# NOLA Troublemakers

Girls Travel Flag Football




# Code of Conduct

## and Organization Handbook

## 2027–2029

Players • Coaches • Parents and Guardians

Greater New Orleans | Based on the Westbank

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## Our Mission

NOLA Troublemakers empowers girls across Greater New Orleans through year-round travel flag football. We develop confident athletes and strong young leaders through teamwork, discipline, accountability and respect. With academics, positive behavior and family involvement at our foundation, we prepare every player to grow on and off the field and pursue opportunities at the next level of the sport.

### Our commitment

We expect effort, respect and responsibility from everyone who represents this organization. Players deserve a safe place to learn; coaches must teach and protect; families must support the team and keep communication respectful. Our competitive identity never excuses misconduct.

### Who this handbook covers

These expectations apply to all four divisions—7–8U, 9–10U, 11–12U and 13–14U—and to coaches, volunteers, parents, guardians and accompanying guests. They apply at tryouts, practices, games, tournaments, travel, hotels, fundraising activities and team-related online interactions.

### How to use this book

Review each section as a family. Players, parents and coaches should understand their responsibilities before signing the acknowledgment on page 8. Registration, medical permissions, travel authorizations and payment agreements are separate documents.

Inside: Organization standards 2 • Players 3 • Attendance and academics 4 • Coaches 5 • Parents 6 • Accountability 7 • Agreement 8

# Organization Rules and Standards

### Respect is required

Treat teammates, opponents, officials, coaches, families and facility staff with dignity. Profanity, slurs, bullying, hazing, threats, fighting, harassment and retaliation are prohibited. These standards apply to adults as well as children, including messages and social media.

### A development focused travel program

Our program requires consistent practice, willingness to learn and readiness to travel when a family accepts an event commitment. Coaches develop skills, confidence and sportsmanship at an age-appropriate pace. Participation does not guarantee a starting role, a particular position, equal travel-game playing time, a tournament roster spot or a college opportunity. Applicable event participation rules must be followed.

### Leadership and team decisions

Founder and Head Coach Chris Davis directs organization operations and assigns coaching responsibilities. Authorized coaches manage practices, positions, game strategy and player readiness. Families should raise concerns through the process on page 7. No coach or volunteer may independently promise roster placement, spending, travel arrangements or organization commitments without leadership authorization.

### Safety comes before competition

Players must follow check-in and approved pickup procedures. Report injuries, illness and unsafe conditions promptly. Coaches may stop activity for heat, lightning, unsafe fields or other hazards. Water breaks and appropriate rest are required. Players must follow each event's equipment and flag-football rules, including mouthguards or other required protective gear.

### Financial and tournament expectations

Families must review the separate budget and payment guide before making a financial commitment. Team payments do not automatically cover all tournaments. Additional tournament charges may apply and must be explained before families commit. Transportation, hotels, meals and other travel costs are separate unless a written trip notice specifically includes them. Fundraising proceeds and payment responsibilities will be communicated separately in writing.

### Facilities and organization property

Use only approved spaces and follow venue rules. Keep fields, buses and hotels clean. Do not damage, misuse or take property. Report missing or damaged team equipment. Families will receive written instructions for the return of organization-owned items.

# Player Code of Conduct

### Bring effort and a coachable attitude

Arrive ready to participate, listen when a coach speaks and ask questions respectfully. Work on assigned skills, accept corrections and give consistent effort. Support teammates after mistakes and celebrate team improvement. Younger players will receive age-appropriate instruction and reminders.

### Use respectful words and actions

No profanity, name-calling, teasing meant to hurt, exclusion, bullying, fighting or threats. Do not argue with officials, taunt opponents or retaliate. If another person acts disrespectfully, move away when possible and tell a coach. Report problems honestly rather than handling them through confrontation.

### Come prepared

Bring water and required athletic gear. Wear appropriate practice clothing and no-pocket bottoms for flag play. Use cleats and protective equipment as required by the venue or event. Remove jewelry and unsafe accessories before activity. Keep personal items organized and use equipment only as instructed.

### Play flag football safely

Follow flag-pulling, rushing, contact and other competition rules. Do not tackle, shove, strike or intentionally make dangerous contact. Stop immediately when directed. Report pain, dizziness or injury; never hide symptoms to keep playing. A player removed for a significant injury must follow the required return-to-play process.

### Stay with the team and follow release rules

Check in with your assigned coach. Do not leave a field, bench area, hotel or team activity without permission and an approved adult release. Follow travel schedules, curfews and chaperone directions. Do not enter another person’s room, swim or leave the hotel without approved supervision and permission.

### Represent the organization responsibly

Protect teammates’ privacy. Do not share private messages, medical information, locations or embarrassing pictures. Do not post insults or threats about another team or person. Alcohol, vaping, tobacco, recreational drugs, weapons and other prohibited items have no place at team activities.

### Take responsibility

Tell the truth, admit mistakes and cooperate with corrective steps. Respect school and home expectations as well as team rules. Ask a trusted adult for help when something feels unsafe. Good-faith safety reports will never be treated as disloyalty.

# Attendance Academics and Home Behavior

### Keep team commitments

Practices, games, meetings and accepted tournament commitments matter. Parents must tell the coach about absences as soon as possible, preferably before the activity. Arrive on time and remain until properly released. Repeated lateness will be discussed with the family; it is not automatically counted as a full absence.

### Excused absences

Illness, injury, school obligations, religious observances, documented family emergencies and unavoidable circumstances approved by the head coach may be excused. Give advance notice when possible. Leadership will consider hardship and accommodation needs individually. Reporting an injury or safety concern must not lead to punishment.

### No more than three unexcused absences

First absence: a parent and player conversation with a documented reminder. Second: a written warning and attendance improvement plan. Third: a final warning and review of playing time or event eligibility. A fourth unexcused absence in the season triggers a dismissal review and may result in removal. Leadership will consider the facts and any relevant circumstances before deciding; removal is not automatic.

### School comes first

Players are expected to attend school regularly, complete assignments, maintain passing grades and show respectful behavior. Families should communicate early when academic difficulties affect participation. Coaches may request relevant progress updates privately and only to support participation decisions. Players will not be publicly ranked or embarrassed over grades.

### When grades or behavior slip

The head coach will meet privately with the parent or guardian and player after a concern is reported and reasonably verified. Together they will establish a practical improvement plan, a review date and expectations for return to full participation. Support may include study time, tutoring arranged by the family and progress check-ins. Temporary game suspension may apply while safe practice continues when appropriate.

### Home behavior and continued eligibility

Parents may report serious or repeated behavior concerns that affect the player’s responsibility or participation. Coaches will discuss the concern with the family and use age-appropriate team consequences; coaches do not replace parental authority. Repeated failure to follow an agreed plan may lead to extended suspension or dismissal review. Disability-related needs, school accommodations and hardship will be considered individually.

# Coach and Volunteer Code of Conduct

### Be prepared and dependable

Complete required background screening and applicable training before working with players. Know your assigned role, arrive prepared and notify leadership promptly if unavailable. Plan organized, age-appropriate practices with skill development, clear instructions, water breaks and safe supervision. Do not leave players unattended while awaiting pickup.

### Teach with respect

Use clear correction, encouragement and consistent expectations. No profanity directed at players, humiliation, intimidation, discriminatory treatment, corporal punishment or exercise used to cause pain or shame. Never pressure an injured child to compete. Apply rules fairly, including when coaching your own child, and explain decisions respectfully.

### Protect boundaries with minors

Use observable, interruptible settings and avoid isolated one-on-one contact. Include parents or guardians in approved electronic communication with minors. Do not exchange secret messages, request secrecy, engage in sexualized communication or form inappropriate relationships. Do not transport a minor alone without documented guardian permission and organization authorization; follow any stricter safeguarding rules.

### Handle injuries and emergencies responsibly

Know emergency contacts and the activity's emergency procedures. Remove a player from activity when significant injury or suspected concussion is present and seek appropriate help. Do not diagnose injuries or substitute for medical professionals. Follow applicable medical clearance and event requirements before return. Document incidents and promptly notify the guardian and leadership.

### Communicate and protect information

Explain expectations and changes clearly to families. Discuss playing time and concerns privately, never through sideline arguments. Share player medical, academic and disciplinary information only with authorized people who need it. Follow documented media permissions and do not post another child's private details.

### Respect the organization and report concerns

Follow venue and competition rules; model sportsmanship toward officials and opponents. Do not use alcohol or impairing substances while supervising players. Obtain authorization before collecting money, making purchases or speaking on behalf of the organization. Report misconduct and unsafe conditions promptly. Suspected abuse may be reported directly to appropriate authorities; an internal review must not delay urgent protection or required reporting.

### Accountability for coaches

Coaches are subject to corrective action, temporary restriction, reassignment or removal from their role after review. Serious safety concerns may require immediate suspension of duties while reviewed. Volunteer status does not reduce these responsibilities.

# Parent and Guardian Code of Conduct

### Support your child and the team

Encourage effort, learning and sportsmanship. Let coaches provide game and practice instruction. Avoid conflicting sideline coaching, public criticism and pressure that embarrasses a child. Treat every player and family respectfully. Parents are responsible for communicating these standards to guests they bring.

### Communicate early and respectfully

Keep phone numbers, emergency contacts and authorized pickup details current. Use the organization's approved communication channels. Notify coaches about absences, relevant health restrictions, school concerns and travel changes. Discuss disagreements privately at a suitable time, away from children and active play. Threats, profanity, harassment and confrontations are prohibited.

### Provide reliable transportation and pickup

Arrive on time and follow check-in and release procedures. Stay reachable during activities and arrange prompt pickup. Tell staff in advance when an authorized adult will pick up your child. A player may leave only after staff confirm the approved release. Do not assume a coach can provide transportation or remain indefinitely after an event.

### Understand travel and supervision

This is a travel program. Review each trip's dates, costs, transportation, hotel plan and supervision arrangements before committing. Families may select personal transportation when permitted and must complete the required transportation acknowledgment. Parents remain responsible for their child unless the organization and guardian have accepted a specific written supervised arrangement. Follow hotel rules, curfews and chaperone directions.

### Honor financial commitments

Read payment terms, deadlines, fundraising rules and cancellation terms in the separate financial documents. Ask questions before agreeing to costs and discuss payment concerns privately with leadership. Participation fees do not automatically include every tournament or any travel expense. Do not collect money or conduct a fundraiser in the team's name without authorization.

### Protect children and privacy

Do not post another child's personal details or images without appropriate permission. Follow team media consent choices. Do not use group chats to shame children, debate a child's discipline or attack officials and other families. Promptly share safety concerns with leadership or appropriate authorities.

### Accept adult accountability

A parent or guest may be asked to stop disruptive behavior, leave an activity or accept attendance restrictions. Serious or repeated adult misconduct may lead to a family participation review. Leadership will consider measures that protect children and limit unnecessary disruption to the player's development.

# Discipline Concerns and Fair Review

### How corrective action works

Our goal is to correct conduct, protect participants and keep expectations consistent. For ordinary violations, the usual sequence is a verbal conversation, written warning and corrective plan, temporary suspension, then dismissal review. The response depends on age, severity, prior incidents and safety. Serious misconduct may move directly to temporary removal or dismissal review.

### Immediate safety action

Violence, credible threats, abuse, weapons, severe harassment or other serious safety concerns may require immediate removal from an activity or restriction of duties while reviewed. Staff should arrange safe supervision or release for minors and contact emergency services when necessary. Immediate protection does not replace a fair review of the facts.

### Suspension and return

Leadership will explain the concern to the family privately. A suspension notice should identify the conduct, duration or return conditions, whether practice is permitted and a review date. The player or adult must complete the stated corrective steps before returning. Families may provide relevant information and request clarification.

### Dismissal and reconsideration

Organization leadership makes dismissal decisions after reviewing available information and relevant circumstances. Families will receive the decision and reason in writing. A parent or guardian may request one written reconsideration within seven calendar days of the decision and provide information they believe was missed. Payment or refund questions follow the separate written agreement; dismissal does not create a new refund rule.

### Raise concerns without retaliation

For routine concerns, contact the assigned coach privately, then Chris Davis if unresolved or if the concern involves that coach. Email troublemakers504@gmail.com. A complaint involving leadership may also be raised directly with the applicable league or event organization. Child safety concerns may always be reported directly to appropriate external authorities. No one must complete an internal process before reporting suspected abuse or an emergency.

### Privacy and consistent treatment

Academic, medical and disciplinary matters are handled discreetly. Information may be shared when necessary to protect a child, review a concern or meet reporting duties. We cannot promise absolute confidentiality. Good-faith complaints and safety reports must not lead to retaliation. Staff involved in a complaint should disclose conflicts and avoid reviewing their own conduct alone.

### Updates and controlling rules

Leadership will communicate material handbook changes in writing. Applicable law and controlling league, event, safeguarding and facility requirements must be followed. Families will receive event-specific instructions as needed. This handbook establishes conduct expectations; it does not replace medical permissions, liability documents or trip-specific consent.

# Handbook Acknowledgment and Agreement

We have received and reviewed the NOLA Troublemakers Code of Conduct and Organization Handbook. We understand the mission and the responsibilities that apply to players, coaches, parents, guardians and team guests.

We understand that academics, home and school behavior, attendance, sportsmanship and safety affect participation. No more than three unexcused absences are permitted without a dismissal review; a fourth may result in removal after review. Violations may lead to an improvement plan, suspension, restrictions or dismissal as explained in this handbook.

We understand that travel participation requires advance planning and separate written arrangements. Team fees do not automatically cover all tournaments, transportation, hotels, meals or other travel costs. We will review the separate budget, payment and trip documents before accepting those commitments.

We agree to use respectful communication, follow applicable rules, report safety concerns and cooperate with reasonable corrective steps. Signing confirms receipt and understanding; it does not replace separate consent forms or waive a child's legal rights.

### Player and Parent or Guardian

Player full name: _____

Division: 7–8U ____ 9–10U ____ 11–12U ____ 13–14U ____

Player signature when age appropriate: _____ Date: _____

Parent or guardian name: _____

Parent or guardian signature: _____ Date: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

### Coach or Volunteer Acknowledgment

Coaches and volunteers: I understand the duties in this handbook, including screening, safe supervision, professional boundaries, respectful coaching and reporting concerns. I agree to follow these standards and applicable safeguarding requirements.

Coach or volunteer name and role: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Team use: Received by _____ Date _____

# NOLA Troublemakers




## Trouble Ain’t for Everybody.

### NOLA’s Most Wanted.

Building athletes. Developing leaders. Representing New Orleans.

**7–8U ● 9–10U ● 11–12U ● 13–14U**

troublemakers504@gmail.com

Instagram @troublemakersflagfootballteam

**2027–2029**