athlete and Spectator Code of Conduct have been established to ensure safety for our athletes, game officials, and families throughout each season of HYP Sports.

All spectators and athletes are expected to:

- Follow the rules applicable for each sport.
- Adhere to the HYP Sportsmanship Policy and HYP Athlete and Spectator Code of Conduct Policy.
- Represent HYP in a positive light in all aspects-including all forms of social media.
- Respect teammates, opponents, game officials, and spectators.
- Refrain from any use of obscene or abusive language, gestures, or behavior.
- Stay clear of the athletic perimeter while the game is in action to prevent injury(s).
- Be a professional and have fun-remember who you represent!

Prohibited items or individuals at sporting facilities:

- Drugs & Alcohol, this policy is enforced by the facility contract that HYP must obey for sports rental usage.
- Any other item or action deemed dangerous, illegal, or inappropriate.
- Past players who have been suspended/banned from HYP Sports Leagues during their probation period.

Consequences:

- Once an athlete or spectator is informed to leave an HYP sports field, court, or stands, he/she/they must leave the premises permanently for that current event.
- Should an athlete be found with prohibited items on an HYP sports venue or in the stands, the athlete may be asked to remove the prohibited items or to leave the premises.
- Incidents will be documented by an HYP Representative, Field/Court Volunteer Supervisor, game officials, or Sports & Fitness Committee, and HYP's Board of Directors.

The Court/Facility Volunteer, Sports & Fitness Committee, game officials, HYP Employees, or HYP's Board of Directors will have the authority to remove an athlete or spectator from the premises of an HYP sporting event for having any of the above items.

If an individual does not obey authority, local authorities may be contacted.