

**Southtowns Family YMCA  
2009  
NFL Flag Football League  
Code of Conduct**

**Game Conduct:**

1. The Southtowns YMCA encourages all youth participants to invite their family and friends to cheer for their teams in a positive manner. All parents/guardians are responsible for the actions of their family members and guests.
2. Coaches and spectators will serve as the example to our players and will keep all comments positive.
3. Negative comments/behavior made during the NFL Flag Football League will not be tolerated. A first offense to this rule will result in a warning by a YMCA Staff Member.
4. Continued negative behavior will result in being removed from the playing field.
5. Any individual removed from the playing field more than 1 time will be banned from the remaining League games and practices.

**Officials:**

1. All games will be officiated by YMCA staff.
2. The official has the final say on all calls.
3. At no time will coaches, players or spectators challenge a ruling by the official.

**Game Play:**

1. Each player will receive an equal amount of playing time.
2. Coaches will use the provided rotation schedule to ensure equal playing time.

**Expectations of Coaches:**

1. Coaches are asked to encourage only positive comments from their parents and players.
2. Coaches are responsible for teaching their players the basics of the game of football.
3. Coaches will give each player the same opportunities during games and practices.
4. Coaches will teach their team fair play.
5. If any volunteer is asked to leave the field due to their actions, they will no longer be permitted to serve as their teams coach.
6. Coaches are asked to stress that this is a game, and that we are all here to have fun.
7. Only two coaches will be permitted on the bench during game play.
8. The YMCA invites and encourages parents to participate with their child's team as a volunteer.
9. All staff and volunteers involved will also meet on later days that will be announced.
10. For the safety of the children in our programs any person not registered as a Southtowns Family YMCA Volunteer will not be permitted to assist in the coaching of any youth sports team.

11. Any person wishing to sever as a Volunteer during our Youth Leagues should contact the Youth Sports Director at 674-9622.

**Parents Principles:**

Parents, athletes and coaches must work together for the best possible youth football experience and performance. The following suggestions are meant as general guidelines for parents.

1. As a parent, you understand the daily pressures your child faces. We believe that football should be an outlet for fun. Encourage your child and allow them to have a good time.
2. Remember that your child learns more from your actions than your words. Practice good sportsmanship by being respectful to players, parents and coaches on both teams.
3. There is nothing wrong with applauding a good play made by the opponents. Parents can be good role models by appreciating the efforts made by both teams.
4. Most coaches are volunteers and work hard at what they do. To lessen confusion, and out of respect for their position, please allow your child's coach to be the only one coaching players on the field.
5. Please refrain from loud or rude behavior.
6. Offer encouragement and positive reinforcement, not criticism, to your star player.
7. Encourage discipline by having your child arrive on time for practices and games.
8. Belonging to a team requires commitment. Parents can help children understand this through regular attendance and preparation.
9. Whenever possible, volunteer. This shows participants the value of being a team player.
10. Please respect the officials and their calls. It's OK to disagree, but inappropriate to disparage.

# 2009 Southtowns YMCA NFL Flag Football League Code of Conduct & Photo Release Sign Off

I have read, understand and will follow the policies stated in the Southtowns YMCA NFL Flag Football League code of conduct.

Parent/Guardian: \_\_\_\_\_  
*Print*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

I hereby consent to and authorize the use and reproduction of any and all photos or video footage taken of (print child's name) \_\_\_\_\_ for YMCA Buffalo Niagara and/or YMCA of the USA purposes. I understand that I receive no reimbursement for allowing use of the photo or video.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_