

# **COACHES' CODE OF ETHICS**

## **AND EXPECTED BEHAVIORS**

### **I WILL PLACE THE EMOTIONAL AND PHYSICAL WELL-BEING OF MY PLAYERS AHEAD OF A PERSONAL DESIRE TO WIN.**

#### ***Expected Behavior:***

- Using appropriate language in appropriate tones when interacting with players, league officials, game officials, parents and spectators.
- Treating all players, league officials, game officials, parents and spectators with dignity and respect.
- Playing all players according to the equal participation rules established by the league and abiding by the spirit of those rules.

### **I WILL TREAT EACH PLAYER AS AN INDIVIDUAL, REMEMBERING THE LARGE RANGE OF EMOTIONAL AND PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT FOR THE SAME AGE GROUP.**

#### ***Expected Behavior:***

- Recognizing the differences of each child and treating each player as an individual while demonstrating concern for their individual needs and well-being.
- Encouraging all players, regardless of skill level, to be included as a member of the team and to remain involved in sports.
- Recognizing that some physical tasks, drills and demands are not appropriate for all youth regardless if they are close in age.
- Recognizing that youth may vary greatly in physical, social and emotional maturation and considering these factors when setting up competitions and when interacting with them as a group.

### **I WILL DO MY BEST TO PROVIDE A SAFE PLAYING SITUATION FOR MY PLAYERS.**

#### ***Expected Behavior:***

- Maintaining a high level of awareness of potentially unsafe conditions including but limited to dangerous weather, inadequate field maintenance, and faulty equipment.
- Protecting players from sexual molestation, assault, physical or emotional abuse and understanding appropriate means to report such instances when suspected.
- Seeing that all players are provided with adequate adult supervision while under the coach's care.

### **I WILL PROMISE TO REVIEW AND PRACTICE THE BASIC FIRST AID PRINCIPLES NEEDED TO TREAT INJURIES OF MY PLAYERS.**

#### ***Expected Behavior***

- Keeping basic first aid supplies (ice pack/bandaids) available in all practice and game situations.
- Recognizing and administering proper basic first aid to an injured player and not returning players to activity if they are compromised by injury.
- Demonstrating concern for an injured player, notifying parents and cooperating with medical authorities for severely injured athletes.

### **I WILL DO MY BEST TO ORGANIZE PRACTICES THAT ARE FUN AND CHALLENGING FOR ALL MY PLAYERS.**

#### ***Expected Behavior:***

- Establishing practice plans that are interesting, varied, productive and aimed at improving all players' skills and individual abilities.
- Devoting appropriate time to the individual improvement of each player.
- Conducting practices of reasonable length and intensity appropriate for the age and conditioning of the players.

### **I WILL LEAD BY EXAMPLE IN DEMONSTRATING FAIR PLAY AND SPORTSMANSHIP TO ALL MY PLAYERS.**

#### ***Expected Behavior:***

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- Adopting the position, teaching and demonstrating that it is our basic moral code to treat others as we would like to be treated.
- Exhibiting gracious acceptance of defeat or victory.
- Abiding by and supporting the rules of the game and league as well as the spirit of the rules.
- Using the influential position of youth coach as an opportunity to demonstrate, promote, teach and expect sportsmanship and fair play

**I WILL NOT CHEAT OR ENGAGE IN ANY FORM OF UNETHICAL BEHAVIOR THAT VIOLATES LEAGUE RULES**

***Expected Behavior:***

- Teaching only appropriate skills, techniques and strategies of the sport and never encouraging or utilizing improper methods for the purposes of gaining an unfair advantage.
- Displaying respect for the sport by being honest in all dealings with players, parents, officials and league administrators.
- Respecting and abiding by the rules set forth in the program and never engaging in, or promoting, any form of unethical behavior in an attempt to circumvent established rules and policies.
- Instilling in players that skills are learned and developed through continual practice and hard work, and that the use of performance-enhancing drugs is a form of cheating that has no place in youth sports

**I WILL PROVIDE A SPORTS ENVIRONMENT FOR MY TEAM THAT IS FREE OF DRUGS, TOBACCO, AND ALCOHOL, AND I WILL REFRAIN FROM THEIR USE AT ALL YOUTH SPORTS RELATED EVENTS.**

***Expected Behavior:***

- Being alcohol and drug free at all team activities or in the presence of players.
- Refraining from the use of any type of tobacco products at all team activities or in the presence of your players.
- Refraining from providing any type of alcohol, drug or tobacco products to any of your players.
- Encouraging parents to refrain from the public use of tobacco products or alcohol at team activities.

**I WILL BE KNOWLEDGEABLE IN THE RULES OF EACH SPORT THAT I COACH, AND I WILL TEACH THESE RULES TO MY PLAYERS.**

***Expected Behavior:***

- Becoming knowledgeable, understanding and supportive of all applicable game rules, league rules, regulations and policies.
- Teaching and requiring compliance of these rules among players.

**I WILL USE COACHING TECHNIQUES THAT ARE APPROPRIATE FOR EACH OF THE SKILLS THAT I TEACH**

***Expected Behavior:***

- Teaching techniques that do not enhance a risk of injury to players and opponents.
- Discouraging illegal contact or intentional dangerous play and administering swift and equitable discipline to players involved in such activity.

**I WILL REMEMBER THAT I AM A YOUTH SPORTS COACH, AND THAT THE GAME IS FOR CHILDREN AND NOT ADULTS.**

***Expected Behavior:***

- Maintaining a positive, helpful and supportive attitude.
- Exercising your authority/influence as a coach to control the behavior of the fans and spectators.
- Accepting and adhering to all league rules and policies related to the participation of adults and youth.
- Placing the emphasis on fun and participation while encouraging children to do their best.