

# VILLAGES FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION

## Coaches Code of Conduct

This Code of Conduct was developed to ensure an environment that encourages good behavior, fair play, respect, and fun.

Villages Football Association requires all coaches to abide by a Code of Conduct, which includes the following provisions. Coaches shall:

1. Not smoke and/or use smokeless tobacco on the field.
2. Not criticize players in front of spectators, but reserve constructive criticism for later, in private, or in the presence of team members if others might benefit.
3. Accept decisions of the game officials on the field as being fair and called to the best ability of said officials.
4. Not criticize an opposing team, its players, participants, coaches, or fans by word of mouth or by gesture.
5. Emphasize that good athletes strive to be good students and that both are physically and mentally alert.
6. Strive to make every sports activity serve as a training ground for life, and a basis for good mental and physical health.
7. Emphasize that winning is the result of good "teamwork."
8. Not engage in excessive sideline coaching and shall not leave the bench area to shout instructions from the sidelines.
9. Together with team officials, be jointly responsible for the conduct and control of team fans and spectators. Any fan who becomes a nuisance and out of control will be asked to leave (see Adult Code of Conduct). Remember, as a team coach, you're responsible for your team, and fan reaction will usually be in step with your reaction.
10. Not use abusive or profane language at any time.
11. Not "pile it on;" not encourage their teams to get a commanding lead and raise the score as high as it can. In these instances, every effort shall be made to let all players play.
12. Not receive any payment, in cash or kind, for services as a coach in any VFA sport or activity.
13. Not recommend or distribute any medication, controlled or over the counter, except as specifically prescribed by participant's physician, and only with parental / guardian permission.
14. Not permit an ineligible player to participate in a game.
15. Not deliberately incite unsportsmanlike conduct.
16. Abstain from the possession and drinking of alcoholic beverages and the possession or use of any illegal substances on both the game and practice fields.
17. Remove from a game or practice any participant when even slightly in doubt about his health, whether or not as a result of injury, until competent medical advice is available.
18. Will never knowingly jeopardize the eligibility and participation of the student athlete.
19. Uphold all rules and regulations, National and local, regarding the sport in which you are participating.
20. May not create and post to social media, and, or distribute video recordings that are considered to be negative or harrasing. Including publishing negative or harrasing remarks about VFA in its entirety, Board Members, Coaches, Volunteers or opponents.

If any of these rules are broken, the League shall have the authority to impose a penalty.

- Penalties will be determined by the sports board under which the person is coaching.
- Penalties can include the coach being permanently removed (banned) from coaching / participating in that sport.
- Any **coach who has been banned from coaching / participating in a VFA sport will not be allowed to coach / participate in any other VFA sport.**