

# **PLAYERS / PARENTS CONDUCT:**

## **ALL PARENTS/PLAYERS MUST PRINT, SIGN THE SPORTSMANSHIP PLEDGE AND TURN IN TO THEIR COACH**

1. This is a recreational basketball league and is not intended to be a highly competitive situation. The coaches, parents and players are not to argue with the ref or question his call in a confrontational way. Coaches are the only ones that should talk with the referees and that should always be done in a calm and respectful manner. Yelling at or arguing with a referee will result in the coach receiving a Warning from the Mahwah Youth Sports Boosters, which could affect your coaching status in the future.
2. If a player commits an unsportsmanlike act on the court, such as arguing with a ref or an opposing player or is guilty of excessive physical play, that player may be removed from the game to 'cool off' and gain composure before returning to the game. Subsequent poor behavior may result in game suspension(s).
3. The score of the game should not be over-emphasized. Of course everyone tries to win every game, but not at all costs. Good sportsmanship takes priority over winning or losing a game.
4. Do not run up the score on a weaker opponent. We do not want any team winning by 20 or more points. If your team is winning by 10 - 20 points, the coach should be doing the following kinds things:
  - a.) Play those kids that have gotten less playing time in the past and rest your better players (within the rules of playing time parameters).
  - b.) Back off on defense. Play a soft zone defense and advise your players to not block shots or steal the ball from your opponent. Give your opponent an opportunity to shoot the ball.
  - c.) Make it your team's goal to get the kids who normally don't score (much) to make a basket.
  - d.) DO NOT FAST BREAK. Tell your team to make at least 3 passes before shooting.