

LHA Conflict Resolution and Discipline Policy

1. LHA's goal in resolving conflict is to encourage coaches, players, and parents to conduct themselves in a Christ-like manner, train one another in righteousness, and maintaining harmonious relationships. Believing that the proper conduct of athletes is primarily the responsibility of parents, the board is committed to supporting parents in fostering these behaviors in our players, through our coaches, board, and other organizational leaders.
2. In the spirit of Mathew 18, when conflict arises between players, coaches, or parents, we encourage the parties to face each other privately and directly, attempting to discuss and resolve the issues between themselves. For conflicts regarding the management of a particular team, playing time or position of a player, the coaching staff should be the primary arbiter of disputes. It is recommended by LHA that the first conversation be between the coach and a player. If the player doesn't feel that the issue has been resolved, the player's parents shall approach the coach. If the issue is still not resolved the parents shall bring the issue to the athletic director. If issues arise beyond this, either party may appeal to the LHA board for resolution. Conflicts shall be resolved in person or over the phone. Text messages, email or other social media communication should only be used to set up an in-person conversation. Conversations shall take place at least 24 hours after the situation in question occurred and shall not take place during practice or a game. The conversation shall take place privately.
3. Participation in LHA sports is a privilege, not a right. Each participant has the responsibility to act in accordance with our established policies and rules. Coaches, players, or parents whose conduct or attitude demonstrates them to be in opposition to the principles and values of LHA may be disciplined by the board up to and including removal from the sports program.
4. *As a guideline, the following behavior will merit disciplinary action:*
 - Disrespect shown to any coach, parent, participant, or official
 - Dishonesty of any type, including lying, cheating, or stealing
 - Rebellion against parental or organizational leadership
 - Fighting: including aggressively confronting an official, coach, or opponent
 - Obscene or profane language
5. *Steps taken against the offending party may include:*
 - A verbal warning
 - Withdrawal from practice, activity, or event
 - Disallowing program participation for a specific period (requires board action)
 - Removal from the program (requires board action)
6. *Disrespect toward Coaches and Officials:* Any individual addressing a coach or official in an unsportsmanlike, unchristian, or discourteous manner may be immediately ejected from the game, practice, or event.

7. *Unsportsmanlike Conduct*: Any coach, player, or parent ejected from a game, receiving a technical foul (or comparable penalty) communicate with the athletic director and may also be required to meet with the LHA board to discuss the violation prior to being allowed further participation in the sports program.

By CLICKING THE AGREE BUTTON you agree to our Code of Conduct