

## **YMCA Sports Program Coaches Code of Conduct**

By reading and signing this code of conduct, all coaches from our team agree to abide by the following rules of conduct as established by the YMCA. If any of these rules are broken, the Youth Sports Committee shall have the authority to impose the appropriate penalty.

### **Responsibilities:**

1. Will not have any use of drugs, alcohol, or tobacco in any form at any games or practices while participating in any YMCA events, in or out of town.
2. Will not recommend or distribute any medication, controlled or over the counter, except as specifically prescribed by participant's physician.
3. Will not receive any payment, in cash or kind, for services as a coach in the YMCA sports program. This includes any coach, expert, or consultant regardless of his/her status.
4. Will dress in a clean and proper manner while coaching, as coaches are an example to their players.
5. Will remove from a game or practice any player when even slightly in doubt about his/her health, whether or not as a result of injury, until competent medical advice is available.
6. Will contact the parents and proper YMCA officials immediately to report all injuries.
7. Will emphasize "teamwork". *Teams win, lose, and learn together.*
8. Will organize practices that are fun and a positive learning environment for the players.
9. Will use appropriate coaching techniques for each of the skills that I teach.
10. Will teach progressive improvements in technical proficiency and tactical knowledge while promoting self-esteem in all players.
11. Will not engage in excessive sideline coaching and shall not leave the bench area to shout instructions from the sideline.
12. Will be punctual to all practices and games.
13. Will not leave practices or games until parents or an authorized adult has picked up ALL players.
14. Will keep parents informed of all events scheduled and communicate with parents regarding player progress in program.
15. Will not adjust game schedule without consent from the proper YMCA official.
16. Will be knowledgeable in the rules of the sport and will teach the rules to my players.
17. YMCA emphasizes to coaches that our teams should be good examples to all players and parents. We will show respect to everyone, both on and off the field. It is the duty of the coach, as leader, and duty of his/her assistants to teach their team these values.
18. Will uphold all rules and regulations administered by the YMCA as well as the Christian principles in which the YMCA embodies.

### **Fairness:**

19. Will not seek an advantage beyond superior skill, tactics, and fitness.
20. Will not encourage my team to get a commanding lead and raise the score as high as it can. In these instances, every effort shall be made to demonstrate good sportsmanship.
21. Will not permit an ineligible player to participate in a game or practice.
22. Will not recruit players for the purpose of establishing an elite team.
23. Will not recruit YMCA players for an "elite or select" team that would result in removing them from future YMCA youth sports programs.

24. Will lead by example in demonstrating fair play and sportsmanship to all players and other coaches.
25. Will encourage safe, competitive, fair play, and reward improvement and effort, regardless of skill.
26. Will make every effort to ensure that each player participates in at least half of each game except for warranted disciplinary actions or in the case of injury (which should be discussed with the proper YMCA officials). Examples of behaviors that may result in a disciplinary action include, but are not limited to, missing practices without notifying coaches, poor sportsmanship, or disrespectful behavior. If a coach denies a child playing time without adequate reason, that coach is subject to a review and possible penalty by the advisory committee.

**Respect:**

27. Will encourage player to use the equipment provided by the administrators and return it in good condition at the end of the season.
28. Will not allow demeaning songs or chants from the players.
29. Will teach the players sportsmanship and proper on-field conduct.
30. Will teach the players to respect themselves, the opponent, the official, and their teammates/coach.
31. Will not criticize or use intimidating behavior toward any player(s), coach(s), and/or official(s).
32. Will accept decisions of game officials as being fair and called to the best of their ability. Should a coach have specific concerns or questions regarding officiating, they should be addressed in writing to the appropriate advisory committee.
33. Will instruct parents in proper behavior at games, including sideline respect for the referee, the other team, and all coaches. I understand that spectator control for our team is MY responsibility, and if the official must take measures to control the game, he/she will take them up with me as coach, since he/she cannot take them up with parents.

This Code of Conduct is established to serve as a guideline for behavior. It is not intended to be an all-inclusive, exhaustive list of rules. The YMCA is based on Christian principles; therefore, Christian behavior is expected at all times. Violations may be grounds for disciplinary actions and/or dismissal from coaching responsibilities as determined by the appropriate advisory committee.

**I have read and agree to abide by the Coaches Code of Conduct, as detailed above.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Coach's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Coach's Printed Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**The YMCA Sports program thanks you for your commitment to kids!**