

VOLLEYBALL YUKON

COACHES CODE OF CONDUCT

The position of coach is a privileged one. Coaches play a critical role in the personal as well as athletic development of their activities. Coaches must understand and respect the inherent power imbalance that exists in this relationship and must be extremely careful not to abuse it. Coaches must also recognize that they are conduits through which the values and goals of a sport organization are channeled. Thus how an athlete regards his/her sport is often dependent on the behaviour of the coach. The following Code of Conduct has been developed to aid coaches in achieving a level of behaviour that will enable their athletes to experience all the positive outcomes associated with athletic pursuits. Although this code is directed toward coaching conduct it equally applies to other members of the "Team Leadership Staff" i.e. managers, trainers, equipment personnel etc. It is assumed that these people act in cooperation with one another to construct a suitable environment for the athlete.

COACHES HAVE A RESPONSIBILITY TO:

1. Treat everyone fairly within the context of their activity, regardless of gender, place of origin, colour, sexual orientation, religion, political belief, or economic status.
2. Direct comments or criticism at the performance rather than the individual.
3. Consistently display high personal standards and project a favourable image of their sport while performing coach related responsibilities.
 - ◆ Refrain from public criticism of athlete, coaches or officials.
 - ◆ Abstain from the use of tobacco products while in the presence of children.
 - ◆ Abstain from drinking alcoholic beverages, using performance enhancing or mind altering drugs.
 - ◆ Refrain from the use of profane, insulting, harassing or otherwise offensive language.
4. Through proper risk management practices ensure that the activity being undertaken by both coaches and participants is suitable for the age, experience, ability and fitness level of the individual and educate them as to their responsibilities in contributing to a safe environment.
5. Take the personal initiative to learn respect communicate and adhere to the rules and regulations established for the sport.
6. Regularly seek ways of increasing professional development and self-awareness.
7. Communicate and cooperate with registered medical practitioners in the diagnoses, treatment, and management of medical problems. Respect the concerns these medical people have when they are considering the athletes' future health and well being and when they are making decisions regarding the athletes' ability to continue to play or train.
8. Treat members of other sport organizations with respect, both in victory and defeat and encourage all participants to act accordingly. Actively encourage all participants to uphold the rules of their sport and the spirit of such rules.
9. Attend to your coach duties, as directed, in a timely manner.
10. In the case of minors, communicate and cooperate with the parents or legal guardians, involving them in management decisions pertaining to their child's development.
11. Treat opponents and officials with due respect both in victory and defeat. Encourage other coaches to act accordingly.
12. Be aware of the role sport plays in everyones' lives and respect the pressures that may be placed on all participants including coaches as they strive to balance physical, mental, emotional and spiritual aspects of their lives.

COACHES MUST:

1. Ensure the safety of the people with whom they work.
2. At no time become intimately and/or sexually involved with their athletes. This includes requests for sexual favours or threat of reprisal for the rejection of such requests.
3. Respect athlete's dignity; verbal or physical behaviours that constitute harassment or abuse are unacceptable.
4. Never advocate or condone the use of drugs or other banned performance enhancing substances.
5. Never provide under age participants with alcohol or encourage its use.

*I have read and understand the above statements and agree to conduct myself in a manner that demonstrates the standards established in the Coaching Code of Conduct and Coaching Code of Ethics.

Coach

Witness (Association Representative)

Date

Date