

ORDINANCE # 21-2002

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON,  
COUNTY OF GLOUCESTER AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY  
ESTABLISHING A YOUTH SPORTS  
CODE OF CONDUCT**

**WHEREAS**, the Township of Washington provides both economic and non-economic support and assistance to non-profit youth sports organizations serving the municipality and also provides use of various municipal facilities and realty to such organizations; and

**WHEREAS**, the Mayor and Town Council believe that such non-profit, volunteer organizations provide valuable opportunities for Township children to engage in supervised recreational and competitive sports activities; and

**WHEREAS**, the Mayor and Town Council believe that the provision of a safe and organized environment for the conduct of youth sporting events is critical to maintain the benefits of such recreational opportunities for our youth.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED** by the Mayor and Town Council of the Township of Washington, as follows:

**I. Definitions:**

**a. Code of Conduct** – a written specification of the behavior of parents, guardians, coaches and officials prepared by each **Sport's Advisory Board** which must at a minimum incorporate the terms of the within Ordinance **in their Bylaws**.

**b. Youth Sports Event** – any competition, practice or instructional event involving one or more Youth Sports Teams.

**c. Sport Advisory Board** – any sports organization pursuant to a non-profit or similar charter which is affiliated with or received monetary or other support or services from the

Township of Washington or regularly utilizes any facilities owned, operated, or maintained by the Township, which sports organization participants in sporting competitions involving minors.

II. Every sports team shall be required to follow the Code of Conduct as set forth in this Ordinance.

III. The Code of Conduct will be made available to all parents and guardians of each child participating in a sports team

IV. Any parent, guest, spectator, coach or official at any youth sports event who initiates a fight, scuffle, or any type of physical abuse or threats of abuse towards any player, coach, official, parent, or spectator shall be banned from attendance at all youth sports events within the Township of Washington for a period not exceeding 12 months from the date of the incident.

V. Any parent, guest, coach or official at any youth sporting event who enters the field of play, court or rink during any youth sporting event for the purpose of physically or verbally abusing or confronting coaches, players or officials shall be banned from attendance at all youth sports events within the Township of Washington for a period not exceeding 12 months from the date of the accident.

VI. Any parent, guest, spectator, coach or official at any youth sports event who verbally abuses officials, players or spectators including the use of obscene or profane language or gestures, racial, ethnic or sexual slurs may be banned from all youth sports events for a period not exceeding 12 months from the date of the incident and shall be subject to such discipline as provided for by the applicable team's Code of Conduct.

VII. Any parent, guest, spectator or official at any youth sports event who throws or causes to be deposited any object on the field of play, court or rink during any youth sports event

may be banned from attendance at all youth sports events for a period of 12 months from the date of the incident and shall be subject to such discipline as provided for by the application sports team's Code of Conduct.

VIII. Any person banned for 12 months from youth sports events for a violation of this Code of Conduct prior to being allowed to resume attendance at any youth sports event shall be required to complete anger management or equivalent counseling program consisting of no less than 12 hours of instruction and shall provide proof of satisfactory completion to the Code of Conduct Committee. Any banning for less than 12 months may include up to 12 hours of anger management.

IX. Any parent, official, coach or spectator at any youth sporting event shall be subject to the authority of all field officials including umpires and referees and elected league officials of the youth sport team or teams sponsoring the youth sports event or in the absence of such persons at a youth sports team's practice or instructional event to the authority of the ranking youth sports team coach on the premises. Such authority shall include the authorization to direct any person or persons involved in any incident in violation of this ordinance or the applicable sports team's Code of Conduct to immediately remove themselves from the premises.

**X. Violation Procedures and Hearing:**

a. Upon a determination by a majority vote of the highest ranking official and the governing Board of a youth sports team that a parent, guest, spectator, coach or official at any youth sports event sponsored by such youth sports team has violated a provision of this Ordinance or the Code of Conduct of the youth sports team, such official shall forward to such violator a notice via regular and certified mail indicating the date and location and nature of the violation and the period of banning or other action to be taken in response to such violation.

b. Any person receiving such a notice who wishes to contest same shall appeal to the Township of Washington Code of Conduct Committee within seven (7) calendar days of the mailing of said notice by forwarding a copy of said notice with a written request for appeal specifically setting forth the basis of such persons contest of the notice of violation via personal delivery or certified mail to the Chairperson of the Code of Conduct Committee at 523 Egg Harbor Road, Sewell, NJ 08080.

c. Upon receipt of such an appeal, the Code of Conduct Committee shall convene within ten (10) days and provide an opportunity for said person and any interested person to appear and be heard with respect to the occurrence of any violation and the action taken by the youth sports team.

d. The Code of Conduct Committee shall be authorized to hear testimony under oath, review affidavits and such other and further information or documentation relevant to the violation and upon a majority vote of the members of the committee present at such hearing, may sustain, overturn, or modify the youth sports team's notice of violation and the period of banning or other action taken in response to such violation consistent with this ordinance or the youth sports team by-laws or Code of Conduct.

e. All Notices of Violation and bannings shall remain in effect until overturned or modified by the Code of Conduct Committee.

f. In the event any notice of violation is not appealed within 10 days of such notice, said notice of violation and the action taken by the youth sports team official including banning from youth sports events shall become final.

This Ordinance shall take effect thirty (30) days after final passage by Council or twenty days after approval by the Mayor, whichever comes first.

Introduced: October 3, 2002

	MARTIN	BRUCE	MC CREA	MAIER	LYONS
YES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
ABSTAIN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
NO	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Public hearing held October 16, 2002

	MARTIN	BRUCE	MC CREA	MAIER	LYONS
YES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
ABSTAIN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
NO	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON

BY:

*Matthew P. Lyons*

MATTHEW P. LYONS

Council President

ATTEST:

*L. Pat Lamonica*  
L. PAT LAMONICA, Township Clerk

On this 31 day of October, 2002, I hereby approve the above ordinance.

*Randee Davidson*  
Randee Davidson, Mayor