WASHINGTON PANTHERS

YOUTH FOOTBALL PROGRAM

COACH EXPECTATIONS & ACCOUNTABILITY POLICY

Coaching for Washington YFP is a privilege and a responsibility. Coaches are entrusted with our athletes, families, and the reputation of our program. Players will follow what we model before they follow what we say. Every coach is expected to uphold The Panther Standard at practices, games, team events, online, and in our community.

THE PANTHER STANDARD

CHALLENGE EVERYTHING • FAMILY • COMMUNITY • LEADERSHIP • CHOOSE H.A.R.D. • HAVE G.R.I.T. • L.N.D.

H.A.R.D. = Honor • Attitude • Respect • Discipline | G.R.I.T. = Greatness • Responsibility • Integrity • Teamwork | L.N.D. = Leave No Doubt

ATHLETE FIRST

- Prioritize athlete safety and development.
- Teach proper fundamentals and age-appropriate techniques.
- Coach every athlete; build confidence while holding players accountable.
- Never intentionally embarrass, humiliate, or retaliate against an athlete.
- Teach a Next Play Mentality: learn, reset, compete again.

Demand excellence without destroying confidence.

COACH WITH CHARACTER

- Be positive, demanding, fair, consistent, and composed.
- Own your decisions and mistakes; never publicly blame athletes.
- No threats, intimidation, bullying, discrimination, or humiliation.
- Praise publicly and correct appropriately.
- Model the discipline you demand from players.

ONE PROGRAM • ONE STANDARD

- Support Washington YFP policies and leadership decisions.
- Follow Program, USA Football, league, facility, and safety requirements.
- Work cooperatively with every Panther team and coach.
- Never undermine another coach, team, Board member, or Program Director.
- Handle disagreements internally and professionally.

Different teams. Different ages. ONE PANTHER FAMILY.

PRACTICE & GAME EXPECTATIONS

- Arrive prepared and on time; run organized, purposeful practices.
- Maximize repetitions and development while teaching safe fundamentals.
- Maintain proper athlete supervision and follow contact limitations.
- Demonstrate sportsmanship regardless of the score.
- Win with humility and lose with accountability.
- Respect opponents and teach athletes to respect the game.

Winning matters. How we win matters more.

OFFICIALS, OPPONENTS & PARENTS

- Never threaten, insult, intimidate, or aggressively confront officials.
- Compete hard and physically, but always with class.
- Communicate with parents clearly, respectfully, and professionally.
- Honor the 24-Hour Rule after games.
- No public or social-media arguments.
- Do not discuss another athlete's private circumstances with unrelated parents.

Disagreement is allowed. Disrespect is not.

PLAYER DEVELOPMENT & CONDUCT

- Playing time is earned through attendance, effort, preparation, coachability, attitude, team commitment, and safety.
- Never guarantee positions or playing time.
- Never punish an athlete because of conflict with a parent.
- Evaluate fairly and develop the entire roster.
- Do not publicly attack players, parents, coaches, officials, opponents, volunteers, or the Program.

ZERO-TOLERANCE BEHAVIORS — MAY RESULT IN IMMEDIATE DISCIPLINE

- Physical fighting/assault • threats/intimidation • bullying/harassment/discrimination • hazing • abusive language toward athletes
- Intentionally dangerous coaching or encouraging injury • alcohol/illegal drugs/intoxication while responsible for athletes
- Theft/property damage • entering restricted areas to initiate confrontation • retaliation against an athlete/family
- Serious athlete-safety violations • conduct jeopardizing a child • conduct significantly damaging Washington YFP integrity

Washington YFP may bypass progressive discipline when the severity of misconduct warrants immediate season suspension or permanent removal.

COACH ACCOUNTABILITY & DISCIPLINE — COACHING IS A PRIVILEGE, NOT A RIGHT

1 REMOVAL FROM GAME / PRACTICE

Immediate removal from the current game, practice, or Program activity. A meeting with the Program Director may be required before returning.

2 ONE-WEEK SUSPENSION

Suspended from all practices, games, sidelines, team activities, and coaching responsibilities for seven (7) days. Reinstatement requires approval.

3 SEASON SUSPENSION

Removed from all coaching responsibilities for the remainder of the season. Future reinstatement is not automatic and requires Program approval.

4 PERMANENT REMOVAL

Coaching privileges within Washington Panthers YFP are permanently revoked. No future coaching position will be offered.

EVERY DECISION: "IS THIS IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CHILDREN?"

Our job is bigger than teaching football. We develop young people through character, accountability, discipline, toughness, teamwork, leadership, and respect. That development begins with the adults standing in front of them.

LEAD BY EXAMPLE • COACH EVERY ATHLETE • BUILD CONFIDENCE • RESPECT THE GAME • PROTECT OUR ATHLETES • UPHOLD THE PANTHER STANDARD

By signing below, I acknowledge that coaching within Washington Panthers Youth Football Program is a privilege. I have read and understand this policy, agree to uphold The Panther Standard, and understand violations may result in discipline up to and including permanent removal.

Coach Name: _____ Team/Age: _____ Date: _____

Coach Signature: _____ Program Representative: _____