Donegal Youth Basketball Association
Parent Code of Conduct

Welcome to the youth basketball season! Our primary goal is to provide a safe, fun, and educational environment where young athletes can learn the game of basketball, develop teamwork skills, and build character. As parents and guardians, your behavior on the sidelines plays a critical role in shaping their experience. This Code of Conduct outlines the expectations for all adults attending practices, games, and league events.

1. Core Principles of Sportsmanship

- **Focus on the Fun:** Remember that youth sports are for the children, not the adults. Encourage your child's passion for basketball and focus on their personal development over winning games.
- **Positive Encouragement:** Applaud good plays and effort from *all* players on the court, including members of the opposing team. Refrain from booing, taunting, or negative remarks.
- **Emotional & Physical Well-Being:** Put the emotional and physical well-being of the players ahead of any personal desire to win. Encourage clean, safe play and a respectful attitude.

2. Court & Sideline Etiquette

- **Let the Coaches Coach:** Avoid shouting tactical instructions (e.g., 'Shoot!', 'Pass!', 'Drive!') from the bleachers. Contradictory guidance confuses the players and disrupts the coach's game plan.
- **Respect the Officials:** Referees are human and make mistakes. Absolutely no yelling, arguing, or gesturing aggressively toward officials. Teach your child to accept referee calls with grace.
- **Zero Tolerance for Hostility:** Profanity, physical threats, and verbal harassment directed at players, coaches, refs, or other spectators will result in immediate ejection from the facility.

3. Accountability & Enforcement

Failure to adhere to this Code of Conduct may result in disciplinary action. Consequences may include a verbal warning, immediate removal from the gymnasium, or a multi-game suspension from attending events. Let's work together to keep the environment positive for our players.