

# YYFFA Discipline Policy

Form DP v1.0

It is the intent of the Youngstown Youth Flag Football Association to provide a safe and disciplined approach to teaching our youth the fundamentals and values involved in the sport of flag football. It is also the intent of YYFFA to provide an atmosphere free of distractions so that each player is able to maximize their ability to learn the sport. It is necessary to establish discipline guidelines that must be followed throughout the season. The rules are to be followed during all practices, games, tournaments, or any other extracurricular activity sponsored by Youngstown Youth Flag Football Association. Failure to adhere will result in disciplinary action up to and including permanent expulsion from the league. Youngstown Youth Flag Football Association maintains a "Zero Tolerance Policy" regarding any disciplinary issue and will conduct all sponsored functions accordingly.

## Time of Occurrence:

- TO-1. League officials present at time of incident/occurrence may take immediate action based on circumstances and/or violation.
- a. If immediate ejection from fields or sideline occurs, disciplined person(s) will be subject to a minimum 1 game suspension following the incident/occurrence.
  - b. Based on circumstances/violation League official may impose;
    - i. Personal penalty on violating parties team
    - ii. Forfeiture of game
    - iii. Ejection from game, coaches or parent sideline

- TO-2. Any YYFFA/Y2Sports League official has the authority to impose immediate ejection of any individual from any YYFFA function without approval from the Disciplinary Committee

## Procedure:

- DS-1. League officials present at time of incident/occurrence or taking witness account, complete incident report (IR v1.8) within 48 hrs of incident/occurrence/submission.
- DS-2. "IR" form submitted to Y2Sports Disciplinary Committee for review.
- DS-3. Y2Sports Disciplinary Committee determines necessary disciplinary action.
- DS-4. Penalized party will receive; email, letter mail, and possible phone call describing the Rule Violation and discipline action. (within 72 hrs of reporting)
- DS-5. Penalty to take effect immediately upon contact prior to next game.
- DS-6. All incident reports to be documented in permanent personnel file with each individual party.

## Investigation:

- DI-1. All incidents reported by non-league appointed officials will be subject to investigation by field personnel (YYFFA Board of Directors).
- DI-2. Upon completion of investigation, League official will complete/update IR v1.8 form and submit to Y2Sports Disciplinary Committee.

## Appeal:

Y2Sports believes strongly that our League officials are capable of conducting investigation and collecting information necessary to implement discipline in any situation

- DA-1. No dispute/appeal will be granted to violating party.
- DA-2. Discipline issued is final.
- DA-3. Submission of 1 (one) email to our Disciplinary Committee (boardmembers@y2sports.com) for review is permissible. This email shall contain any pertinent information regarding occurrence.
- DA-4. DO NOT contact any other league official regarding discipline as they do not represent the Disciplinary Committee and the decision process.

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## Enforcement:

DE-1. Y2Sports appointed Disciplinary Advocate will handle enforcement of discipline.

## Violation of Discipline:

DB-1. Violation of any discipline issued by YYFFA/Y2Sports will be considered to be a blatant disregard of Code of Conduct and violating party is subject to further penalty.

## Definition:

Warning: May be issued by League official and documented on IR v1.8 form.

Ejection: Immediate removal from either coaches/players sidelines or from game or function in its entirety. Can be utilized by any League official at time of occurrence without approval of Disciplinary Committee. May carry additional penalty.

Suspension: Removal from YYFFA sponsored function(s) as stated below

- *Coach*: Shall remain absent from coaches/player sideline and field for entire suspension period. May not coach from sideline nor end-zone
- *Spectator/Parent*: Shall not be permitted at any YYFFA sponsored event for entire suspension period
- *Player*: Shall remain absent from coaches/player sideline and field for entire suspension period

Expulsion: Removal from ALL YYFFA sponsored functions for a minimum of 1 season. Not permitted to attend

**\*\*Suspended, Removed or Expelled individuals shall not attempt to have influence on any participant involved in the game he/she was suspended from\*\***

Severe Violation: Violations of Discipline Policy which are deemed severe in nature. These Violations carry a minimum 3 game suspension and a maximum lifetime expulsion.

Major Violation: Violations of Discipline Policy which are deemed major in nature. These Violations carry a minimum 2 game suspension.

Minor 1 Violation: Violations of Discipline Policy which are deemed minor in nature. These Violations may possibly call for a 1 game suspension or more.

Minor 2 Violation: Violations of Discipline Policy which are deemed minor in nature. These Violations may call for a verbal or written warning.

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Discipline Violation Table (DV)

<b>Level 1 Violations (Severe)</b>		
Rule Violation	Infraction	Discipline
DV-1	Physically violent actions toward anyone at a YYFFA sanctioned event (fighting)	Lifetime Expulsion
DV-1a	Police called to YYFFA sponsored function as a result of behavior	Lifetime Expulsion
DV-2	Use of Drugs, Tobacco, or Alcohol at any YYFFA sanctioned event	Min 3 game suspension or Expulsion
DV-3	Actions, language or gestures that may be interpreted as hostile, humiliating or intimidating (name calling, threatening, face-to-face confrontation, email, text, phone call)	Min 3 game suspension or Expulsion
DV-3	Failure to control his/her emotions (using profanity, "trash" talk, taunting, harassing, out-of-control behavior, uncooperative with league official, etc..)	Min 3 game suspension or Expulsion
DV-L1	Two (2) Severe infractions during lifetime involvement with YYFFA	Min 1 Season Expulsion

<b>Level 2 Violations (Major)</b>		
Rule Violation	Action	Discipline
DV-4	Disrespect toward any player, coach, referee, spectator, staff member	Min 2 game suspension
DV-5	Challenging a referee's decision on the field in an inappropriate manner	Min 2 game suspension
DV-6	Deliberate violation of Rules & Regulations (cheating, teaching to tackle, hold, block, etc..)	Min 2 game suspension
DV-7	Conduct at any YYFFA sponsored function involving players, coaches, referees, spectators or league officials which is deemed to be detrimental to the best interests of the YYFFA	Min 2 game suspension
DV-L2	Two (2) Major infractions during lifetime involvement with YYFFA	Min 3 game suspension or Expulsion

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Level 3 Violations (Minor 1)		
Rule Violation	Action	Discipline
DV-9	Disrupting the flow of any game for any reason other than situational emergency	Possible 1 game suspension
DV-10	Have more than 2 coaches (only) on the sideline during game	Possible 1 game suspension
DV-11	Failure to maintain integrity of the game. (failure to assist league officials in maintaining control of spectators/players during, before and after game.)	Possible 1 game suspension
DV-L3	Two (2) Minor 1 infractions during lifetime involvement with YYFFA	Min 2 game suspension

Level 4 Violations (Minor 2)		
Rule Violation	Action	Discipline
DV-L4	Disregard of Coaches Code of Conduct (CC-12 thru CC-21)	Coaching Privileges suspended for future seasons

## Permanent File:

- DF-1. All incidents will be filed accordingly in a personnel file.
  - a. Coaching privileges may be revoked for future seasons

YYFFA reserves the right to implement discipline according to each individual situation. The above Discipline Policy v1.0 is a guideline to our disciplinary process.