

COACHES CODE OF CONDUCT AND ETHICS

As part of the certification process coaches will pledge to abide by the following Code of Conduct and Ethics:

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

Expected Behavior

- Include all players in team activities without regard to race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, body type, national origin, ancestry, disability, ability, or any other legally protected classification.
- 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 the spirit of those rules.
- Encouraging youth to participate in other sports and activities to promote all aspects of their development.
- Allowing reasonable absences from practice to effect playing time.

2. 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 youth may vary greatly in physical, social, and emotional maturation and considering these factors when setting up practices, and during games.
- Recognizing that some physical tasks, and drills are not appropriate for all ages.

3. 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.
- Correcting or avoiding unsafe practice or playing conditions.
- Requiring appropriate safety equipment necessary to protect all players.
- Protecting players from sexual, physical, and/or emotional abuse.
- Provided the best possible care and supervision while under the coach's care.

4. 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 available in all practice and game situations.
- Recognizing and administering proper first aid to an injured player.
- Demonstrating concern for an injured player, notifying parents and league coordinators, and cooperating with medical authorities.

- Protecting the players' well-being by removing them from activity when injured and not returning them to activity if they are compromised by injury.

5. 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.

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

Expected Behavior

- Using appropriate actions, and language in appropriate tones when interacting with players, league officials, game officials, parents, and spectators.
- Teaching, and demonstrating that it is our basic moral code is to treat others as we would like to be treated.
- Abiding by, and supporting the rules of the game as well as the spirit of the rules.
- Providing an environment conducive to fair and equitable competition.
- Using the influential position of youth coach as an opportunity to promote, teach and expect sportsmanship and fair play.

7. 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 4REC YOUTH SPORTS EVENTS.

Expected Behavior

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

8. 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.

9. I WILL USE THOSE COACHING TECHNIQUES APPROPRIATE FOR EACH OF THE SKILLS THAT I TEACH.

Expected Behavior

- Teaching techniques that create sound fundamentals for all sports, and reduce the risk of injury to both the coach's own players and their opponents.
- Discouraging illegal contact or intentionally dangerous play, and administering swift and equitable discipline to players involved in such activity.

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

Expected Behavior

- Maintaining a positive, helpful, and supportive attitude.
- Exercising your authority/influence to control the behavior of the fans and spectators.
- Exhibiting gracious acceptance of defeat or victory.
- Accepting and adhering to all league rules and policies related to the participation of adults and youth.
- Fulfilling the expected role of a youth coach to adopt a "children first" philosophy.
- Allowing and encouraging the players to listen, learn, and play hard within the rules.
- Placing the emphasis on fun and participation.

VIOLATIONS OF THE CODE OF CONDUCT/ETHICS

Possible Actions Include:

- Written warning to the coach of violation.
- Probationary period to show improvement
- One Game Suspension
- Multiple Game Suspension
- Season Suspension
- Permanent Withdrawal of Certification, thus inability to continue as a 4Rec coach

Factors that might suggest a more lenient sanction include:

- First offense
- Remorse with clear and apparent desire to reform
- Other good coaching attributes that support the 4Rec Youth Sports Philosophy
- History of dedication to providing a positive youth sports environment

Factors that might suggest a harsher sanction include:

- Child endangerment
- Violation of law
- Prior violations
- Lack of remorse
- Number of Ethics violated
- Number of Expected Behaviors violated
- Breach of duties as a role model
- Extraordinarily poor judgment around children
- Lying or not being forthcoming

Parents/Spectators Code of Ethics & Conduct

In order for a program to be truly successful it takes the cooperation of players, coaches, officials, league administrator, spectators, and especially parents. Parents and spectators are expected to read, understand, and abide by the following Code of ethics and conduct.

Violation of the Code of Ethics & Conduct may result in removal from the activity, on a temporary or extended basis.

Parents/Spectators Code of Ethics:

1. I will encourage good sportsmanship by demonstrating positive support for all players, coaches, and officials at every game, practice, or other youth sports event.
2. I will place the emotional and physical well-being of my child ahead of a personal desire to win.
3. I will insist that my child play in a safe and healthy environment.
4. I will support coaches and officials working with my child, in order to encourage a positive and enjoyable experience for all.
5. I will demand a sports environment for my child that is free of drugs, tobacco, and alcohol and will refrain from their use at all youth sports events.
6. I will remember that the game is for youth – not adults.
7. I will do my very best to make sure youth sports remain fun for my child.
8. I will ask my child to treat other players, coaches, fans, and officials with respect regardless of race, sex, creed, ability, or religion.
9. I will require that my child's coach be trained in the responsibilities of being a youth sports coach and that the coach upholds the Coaches' Code of Ethics.

Participants Code of Ethics

1. I will demonstrate and encourage good sportsmanship from fellow players, coaches, officials, and parents at every game and practice.
2. I will attend every practice and game that I can, and will notify my coach if I cannot attend.
3. I will expect to receive a fair and just amount of playing time.
4. I will do my very best to listen and learn from my coaches.
5. I will treat my coaches, other players, officials, and fans with respect regardless of race, sex, creed, or abilities, and will expect to be treated accordingly.
6. I deserve to have fun during my sports experience and will alert parents or coaches if it stops being fun.
7. I deserve to play in an environment that is free of drugs, tobacco, and alcohol and expect adults to refrain from their use at all youth sports events.
8. I will encourage my parents to be involved with my team in some capacity because it is important to me.
9. I will remember that sports are an opportunity to have fun.

ADMINISTRATORS AND OFFICIALS

The 4Rec Youth Sports Program is dedicated to raising community standards in youth sports. In order to do so, we must hold ourselves accountable by staying well-informed on current topics and trends in recreational youth sports industry. Training administrators and officials is essential in maintaining a level of professionalism and credibility in youth sports.

Administrators and Officials are expected to understand and pledge to abide by the following Code of Ethics:

ADMINISTRATOR'S CODE OF ETHIC:

____ I hereby pledge to provide support to all youth sports programs in my community, to administer youth sports programs with professionalism and in the best interest of all the children involved by following the Youth Sports.

- I will run youth sports programs for the children involved, not the adults.
- I will ensure that I am knowledgeable in the area of youth sports administration.
- I will do my best to provide a safe playing situation for all participants.
- I will provide support for coaches, officials, and parents to provide a positive, enjoyable experience for all.
- I will require all coaches to be trained in the responsibilities of being a volunteer within the organization and that they uphold the NYSCA Codes of Ethics.
- I will implement and enforce the National Standards for Youth Sports.
- I promise to stay informed about current issues involving youth sports.

OFFICIALS CODE OF ETHICS

- I will encourage good sportsmanship by demonstrating positive support of all players, coaches, fellow officials, and league administrator at all times.
- I will ensure that I am knowledgeable of the rules of each sport I officiate, and apply those rules fairly to all participants, teams, and coaches.
- I will not allow personal friendships and associations to influence my decisions during a contest.
- I will refrain from the use of profanity, and insulting behavior towards coaches, players, and spectators.
- I will refrain from the use of tobacco and alcohol products when in the youth sports environment.
- I will remember that youth sports are an opportunity for children to learn and have fun.
- I will place the safety of the participants above all else.