



### **Coaches Code of Conduct - Youth Sports**

The YMCA believes that youth sports should offer competitive fun in a values-oriented, healthy and fair play environment. All YMCA volunteer and contracted representatives are expected to follow this code of conduct and ensure that behavior is consistent with the YMCA mission and values at all times.

#### **I WILL:**

- Provide a playing environment for my players that is safe from physical and emotional harm
- Do my best to be knowledgeable of the rules and fundamentals of the game and teach them to my players
- Complete required child abuse prevention training and attend a YMCA Coaches meeting to familiarize myself with YMCA policies, procedures and emergency response plans
- Treat each player as an individual, keeping in mind the wide range of physical and emotional development within the same age group
- Treat all children equally without respect to gender, race, religion, culture, or ability
- Be a positive role model by maintaining an attitude of respect, loyalty, patience, courtesy, tact, and maturity

- Place the emotional and physical well-being of my players ahead of any personal or parental desires to win
- Lead by example, demonstrating fair play and sportsmanship in my on- and off- field actions
- Help reinforce the mission and core values of the YMCA (caring, honesty, respect and responsibility) through my coaching and interactions with others
- Ensure my team recites the Sports Pledge before each game and shake hands with the opposing team after each game.
- Use coaching techniques that are appropriate for all the ages and skill levels present
- Seek and encourage parental participation at practices, games, and any other activities
- Respectfully control the behavior of players and parents by asking them to leave the field or sidelines should they become unruly or create an atmosphere that is not appropriate for the development of good sportsmanship
- Ensure that behavior issues and/or disputes are handled calmly
- I will encourage the use of and honor the 48 hour calming down period and I will engage YMCA staff to resolve any behavior issues with other coaches, parents, participants, officials or spectators in accordance with the YMCA's disciplinary policies and procedures.
- Refrain from the use of tobacco, alcohol, and drugs at all youth sports practices, games, and other events and I will remind others to do the same
- As a coach, know, abide share and monitor others for compliance of the following YMCA's Child Abuse Prevention standards.
- Utilize positive guidance techniques
- Refrain from profanity, inappropriate jokes, and sharing of intimate details of my personnel life

**I WILL NOT:**

- Subject any child to neglect or to mental, verbal, physical, or sexual abuse
- Leave any child unsupervised
- Be alone with any child where we cannot be observed by others
- Transport any children in my vehicle (unless my own child is involved in a neighborhood carpool)
- Attempt to contact or foster a relationship outside of the YMCA program with any child
- Give any child gifts or special favors
- Hold extra or special practices that are not sanctioned by the YMCA.

The above code of conduct has been established for the safety and well-being of each participant. Failure to adhere to this code of conduct could result in termination of program privileges at all branches.