**Auburn Youth Lacrosse Code of Conduct\***

Spring, 2016

Auburn Youth Lacrosse players, coaches, spectators, and parents are to conduct themselves in a manner that promotes safety, "Honors the Game" and demonstrates respect to other players, coaches, officials, and spectators. In becoming a member of the lacrosse community an individual assumes certain obligations and responsibilities to the game of lacrosse and its participants. The essential elements in this "Code of Conduct" are SAFETY, HONESTY and INTEGRITY. Those who conduct themselves in a manner that reflects these elements will bring credit to the sport of lacrosse, themselves, their teams, and their organization.

It is only through such conduct that our sport can keep our players safe, earn and maintain a positive image, and allow the sport to make its full contribution to youth sports in the United States and around the world. The US Lacrosse Youth Council supports the following behaviors for those participating or involved in any way with US Lacrosse and youth lacrosse in general:

* The essential elements of the "Code of Conduct" must be adhered to.
* Sportsmanship and teaching the concepts of fair play are essential to the game, and must be taught and developed both at home and on the field during practices and games. Permitting, encouraging, or condoning performance that is dangerous or demeaning to a player, coach, official, spectator, or anyone connected with the function of the game is unacceptable. Allowing the children to engage in activity that we believe is unsafe in any way encourages a climate of danger and will not be tolerated.
* The emphasis on winning should never be placed above the value of good sportsmanship, the concepts of fair play, or the skills of the game.
* Derogatory comments are unacceptable. Use positive reinforcement with players and adults alike. It should be remembered that criticism, once made, can never be retracted.
* The safety and welfare of the players are of primary importance. As does all sporting activity, Lacrosse includes activities and situations which may result in injury. It is the responsibility of the players, the parents, the coaches and the spectators to monitor the activities and conduct of the players and to immediately step in and correct any behavior which exposes any player to unnecessary risk.
* Coaches must always be aware of the tremendous influence they have on their players. They are to strive to be positive role models in dealing with young people, as well as with adults.
* Officials are expected to conduct themselves as professionals and in accordance with those guidelines and rules set forth in the applicable rule books and manuals; and in a manner that demonstrates courtesy and fairness to all parties while exercising their authority on the field.
* Adults involved with the game must never permit anyone to openly or maliciously criticize, badger, harass, or threaten an official. To do so is a violation of the rules of the game and must be considered unacceptable conduct.
* Knowledge of the Rules of Lacrosse must be respected and adhered to by all who participate in the game of lacrosse, both in the letter and the spirit of the game. The Rules are designed to protect the players, provide common standards and control the game. Attempts to beat these rules, to take unfair advantage of an opponent, or to teach deliberate unsportsmanlike conduct is considered unacceptable conduct.
* Guidelines and eligibility requirements, such as age and previous level of participation, have been established to encourage and maximize participation, as well as promote safety. All who participate in the game of lacrosse must be thoroughly acquainted with these rules and regulations, and should assume the responsibility for their observance and enforcement. Attempts to circumvent eligibility rules, or to use ineligible players, shall be considered unacceptable conduct.

As evidenced by our signatures below, we, the undersigned, agree to abide by this Code of Conduct and to individually monitor ourselves and our children to ensure their safety and good conduct.

**PLAYER:**

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**PARENT:**

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**COACH:**

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

Print Name: **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

\* The Auburn Youth Lacrosse Club is an Alabama Non-profit Corporation and shall in no event be deemed to include private individuals or agents associated with the League.