



PECULIAR PARKS AND RECREATION

SPORTSMANSHIP POLICY

Location:
Agency:

Cass County, Missouri,
Peculiar Parks and Recreation Department

I. STATEMENT OF NEED

The Peculiar Parks and Recreation Board (“Board”) recognizes it is a high priority for the Peculiar Parks and Recreation Department (“Department”) to provide a safe and positive environment for the City’s youth to participate in sports and recreational activities.

II. AUTHORITY AND RESPONSIBILITY

The Peculiar Park Board carries the primary responsibility to recommend policies to govern the operation and programs of the Parks and Recreation Department, assist in planning activities and events, and give guidance for expansion of parks and recreation facilities.

III. STATEMENT OF PHILOSOPHY

The basic philosophy of the Peculiar Parks and Recreation Board is one of Zero Tolerance for violent, discriminatory, or abusive behavior during all sports leagues and events held on City of Peculiar property.

Recognizing that the Youth Sports Organizations operating within the City limits and City sponsored leagues and activities have taken an active role in the process of adherence to a higher standard of sportsmanship in youth sports, the Peculiar Parks and Recreation Board members entrust the implementation of the zero tolerance policy to the Peculiar Parks & Recreation Department.

The Department shall serve as primary governing body for the safety and enjoyment of all youth sports programs. Cooperating jointly with the Peculiar Park Board, the Department will use a process that includes the review of individual incident reports, policy review and recommendations and an appeals procedure on an “as need” basis.

The Peculiar Park Board shall assist the Department Staff in taking a proactive stance on sportsmanship by supporting the Department as the professional educator for youth sport coaches and parents through the implementation of an aggressive and educational Coaches certification program.

IV. ZERO TOLERANCE POLICY

1. Any player, coach, spectator, or official using any kind of abusive, discriminatory, or threatening gesture and or language will be ejected from the game and asked to leave the facility. A second offense will result in suspension from the facility for the season.

2. Any coach, spectator, or official allowing or encouraging foul, abusive, or threatening language or behavior by players will be ejected from the game and asked to leave the facility. A second offense will result in a one-year suspension from all activities.
3. Any player, coach, spectator, or official using alcohol or any other illegal substance within the facility during a game, practice, or other league or team event where players are present will be automatically ejected from the facility. A second offense will result in a one-year suspension from all activities.
4. Any player, coach, spectator, or official striking or causing bodily assault will be automatically ejected from the game, asked to leave the facility, and suspended from all activities for one year. A second offense will result in a lifetime suspension from all activities.
5. Any coach, knowingly requiring or allowing a player to play while having a serious injury, or knowingly creating unsafe playing conditions will automatically be suspended for the season.
6. Any coach, spectator or player causing interference with the conduct of the game will result in a warning. A second offense will result in ejection from the game and facility.
7. Any coach, spectator or player using inappropriate or degrading language randomly or directed at another individual will result in a warning. A second offense will result in ejection from the game and facility.
8. **Enforcement Procedure:**
 - a. Any full-time park department employee (Park Director, Recreation Coordinator, Park Foreman, or Park Maintenance Worker) may enforce this policy at any sports event held on City property.
 - b. Any contract Parks & Recreation Department staff member (site supervisor, league director or other supervisory position assigned by the Parks Director) may enforce this policy at any sports event held on City property.
 - c. Any Youth Sports Organization official or board member may enforce this policy during that organization's events.
 - d. If the offense is severe, or if the behavior persists, the Peculiar Police Department may be called for assistance.
 - e. An incident report form (attachment A) must be completed on-site at the time of the incident by the league representative present at the event.
9. **Review:**
 - a. Each incident report will be reviewed by the Department. Decisions related to suspension, adjustment of league rules, and/or facility conditions must be documented.
 - b. All department and youth sport organizations' incident report forms including any recommendations will be reviewed by the Department.
 - c. The Peculiar Park Board will review incident reports and Department or youth sports organization recommendations during its regular monthly meeting when applicable. Any recommendations for change in Board policy or facility considerations will be shared with the Board members during the regular monthly meeting.
10. **Appeals:**
 - a. All appeals of decisions made by the Parks & Recreation Department must be made in writing and delivered to the City of Peculiar Parks and Recreation Department within ten calendar days of the official decision.
 - b. Appeals will be heard by the Peculiar Park Board or an assigned sub-committee consisting of a minimum of three Park Board members. The person making the appeal will be entitled to meet with this committee and present any evidence relevant to the incident(s) documented by the Department or youth sports organization.

- c. The Park Board or assigned sub-committee will render its decision in writing. All decisions shall be final. If the assigned sub-committee decision is not unanimous, a second appeal may be forwarded to the full Park Board for final decision at the next regularly scheduled meeting. All enforced consequences will remain in effect until the Park Board has convened.

V. SPORTSMANSHIP EDUCATION

1. Training and Certification Requirements

- a. All Youth Sports Organizations or City sponsored leagues using City of Peculiar parks and sports facilities shall be required to provide educational training for the certification of all head coaches in their youth leagues.
- b. All Youth Sports Organizations or City sponsored leagues using City of Peculiar parks and sports facilities shall provide the same opportunity for assistant coaches to attend a sportsmanship training session offered in conjunction with head coach certification.
- c. Certification and training shall be through a nationally recognized certification program such as "*Positive Coaching Alliance (PCA)*" or "*National Youth Sports Coaches' Association (NYSCA)*". The program shall be offered at a minimum of two times per year for coach training. The Peculiar Park Board encourages this training to be offered per sport season or online at the convenience of the coach.

VI. YOUTH SPORTS ORGANIZATIONS

All Youth Sports Organizations using City of Peculiar parks or sports facilities must report coaches' training and certifications, and all Zero Tolerance violations from article IV of this policy to the Peculiar Parks & Recreation Department.

VII. PENALTY

Any Youth Sports Organization not adhering to the spirit of the policy, as determined by the Peculiar Park Board, shall be prohibited from using City of Peculiar facilities. Any Youth Sports Organization not requiring coaches' training and certification, or not reporting incidents of inappropriate behavior to the Peculiar Parks & Recreation Department shall be prohibited from using City of Peculiar facilities.

Any Coach, Player or Spectator on City of Peculiar parks or sports facilities that violate the guidelines and regulations set forth by this policy will adhere to the consequences as deemed appropriate by the Parks & Recreation Director and the Peculiar Park Board.

Any coach or player violating rules 1 – 7 in Section IV – Zero Tolerance while participating in a City sponsored league/event and representing the City of Peculiar located outside of Peculiar City Limits will be held accountable to the same consequences as if the action had taken place on City of Peculiar parks or sports facilities.

Violations of the above policy will be handled in accordance with penalties set forth. However, Peculiar Parks and Recreation and the Peculiar Parks and Recreation Board reserve the right to impose penalties greater than those outlined if a situation dictates, based on severity. We further reserve the right to suspend coaching, player and spectator privileges where appropriate.

VII. SUPPORTING DOCUMENT

Individual league manuals may have established sportsmanship rules within the governing rulebook. This City of Peculiar Sportsmanship Policy is designed to either support or further enhance each established sport specific rulebook for the safety and welfare of participants, spectators, volunteers and league staff.

VIII. ANNUAL REVIEW

The Peculiar Park Board shall review this Sportsmanship Policy as needed to ensure the best possible service to the public.



Peculiar Parks & Recreation

Attachment: A

ACCIDENT / INCIDENT REPORT

Name of Site Supervisor: _____

Date: _____

Name of Person Injured/Involved: _____

Phone: _____

Reporting Organization: _____

Date: _____

Name of Program Instructor/Coach: _____

Phone: _____

Category: Participant: Injury Behavioral
 Instructor: Injury Behavioral
 Spectator: Injury Behavioral

Date of Incident: _____ Location: _____

Description of Incident:

(Use the back of this page or additional paper if needed)

***BE SURE TO INCLUDE ANY TREATMENT YOU GAVE THE INJURED PARTY (Example: Ice for ankle)**

***PLEASE ADD MORE INFORMATION ON SEPARATE PAGES AS NEEDED**

***PLEASE INDICATE IF YOU CONTACTED ANY OF THE FOLLOWING:**

EMS	-----
FIRE	-----
POLICE	-----

***If injured party wants to drive himself/herself to hospital after an injury or doesn't know if they are going to emergency room yet, please make note of it below:**

Witnesses to Incident:

Name: _____	Phone: _____

Department Review:

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Department Signature: _____ Date: _____