



PHOENIX FIRE BASKETBALL CLUB

PLAYER CODE OF CONDUCT

Building Character Through Basketball

South Phoenix / Laveen, Arizona | 3rd Grade through High School

Section 1: Purpose and Mission

The Phoenix Fire Basketball Club is committed to providing a safe, positive, and respectful environment for all players, coaches, officials, and families. Our program exists not only to develop basketball skills but to cultivate character, discipline, teamwork, and integrity in every young person who wears our uniform. This Player Code of Conduct establishes the behavioral standards that make our mission possible.

Participation in Phoenix Fire Basketball Club is a **privilege, not a right**, and it comes with meaningful responsibilities. Every player who joins our program represents something larger than themselves — they represent their teammates, their families, their coaches, and the Phoenix Fire name. We expect every player to embrace that responsibility with pride.

This Code of Conduct applies to **all club activities**, including but not limited to: practices, games, tournaments, travel, team events, community appearances, and online or social media conduct. It covers all players from **3rd grade through high school**. By signing this document, players and their families agree to uphold the standards outlined herein.



Section 2: Player Conduct Expectations

As a member of the Phoenix Fire Basketball Club, I understand that I am expected to conduct myself with integrity, respect, and sportsmanship at all times. I make the following commitments:

1. **I will demonstrate good sportsmanship at all times** — win or lose. I will congratulate opponents on good plays and handle both victory and defeat with grace and class.
2. **I will treat teammates, coaches, opponents, officials, parents, and spectators with respect and dignity.** I understand that respect is the foundation of our program.
3. **I will attend all scheduled practices and games on time and prepared to participate,** or I will communicate any absences to my coach in advance. I understand that my commitment affects the entire team.
4. **I will give my best effort in every practice and game.** I will push myself to improve, compete with energy, and never give less than my full effort.
5. **I will listen to and follow the instructions of my coaches.** I understand that coaches have my best interest and the team's best interest at heart.
6. **I will encourage and support my teammates at all times.** I will build my teammates up, never tear them down, and celebrate their successes as my own.
7. **I will accept coaching, corrections, and constructive feedback with a positive attitude.** I understand that being coached — even when it is difficult to hear — is how I grow as a player and as a person.
8. **I will play with integrity, follow the rules of the game, and accept the decisions of officials without argument.** I will never attempt to gain an unfair advantage through dishonesty or deception.



9. **I will represent Phoenix Fire Basketball Club with pride and class, on and off the court.** I understand that my behavior reflects on my team, my family, and my community.
10. **I will take care of all equipment, uniforms, and facilities.** I will treat shared resources with respect and leave every facility better than I found it.
11. **I will maintain academic eligibility and prioritize my education.** I am a student first and an athlete second.
12. **I will communicate openly with my coaches about any concerns or issues.** If I have a problem, I will address it respectfully and directly rather than allowing it to fester.

Section 3: Prohibited Conduct

The following behaviors are strictly prohibited and will not be tolerated under any circumstances. Players who engage in prohibited conduct will be subject to the disciplinary actions outlined in Section 4 of this document.

3.1 Profanity and Inappropriate Language

- Use of profanity, vulgar language, or obscenities at any time during club activities, including practices, games, tournaments, travel, and team gatherings.
- Name-calling, verbal insults, slurs, or derogatory remarks directed at anyone — including teammates, opponents, coaches, officials, parents, or spectators.
- Use of hate speech, including language targeting race, ethnicity, religion, gender, sexual orientation, or disability.
- Trash-talking or taunting opponents.
- Disrespectful or argumentative language directed at coaches or officials.



3.2 Physical Misconduct and Fighting

- Fighting, physical altercations, or acts of physical aggression — whether initiated or retaliatory — will **NOT** be tolerated under any circumstances.
- Pushing, shoving, hitting, kicking, or any form of physical contact intended to harm or intimidate another person.
- Throwing equipment, balls, or any objects in anger or frustration.
- Threatening physical violence against any person.
- Reckless or intentionally dangerous play designed to injure an opponent.

3.3 Bullying, Harassment, and Intimidation

- Bullying in any form — verbal, physical, social, or cyber — is strictly prohibited.
- Harassment, hazing, or initiation rituals of any kind.
- Intimidation or threatening behavior toward any person.
- Excluding, isolating, or ostracizing teammates.
- Spreading rumors or making false statements about others.

3.4 Unsportsmanlike Conduct

- Disrespecting opponents before, during, or after games.
- Intentional fouling with the intent to injure.
- Refusing to shake hands or participate in post-game sportsmanship.
- Publicly criticizing teammates, coaches, or officials.
- Showboating or excessive celebration intended to taunt or humiliate opponents.



3.5 Substance Use

- Possession or use of alcohol, tobacco, vaping products, e-cigarettes, or any illegal or controlled substance at any club activity or while representing Phoenix Fire Basketball Club.
- Attending any club activity under the influence of any prohibited substance.

3.6 Social Media and Online Conduct

- Posting negative, disrespectful, or inappropriate content about teammates, coaches, opponents, officials, or the club on any social media platform or digital communication.
- Cyberbullying or online harassment of any person connected to the club or opposing teams.
- Posting content that reflects poorly on the reputation of Phoenix Fire Basketball Club.
- Sharing private or confidential team information without authorization.

3.7 Other Prohibited Conduct

- Theft or intentional damage to property belonging to the club, teammates, facilities, or others.
- Cheating, dishonesty, or academic ineligibility.
- Failure to follow facility rules at practice and game venues.
- Unauthorized departure from team activities or travel events.
- Disruptive behavior that interferes with practices, games, or team activities.
- Insubordination or refusal to follow reasonable instructions from coaches or club officials.



Section 4: Disciplinary Actions and Consequences

Phoenix Fire Basketball Club utilizes a progressive discipline framework. The goal of our disciplinary process is not punishment for its own sake, but correction, accountability, and growth. However, the safety and integrity of our program will always come first. The following outlines the escalating levels of consequence for conduct violations:

Level 1 — Verbal Warning

Applicable to: First minor offense

- The player will be spoken to privately by the coach.
- The behavior will be documented in the player's conduct record.
- The parent/guardian will be notified of the incident.

Level 2 — Written Warning and Temporary Bench

Applicable to: Second minor offense or first moderate offense

- The player will receive a formal written warning.
- The player may be benched for a portion of or an entire game.
- A parent/guardian conference with the coach will be required.

Level 3 — Suspension

Applicable to: Third minor offense, second moderate offense, or first major offense

- The player will be suspended from one or more games and/or practices.
- The length of suspension will be determined by the severity of the offense.
- A mandatory meeting with the player, parent/guardian, coach, and club leadership (Team Manager) will be required before the player may return to activities.
- A written action plan for improved behavior must be agreed upon by all parties before reinstatement.



Level 4 — Indefinite Suspension or Dismissal

Applicable to: Repeated offenses, severe misconduct, or any single act of extreme misconduct

- The player may be indefinitely suspended or permanently dismissed from the club.
- **No refund** of registration fees or dues will be issued for dismissal due to conduct violations.
- The decision of the Team Manager and club leadership is final.

IMMEDIATE REMOVAL OFFENSES

The following offenses bypass the progressive discipline framework and may result in immediate suspension or dismissal from Phoenix Fire Basketball Club:

- Fighting or physical assault
- Possession or use of weapons
- Possession or use of alcohol, drugs, or controlled substances
- Threats of violence
- Severe acts of bullying, harassment, or hate speech
- Any behavior that endangers the safety of others

Discretionary Authority

Phoenix Fire Basketball Club reserves the right to impose any level of discipline deemed appropriate based on the severity, context, and circumstances of the offense, regardless of prior disciplinary history. All disciplinary decisions are at the sole discretion of the Team Manager and club leadership.



Section 5: Player Acknowledgment and Agreement

I, the undersigned player, have read and understand the Phoenix Fire Basketball Club Player Code of Conduct in its entirety. I agree to abide by all rules, expectations, and standards set forth in this document. I understand that violations may result in disciplinary action, up to and including dismissal from the club. I understand that participation in Phoenix Fire Basketball Club is a privilege, and I accept responsibility for my conduct at all practices, games, tournaments, travel events, and in all interactions — both in person and online — that are associated with the club.

Player Printed Name: _____ **Date:** _____

Player Signature: _____ **Team / Grade Level:** _____



Section 6: Parent / Guardian Acknowledgment

I, the undersigned parent/guardian, have read and reviewed the Phoenix Fire Basketball Club Player Code of Conduct with my child. I understand and support the expectations and disciplinary procedures outlined in this document. I agree to encourage my child to uphold these standards and to cooperate with club coaches and leadership in the event of a conduct issue. I understand that my child's continued participation is contingent upon adherence to this Code of Conduct.

Parent/Guardian Printed Name

Date

Parent/Guardian Signature

Relationship to Player

Phone Number

Email

Phoenix Fire Basketball Club —Phoenix, Arizona

This document must be signed and returned before the player may participate in any club activities.