COACHES CODE OF CONDUCT

- Separate professional behavior from emotional behavior.
- Treat all coaches, umpires, players, and parents in this and other organizations with RESPECT.
- Keep your private lives private.
- Be professional with your social media postings. Consider creating a team page to separate your personal and professional comments.
- Seek help from those that are strong in areas that you are not, i.e., accounting/fundraising, coordinating, event planning, etc.
- Mend broken fences. Problems often occur, but few repair the damage after it's done. Show our players how to restore relationships.
- Your parents and players will be as professional as YOU are.

I, _____, on the _____ date of _____ have read the above Code of Conduct and will abide by its principles.

Coach Code of Conduct

The main principles that are covered in the codes are: Competence, Trustworthiness, Respect, Fairness, Caring, Integrity, and Responsibility.

Competence: Coaches only use methods and techniques that they are confident in teaching, where they possess the qualifications for. The coach avoids using methods that are a risk to health and safety of the athletes. A coach seeks continuous personal improvement. The coach keeps up with the latest developments in coaching and teaching. The coach only uses training methods that will benefit the athletes.

Trustworthiness: The coach has to inspire trustworthiness in athletes. The coach keeps to the rules of confidentiality and discusses with others matters concerning the athlete only if he/she has discussed with the athlete beforehand which information he/she is allowed to share with a third party. The coach involves athletes in decisions that concern them and their future.

Respect: A coach shows respect towards others, one self, the sport, the organization and property. Respect towards others means to show tolerance and to treat everyone equally regardless of their sex, age, race, language, socioeconomic status, ethnic origin, disability, or religion and to respect their rights and dignity. A coach respects the decisions made by others (officials and opponents). The coach treats each athlete as an individual with own rights and needs. The coach respects promises and commitments and keeps to them, both written and verbal. The coach respects the fact that the athlete is entitled to seek opinions and help from a third party. The coach respects the privacy of the athlete. The coach avoids any form of harassment (sex, gender, disability) towards the athlete.

Fairness: The coach is fair to the athletes. The coach provides each athlete with the same opportunities and training times. A coach shows no favoritism to one athlete over the other. A coach teaches athletes to be fair (fair-play) to their teammates and opponents. The coach has to refrain from using any unfair and illegal training methods (including performance enhancing drugs). The coach has to forbear from allowing any bribery to his person or his athletes.

Caring: A coach provides feedback to the athletes, and avoids too much negative feedback. A coach cares for the well-being of the athletes but avoids any kind of intimate contact with the athletes. The coach ensures that the training and competition requirements meet the abilities of the individual athlete in fitness and age. The coach instructs the athlete to a healthy lifestyle and explains the lifelong benefits of sport. The coach leads the athlete towards becoming a mature individual who is able to take care of him-/herself, make decisions, and show responsibilities for their own behavior and performance in all life situations. The coach has to consider the wishes and opinions of the athletes. The coach has to carefully consider how to deal with the media and always keep in mind what is best for the athlete. The coach cares for the well-being of the athletes and animals he/she is in charge of.

Integrity: A coach should be a person of integrity, keeping to their personal values in word and action at all times. A coach does not take any bribes and discourages any notion of the athlete towards taking bribes or displaying non-sportsmanship like behavior. A coach has to keep a high moral standard and has to follow it at all times. The coach acts as a role-model.

Responsibility: The coach promotes the values of team spirit and fair-play and that winning is only one part of athleticism but that fun and enjoyment are more important. The coach has the responsibility to keep up with the latest developments in training and coaching techniques and makes sure that the training facilities are in good and appropriate conditions. The coach also has to keep in regular contact with the parents or legal guardians about training schedules, possible trips, rules and regulations, as well as with doctors, physiotherapists and other people involved in the athletic development of the athlete. Coaches should not over train the athlete, but have the athletes well-being at all times as a priority, as well as keeping them interested in the sport. Coaches promote sportsmanship on and off the field.. The coach should also show responsible behavior towards natural resources and the environment and should motivate the athletes to take the same care.

Appropriate Touch: Instruction may require touching a player. The coach should be careful to only touch areas that are not personal. A coach should never touch a player in celebration, instruction, or play that could be characterized as sexual in any way. For example, a coach should never slap a player on the bottom.

Appropriate Company: Avoid placing yourself in a 1 to 1 situation with a child. Always have another adult present. A coach and a player should always meet in the open, so the public can view the meeting. A coach and player should avoid meet privately in a closed space. For example, a coach should avoid transporting only 1 player in a car, or a coach should not visit a player in a hotel room.

I, _____, on the _____ date of _____ have read the above Code of Conduct and will abide by its principles.