

Zero Tolerance Letter

Dear Parents,

Two of the most important things our coaches will be teaching this year are discipline and teamwork. As we all know, both are important characteristics for children to learn if they want to become successful adults. To ensure that these two very important traits are a fundamental part of the Oriole Park Football program, we are implementing a program wide rule against player on player violence; this also includes coaches and family members. To be a successful team and show the importance of discipline in the heat of practice or a game, we are asking each of you to talk with your kids and let them know that physical and verbal confrontation with a teammate will not be allowed. Fighting and teasing are not part of the normal football curriculum and will be quickly dealt with.

We realize that this is football and players are going to get mad at each other. There is bound to be some pushing and shoving from time to time, but hitting, kicking, biting, fighting consistent with teasing ect are not tolerated. We want to conduct ourselves with class and because of that; conduct detrimental to the team is something we have decided needs to be addressed. If a player is caught in any such acts, we will refer to the **Oriole Park Player Contract** for enforcement that the player/parent has signed. We reserve the right to lengthen the suspension if we think the act/acts are egregious in nature. As with any situation, we realize there are some gray here, so coaches will be very thorough in their analysis of any situation and how it transpired. All findings will be brought to the OPYF Board and the board will make the decisions on the appropriate discipline. We will not be making snap judgments without examining the situations closely, but once a decision is made it is **FINAL**.

Acts involving coaches, parents, family members, or friends will be managed accordingly and we will refer to the **Oriole Park Spectator Contract** that all the families have signed. We reserve the right to impose other sanctions deemed necessary if we think the acts are egregious in nature.

Any questions or concerns, please contact OPYF President John Swank at oriolePYFA@aol.com or OPYF Vice President Bill Snyder at wls2usa@aol.com.

So, please take the time to talk with your kids about this so that we can all enjoy a great football/cheerleading season and not have to worry about issues like this. Thank you or your help in making our kids into better people.

Sincerely,

OPYF Board