



COACHING CODE OF CONDUCT

**DRAFT Document for Approval at
Fall AGM 2018**

**FYI : This document is inspired by NCCP Coaching practices.*

The athlete/coach relationship is a privileged one. Coaches play a critical role in the personal as well as athletic development of their athletes. They 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 behavior of the coach. The following Code of Conduct has been developed to aid coaches in achieving a level of behavior which will allow them to assist their athletes in becoming well-rounded, self confident and productive human beings.

COACHES HAVE A RESPONSIBILITY TO:

1. Treat everyone fairly within the context of their activity, regardless of gender, place of origin, color, sexual orientation, religion, political belief or economic status.
2. Direct comments or criticism at the performance rather than the athlete.
3. Consistently display high personal standards and project a favorable image of their sport and of coaching.
 - a. Refrain from public criticism of fellow coaches; especially when speaking to the media or recruiting athletes.
 - b. Abstain from the use of tobacco products or alcohol while in the presence of her/his athletes and discourage their use by athletes.
 - c. Refrain from the use of profane, insulting, harassing or otherwise offensive language in the conduct of his/her duties.
4. Ensure that the activity being undertaken is suitable for the age, experience, ability and fitness level of the athletes.
5. Communicate and cooperate with registered medical practitioners in the diagnosis, treatment and management of their athlete's medical and psychological problems. Consider the athlete's future health and well being as foremost when making decisions regarding an injured athlete's ability to continue playing or training.
6. Recognize and accept when to refer athletes to other coaches or sport specialists. Allow athlete's goals to take precedence over their own.
7. Regularly seek ways of increasing professional development and self-awareness.
8. Treat opponents and officials with due respect, both in victory and in defeat; encourage athletes to act accordingly. Actively encourage athletes to uphold the rules of their sport and the spirit of such rules.
9. In the case of minors, communicate and cooperate with the athlete's parents or legal guardians, involving them in management decisions pertaining to their child's development.
10. In an educational institution, be aware of the academic pressures placed on student-athletes and conduct practices and games in a manner so as to allow academic success.

COACHES MUST:

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

Coach's name _____ signature _____

witnessed by _____ date _____