

Code of Conduct for Spectators to OFSAA Events

Any OFSAA event must attempt to achieve a standard of organizational and educational excellence which will serve to place it beyond reproach in either area. OFSAA is committed to providing a safe and inclusive environment that is free of discrimination and harassment. Everyone is welcome and should expect to help promote an environment where people are treated in a courteous, professional, considerate and respectful manner by all spectators, staff and participants. Accordingly, in alignment with the Ontario Safe Schools Act, OFSAA has a zero-tolerance policy and will not tolerate unsafe, abusive, unlawful or offensive conduct at our events. The Spectator Code of Conduct reminds spectators to:

- Cheer in a positive manner
- Respect officials decisions
- Not interfere with the competition
- Keep off of the playing area
- Be courteous and respectful

The following conduct addresses conduct that is inconsistent with OFSAA's mission, goals and values and detracts from the overall OFSAA experience and is prohibited at all OFSAA events:

- Behaviour that is unruly, disruptive, threatening or violent in nature, including verbal or physical harassment of officials, student-athletes, teacher-coaches, staff or other spectators
- Conduct that is illegal
- Conduct that results in damage to the facility or other personal property
- Displaying signs, symbols, images (including those associated with hate based organizations), using language or making gestures that are threatening, abusive, or discriminatory, including on the basis of race, ethnicity, national origin, religion, gender, gender identity, ability, and/or sexual orientation
- Interfering with the competition, including; entering the field of play, throwing objects of any kind, incidents of distraction (e.g. artificial noisemakers, noise during a serve or foul shot, etc.)
- Throwing objects of any kind, or entering the field of play
- Failing to follow requests from staff regarding event operations, policies and emergency response procedures
- Consumption or being under the influence of any alcoholic beverage or drugs, other than medication prescribed by a medical doctor, whether of legal age or not, at any time during an OFSAA event
- Any disruptive, harmful or disorderly behaviour or any act which, in the opinion of the convenor or OFSAA representative, presents a risk to the safety of other individuals, interferes with the competition or otherwise targets other spectators or other spectators enjoyment of the competition.

Procedure: Actions contrary to this Code of Conduct shall be referred to the Protest Committee which shall investigate the matter and decide on the penalty, if any, to be assessed.

Penalty: Penalties imposed may include, but are not limited to: ejection, suspension of entry privileges, notification to appropriate sport governing bodies, requiring written letter of apology and requiring appropriate restitution.

Failure to comply with the Code of Conduct for Spectators and any other OFSAA ByLaws, Regulations & Policies may lead to ejection and/or penalties listed above.