

Athletic Code of Conduct

Welcome to the Adult Sports Program sponsored by City of Austin Parks and Recreation Athletics Department. This program is offered for your enjoyment therefore, your cooperation and sportsmanship are essential to the overall success of the program. All players, coaches, managers, and spectators are expected to act in an acceptable manner during the entire program.

Austin Parks and Recreation Athletics Department reserves the right to take any disciplinary action it deems appropriate against players, coaches, managers, and spectators not acting in an acceptable manner, including, but not limited to, suspension from games, expulsion from the park and participation in any future programs. The benefit a participant gains from this program depends very much on adherence to accepted standards of behavior.

Each Individual is expected to demonstrate behavior deemed acceptable by the City of Austin Athletic Department. No player, participant, or spectator may:

- Refuse to abide by an official's decision, threaten an official, or at any time physically or verbally accost an official.
- Demonstrate objection to an official's decision by throwing any object, using derogatory language, or exhibiting any behavior seen as aggressive or intimidating towards an official and/or another participant.
- Demonstrate derogatory or unsportsmanlike conduct, including, but not limited to, the use of profanity, demeaning language, intimidation, taunting, teasing and/or ridiculing, or any other abusive/harassing language or behavior towards players, coaches, managers, teams, spectators, officials, or City of Austin staff.
- Be found under the influence of any drug or alcohol, that may impair the individual's decision making, judgment, or behavior while on City of Austin property, or while participating in any athletic programs.
- Be guilty of using unnecessarily rough tactics before, after, and during games against any opposing player/players. This includes fighting before, after and during game.
- Be guilty of using profanity, or any language deemed derogatory, abusive, threatening, and/or intimidating towards another player, participant, staff or official.

The Athletic Code of Conduct applies to all individuals, including all players, coaches, managers, and spectators.

- Any individual(s) failing to conform to program rules, regulations, and ordinances or found to be involved in any instance or form of insubordination will be subjected to disciplinary actions judged necessary by the Athletics Office but not limited to:
 - Ejection from current game. Ejected players must leave the facility and grounds immediately. Refusal to comply will result in forfeiture of the game and the intervention of City of Austin Police if necessary. Suspended players are not allowed to return to premises (even as a spectator) until their suspension has been served in full.

Players ejected from any game will receive a penalty decided by the Athletic Office dependent on severity of issue and/or previous documented behavior or incidents.

Penalties decided by the Athletic Office will include:

- Minimum Penalty: Verbal Warning, resulting in removal from game. Ejected players face suspension for (1) game, and/or (8) days, as well as probation for the remainder of the season.
- Maximum Penalty: Suspension from league (team and/or individual) for (1) year and/ or assault charges filed.
- Maximum Penalty: Suspension from league (team and/or individual) for (1) year and/ or criminal charges filed.
- Maximum Penalty: Suspension from all Austin Parks and Recreation Department Activities for (2) years and/or criminal charges filed.
- Maximum penalty: Life suspension from all Austin Parks and Recreation Department activities/and or criminal charges filed.
- Team Penalty: If two or more participants are involved from the same team, the game will be forfeited by that team, the participants and or team involved will be penalized based on the severity of each participant's actions. Subsequent removal of violating team from league may result.
- Team Penalty: If two or more participants are involved from each team, the game will result in a double forfeit. Participants, and or team involved will be penalized based on severity of participant's actions. Subsequent removal of both teams from the league/and or suspension from future seasons of each team involved may result.

Participants, who feel justified to appeal any judgment that pertains to the Athletic Code of Conduct, must abide by the judgment at the time of enforcement.

- Participant(s) may submit an appeal to suspension no later than 24 hours after the incident,
- A typed protest must be submitted through email to the City of Austin Program Coordinator. Emails must be submitted to PARD@athletics@austintexas.gov

Aforementioned rules and policies are inclusive of all individuals on City Property and are not limited to coaches, spectator's, managers, or any other participants.

The City of Austin Parks and Recreation Athletics Department works hard to offer fun and safe recreational sport leagues as a service and need for the Austin community. The City of Austin will exhibit a "Zero Tolerance" policy for individuals or teams jeopardizing our commitment to this service.