

PLAYER RESPONSIBILITIES:

A. Dedication and Discipline:

1. **Dedicate** yourself to the League and your team.
 - a. Learn the rules of the League and of your team; Recognize that you are **responsible** for abiding by them; And admit it when you make a mistake (be **accountable**).
2. **Discipline** yourself to strive at becoming a better person and a better football player.
 - a. Learn the values the League is trying to impart. They are being promoted with your best interest at heart. Discuss them with your parents. Live by them and be a person of true character.
 - b. Support other EYFL Players as they attempt to live by the values being taught.
 - c. Know and abide by the "sportsmanship" rules of the League.

B. Respect and Teamwork:

Develop and exhibit **Respect** for yourself, **your parents**, your Coaches, your teammates, League officials and your opponents:

1. Always give your **best** effort! **Winning isn't everything, but striving to win is.** Striving to win begins with giving your best effort in all you do, including practicing hard.
2. Never publicly disagree with the Coach or exhibit unhappiness when the Coach makes a decision. Your bosses will be making decisions you won't like when you begin working. Learn now how to respectfully deal with that. (In those situations, however, when you are being asked to do something unethical or immoral you should always respectfully refuse to carry out their plan and explain why.)
3. Remember to be a team player. No matter how good you may think you are, you would have no success without the hard work of your teammates. Praise them! Encourage them! Sacrifice yourself for them! Treat them as you would like to be treated!
4. Never argue with a Referee or throw a temper tantrum at a call. In this League the Referee is always right!

C. Responsibility and Accountability:

Follow the rules of the League, the Team and the Game, and accept what happens if you make a mistake. Football teaches responsibility and accountability. For example, on one play I may be **responsible** for blocking the linebacker. If I miss that block and the linebacker tackles the running back, whose fault is it? It's my fault!

When the Coach constructively criticizes me for missing the block, I can do one of two things:

Option #1: I can get mad at the Coach and make up an excuse for why I missed the block. This won't help me because my closed mind keeps me from learning and making myself try harder and, thereby, improving. Nor does it help the team, because if I improve, so does the team.

Option #2: I can admit to myself and the team that I made a mistake. I can then listen to the Coach so I learn how to improve. I can ask questions if I need more help. And I can try a little harder next time. This is the correct response! It will make everyone improve.

Other areas for responsibility and accountability include:

1. Wear all required equipment, assure that the equipment is well cared for, and return the League's equipment at year-end.
2. Attend all team practices and games, if possible. If a Player misses one practice, **unexcused**, the Player must sit out the first half of the next game. The Player must realize a responsibility to his/her Player's Coaches and Teammates, including attending every practice.
3. Contact a member of the Executive Committee to explain why, if deciding to leave the League. The explanation given can be useful in improving the League.

D. Humility:

Always remember that you were given, as a gift, the ability to walk, run, jump and do the things necessary to play football. Be grateful for that gift and remember where it came from. Also, remember that other persons in our community were not given the same gifts you have. Respect them, care for them and love them.

- E. Play for the "fun of it"; not just to please your parents or a coach.

TO PLAY IN THE EVEREST YOUTH FOOTBALL LEAGUE IS A PRIVILEGE NOT A RIGHT!!! Keep your privilege by being a responsible person!