

ARTICLE IX
COACHES CODE OF ETHICS/CONDUCT

1. The term “Coach” shall include but is not limited to Head Coach, Assistant Coach(s) or any other person in a team leadership role.
2. The Coach must **never** put the value of winning over the safety and welfare of players. Winning should be the result of preparation and discipline with emphasis placed on the highest ideals and character traits.
3. Coaches shall instruct players to play within the written laws of the game and within the spirit of the game **at ALL times**.
4. Coaches shall not seek unfair advantage by teaching deliberate unsportsmanlike behavior to players.
5. Coaches should not tolerate **inappropriate** behavior from players, regardless of the situation.
6. Demands on players’ time should **never** be so extensive as to interfere with academic goals and progress. *Motivation for excellence should include academics as well as athletics.*
7. Under **no circumstances** should coaches authorize or encourage the use of medicinal or performance enhancing drugs. Players should be directed to seek proper medical attention for injuries and to follow the physician’s instructions regarding treatment and recovery. At **no** time should a player be put at risk by returning from injury prematurely or by being forced to play while injured.
8. *Adherence to all league rules and policies, especially those regarding eligibility, team formation, recruiting and guest players are **mandatory** and should **never** be violated.* It is the responsibility of **every coach** to know and understand these rules.
9. Player development and the growth of the player through participation are essential to the growth of the sport. *Additionally, the Coach must behave in such a manner that the principles, integrity, and dignity of the sport are maintained.*
10. Officials **must have** the support of coaches, players, and spectators. *Criticism of officials undermines their purpose in the game.* Coaches **must always** refrain from criticizing officials in the presence of players.
11. Comments regarding an official should be made in writing to the appropriate organization assigning the official.

Coach’s Name (printed): _____ Date: _____

Coach’s Signature: _____