

Indiana Youth Mat Club Parent Code of Conduct

IYMC Wrestling promotes the notion that children's sports are supposed to be fun. IYMC parents, fans and coaches will take responsibility for their actions; understanding that their words and actions can have a lasting emotional effect on children. It is also noted that each parent, fan, and coach represents the club and its wrestlers at every event. By following the Code of Conduct and making every season about personal growth, skill and character development, and enjoyment of the sport, our wrestlers will be more likely to stay connected to a sport, which will in turn, will help them to achieve life success.

The highest potential of sportsmanship and ethics of sports is achieved when athletes bring trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring and good citizenship to every practice and competition.

As a parent/guardian:

1. I will follow the expectations of the Indiana Youth Mat Club by:

- Learning the rules of wrestling and teaching my child the importance of playing fair, competing and following those rules.
- Staying out of the wrestling room during practice and off tournament mats; **letting the coaches' coach**, unless I am one of the official coaches of the Indiana Youth Mat Club. Please stay in the stands.
- Informing coaches **prior** to practice if my child cannot attend or will need to leave practice early.
- Having my child wear the designated IYMC team singlet to all Keystone competitions.

2. I will remember that participation in wrestling is supposed to be fun, and is not to be forced by me as the parent. Hostility and violence will **NOT** be encouraged, and I will teach my child to wrestle by the rules and resolve conflict appropriately.

3. I will **NOT** encourage any behaviors or practices that would endanger the health and/or well-being of the athletes and I will keep coaches informed about any physical disability or ailment that may affect the safety of my child or the safety of others.

4. I (and my guests) will:

- Understand that wrestling is an aggressive and physical hands-on sport. For the coaches to safely teach your children the sport they may at times put their hands on them to move them to help instruct them.
- Be a positive role model for my child and all IYMC wrestlers.
- Encourage sportsmanship by showing respect and courtesy **for all wrestlers, coaches, officials and spectators**. If you don't like the call, think of who is watching you- the kids.
- **NOT** use profane language or gestures, boo or taunt others, use verbal or physical threats or refuse to shake the hands of others.
- Treat other wrestlers, coaches, officials, parents and spectators with respect regardless of race, creed, color, sex or ability.
- Respect coaches and officials, as well as their authority, during wrestling matches; never questioning, discussing or confronting coaches during or after a match (concerns should be addressed later at an agreed time and place).
- Demand a sporting environment that is free from drugs, tobacco and alcohol and will refrain from their use.

YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR YOUR FAMILY.

5. I will teach my child that doing one's best is more important than winning by:

- Never pressuring my child to win, but instead enjoying the fact that they are participating in a great sport.
- Praising my child for competing fairly, trying hard and acting like a winner despite match outcomes
- Help to teach my child about the opportunities to learn from failure and loss in order to win down the road.
- Never ridiculing or yelling at my child or other participants for making mistakes or losing a competition
- Emphasizing the benefit of skill development and practicing over winning (especially in the novice age group)
- Respecting the team's right to a healthy practice environment and not removing my child from practice due to his/her performance

Any conduct, actions or communications that are deemed detrimental to a wrestler, coach, board member or IYMC as a whole will not be tolerated. These actions are harmful to your wrestler and the environment we are trying to create. There is a long tradition that wrestlers are known for integrity and respect. We are trying to instill that into each and every child that we, as a program, interact with. **If you as a parent have an issue please bring to the attention of a coach or board member and it will be handled appropriately. Be under control and calm when voicing the issue. If you cannot, please wait 24 hours and then contact the President. Screaming and yelling will be ignored.**

Once the issue has been brought to our attention please have the wherewithal to move past the issues as this will demonstrate to your wrestler an appropriate way to handle conflicts (as we stated above as one of the things we are trying to teach). This does not mean that the issue will be handled the way you feel it should be. We will meet, discuss it as a board and decide. Once we do that we are all moving on.

Not only are we trying to create better wrestlers, but better humans!

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Signature Page

After carefully reading the Code of Conduct, please sign the below lines.

In doing so, you are agreeing to the Code, to providing guidance to your child about good sportsmanship and to actively participate in your child's success at IYMC.

Child's Name: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Date: _____

Note: Failure to sign this document does not exclude you from the expectations set forth in the code of conduct.

IYMC and its President, Head Coach and board members reserves the right to terminate (without registration refund) your child's privilege to participate in our wrestling program based on the expectations of this code of conduct. This means that if you do not follow the rules set forth your child may be asked to leave the team.

IYMC and its President, Head Coach and board members reserves the right to limit and or remove your ability to participate, spectate or observe contests that IYMC participates in (including ones your child is participating in) if you have been warned and spoken to by the President or Head Coach about your actions. In essence, do not ruin the experience for your child.

IYMC also reserves the right to terminate (without registration refund) your affiliation with the club as a coach, parent helper based on the expectations of the Code of Conduct.