

Nicolet Junior Knight Gridiron Organization - Program Code of Conduct

The mission of the Junior Knight Gridiron (JKG) organization is to promote the game of football in our community by teaching fundamental skills in a positive, safe, and fun environment while developing character, sportsmanship, work ethic, teamwork, and leadership skills that create the foundation for success. in a positive, safe, and

JKG will not tolerate verbal or physical abuse of its volunteer coaches, referees, or players from any Parent, Player, or Spectator. Spectators, as well as the players and coaches, are expected to abide by the code of conduct described here at all JKG events. While most of the adults and children in the program will abide by this code without being instructed, it is being published to protect the children, the integrity of our program, and emphasize the values of JKG.

Board/Coaches Code of Conduct

- As a JKG coach, you (through your actions and words) set the example for your players, parents/guardians, and spectators.
- You set the tone and lead by example. Read the players, spectators, and parents Code and understand what is being asked of all participants in your sport. Actively promote these Codes.
- Coaches must place the well-being and safety of each player above all other considerations, including the development of performance.
- Ensure that each player is correctly dressed in the necessary safety equipment (helmet, mouthpiece, pads, etc.) before being allowed to play.
- Get treatment for an injured player immediately. Co-operate fully with medical personnel in the best interest of the player. Never either physically or mentally push children beyond their abilities. The game is of minor consideration when compared to the child's future health and well-being.
- Outside of instruction, never make intentional physical contact with a player. Physical contact includes, but is not limited to: hitting, slapping, pushing, spitting, kicking or striking in any way with any part of the body or any physical implement.
- Encourage and guide players to accept responsibility for their own behavior and performance. Never condone unacceptable behavior.
- Accept the decisions of the referees on the field as being fair and called to the best of their ability. The referees are in charge and their decisions are final.
- Always be prompt, courteous, and direct when dealing with the Greater Metro Milwaukee Youth Football League (GMMYFL) officials, opposing coaches, and referees.
- Read the GMMYFL rules and assist your players and parents in understanding them.
- All coaches must be certified through USA Football.
- Agree to a background screening of your application with regards to your suitability to work with children.

Athlete's Code

I Will:

1. Have fun!

2. Be a good sport (win or lose), be honest and fair.
3. Learn the value of commitment to the team; sportsmanship, ethical conduct, and fair play.
4. Show courtesy and respect to my teammates, opponents, coaches and officials.
5. Know that athletic contests are educational experiences.
6. Give complete attention to the instructions of my coaches and league officials.

I Will Not:

1. Use profanity, talk "trash", or taunt others before, during, or after any game.
2. Display any unsportsmanlike behavior.
3. Criticize my teammates or players from other teams.

Parents/Spectators Code of Conduct

As a parent or spectator, I will:

1. Support the coaches, players, and/or cheerleaders and help teach the value of commitment to the team, sportsmanship, ethical conduct, and fair play.
2. Support my child's team and help my child and the JKG make athletic contests a positive educational experience.
3. Direct constructive criticism of my child's team to the head coach and/or program officials at an appropriate time. I will work toward a positive result for all concerned.
4. Accept decisions of the game officials on the field as being fair and called to the best ability of said officials. The officials oversee all games and their decisions are final.
5. Always exhibit exemplary sportsmanship.
6. Abstain from being under the influence of or in possession of and/or drinking alcoholic beverages and the possession or use of any illegal substance on both the game and practice fields.
7. Stay behind the designated spectator line during a game.

As a parent or spectator, I will not:

1. Interfere/interrupt the coaching staff during games or practices.
2. Criticize officials or coaches, direct abuse or profane language toward them, or otherwise subvert their authority.
3. Criticize an opposing team, its players, coaches, or spectators by word of mouth, by gesture, or by deliberately inciting unsportsmanlike behavior.
4. Undermine the authority of any coach or JKG official.

Violation Investigation

If a report is received that an individual has potentially violated one or more of these protocols, the following will occur.

- Inquiry panel formed to investigate the situation – panel can consist of any combination of the following:
 - High School Varsity Coach
 - High School Athletic Director

- Nicolet Gridiron Club Director of Operations
- Nicolet Gridiron Club Director of Personnel
- Junior Knights Head Coaches
 - If any of these individuals are accused of the violation(s) in question, they are precluded from participating in the investigation.
- Panel must conduct the following activities as part of their investigation.
 - Interview with the complainant
 - If a player, parents/legal guardians must be present
 - Interview with the accused
 - Interview of witnesses to the incident
- Panel will complete the incident report summary (see Appendix A) and provide a copy to panel members and anyone interviewed as part of the investigation.
- Panel will attempt to complete their investigation within 72 hours of receiving the initial report.
 - If this is not possible, the panel will notify the complainant of the delay and reason for it.
- Panel will release their findings to the complainant and affected program leader within 7 days of the initial report.
 - A copy of the completed incident report summary will be kept in the file of the investigated and accuser.

Sanctions

If it is proven that an individual has violated the code, sanctions will be determined by the panel, along with input from the complainant. Sanctions are dependent on the severity of the violation and the accused individual's history, but a 3rd proven violation by any individual will result in a lifetime ban from the JKG program.