

## Coaches' Code of Conduct

**I will place the emotional and physical well-being of my players ahead of a personal desire to win.**

**Expected Behavior:**

- Using appropriate language in appropriate tones when interacting with players, league officials, game officials, parents, and spectators.
- Including all players in team activities without regard to race, religion, color, sex, sexual orientation, body type, national origin, ancestry, disability, ability, or any other legally protected classification.
- Treating all players, league officials, game officials, parents, and spectators with dignity and respect.
- Playing all players according to the equal participation rules established by the league and the spirit of those rules.
- Encouraging youth to participate in other sports and activities to promote all aspects of their development.
- Allowing reasonable absences from practice.

**I will treat each player as an individual, remembering the large range of emotional and physical development for the same age group.**

**Expected Behavior:**

- Recognizing the differences of each child and treating each player as an individual, while demonstrating concern for their individual needs and well-being.
- Encouraging all players, regardless of skill level, to be included as a member of the team and to remain involved in sports.
- Recognizing that some physical tasks, drills, and demands are not appropriate for all youth.
- Recognizing that youth may vary greatly in physical, social, and emotional maturation and considering these factors when setting up competitions and when interacting with youth.

**I will do my best to provide a safe playing situation for my players.**

**Expected Behavior:**

- Maintaining a high level of awareness of potentially unsafe conditions.
- Protecting players from sexual molestation, assault, and physical or emotional abuse.
- Correcting or avoiding unsafe practice or playing conditions.
- Using appropriate safety equipment necessary to protect all players.
- Seeing that the players are provided with adequate adult supervision while under the coach's care.

**I will promise to review and practice the basic first aid principles needed to treat the injuries of my players.**

**Expected Behavior:**

- Keeping basic first aid supplies available in all practice and game situations.
- Recognizing and administering proper first aid to an injured player.
- Demonstrating concern for an injured player, notifying the youth's parents, and cooperating with medical authorities.
- Protecting the players' well-being by removing them from activity when injured and not returning them to activity if they are compromised by injury.

**I will do my best to organize practices that are fun and challenging for all my players.**

**Expected Behavior:**

- Establishing practice plans that are interesting, varied, productive, and aimed at improving all players' skills and individual abilities.
- Devoting appropriate time to the individual improvement of each player.
- Conducting practices of reasonable length and intensity appropriate for the age and conditioning of the players.

**I will lead by example in demonstrating fair play and sportsmanship to all my players.**

**Expected Behavior:**

- Adopting the position, teaching, and demonstrating that it is our basic moral code to treat others as we would like to be treated.
- Abiding by and supporting the rules of the game as well as the spirit of the rules.
- Providing an environment conducive to fair and equitable competition.
- Using the influential position of youth coach as an opportunity to promote, teach and expect sportsmanship and fair play.

**I will provide a sports environment for my team that is free of drugs, tobacco, and alcohol, and I will refrain from their use at all youth sports events.**

**Expected Behavior:**

- Being alcohol and drug free at all team activities or in the presence of players.
- Refraining from the use of any type of tobacco products at all team activities or in the presence of your players.
- Refraining from providing any type of alcohol, drug, or tobacco products to any of your players.
- Encouraging parents to refrain from the public use of tobacco products or alcohol at team activities.

**I will be knowledgeable in the rules of each sport that I coach, and I will teach these rules to my players.**

**Expected Behavior:**

- Becoming knowledgeable, understanding, and supportive of all applicable game rules, league rules, regulations, and policies.
- Teaching and requiring compliance of these rules among players.

**I will use those coaching techniques appropriate for each of the skills that I teach.**

**Expected behavior:**

- Teaching techniques that reduce the risk of injury to both the coach's own players and their opponents.
- Discouraging illegal contact or intentional dangerous play and administering swift and equitable discipline to players involved in such activity.

**I will remember that I am a youth sports coach, and that the game is for children and not adults.**

**Expected Behavior:**

- Maintaining a positive, helpful, and supportive attitude.
- Exercising your authority/influence to control the behavior of the fans and spectators.
- Exhibiting gracious acceptance of defeat or victory.
- Accepting and adhering to all league rules and policies related to the participation of adults and youth.
- Fulfilling the expected role of a youth coach to adopt a "children first" philosophy.
- Allowing and encouraging the players to listen, learn, and play hard within the rules.
- Placing the emphasis on fun and participation.

The CIBL is dedicated to raising the standard of service to youth in sports through the enforcement of this Code of Conduct among its membership.

This Code of Conduct defines the expectations for adults serving as coaches in youth sports. It provides guidance for responding with resolve to protect all children from the psychological, emotional, physical, or social abuses that can be perpetrated against them by youth sport coaches.

It is the duty of the CIBL to be responsible for certifying the coaches to respond to complaints lodged against an NYSCA member coach that has allegedly violated the Code of Ethics.

It is the duty of the CIBL to be responsible that all coaches follow the Code of Conduct. If a violation does occur, the league will follow the "Complaint Against a Coach Procedure" which is outlined on the following page. The purpose of this procedure is to hear the complaints and to determine what, if any, action should be taken towards correcting the member coach's behavior. In order to provide the CIBL the flexibility to take appropriate action when a coach is found to have violated the Coaches' Code of Conduct, a range of possible review committee actions has been developed as guidelines.

Division: Boys / Girls Grade Level: \_\_\_\_\_

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Print Name

Church: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date:

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_