



Code of Behaviour

Coaches

Introduction

School Sport is an extracurricular activity that allows student athletes to participate in friendly competition between school communities. The School Sport Nova Scotia motto “Education through Sport” highlights the relationship between the ideals of school and the ideals of sport.

The Code of Behaviour for School Sport Nova Scotia aligns with the Provincial Code of Conduct Policy (<https://www.ednet.ns.ca/docs/provincialschoolcodeofconduct.pdf>) and the Inclusive Education Policy (<https://www.ednet.ns.ca/docs/inclusiveeducationpolicyen.pdf>) of the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development.

The coach/student-athlete relationship is a privileged one. Coaches play a critical role in the personal and athletic development of their students. Therefore, coaches are expected to model the fundamentally positive aspects of school sport and project a favourable image of sport and coaching. Coaches are responsible for their own behaviour as well as their student athletes.

A. Inclusion and Equity

1. SSNS expects coaches to lead and set an example for inclusion. We expect teams to be positive and welcoming environments for all. Discrimination, prejudice, stereotypes, bigotry, biased or harassing behaviour has no place in school sport.
2. SSNS expect coaches to be leaders and not engage in bullying, taunting opposing team members or demeaning other students or spectators.
3. Coaches may not use any racialized language, demeaning nicknames or name calling, including profanity, vulgar, racist, sexist, or homophobic language, obscene gestures, offensive remarks, or other actions that demean individuals, teams or communities in person, to the media or on any private or public social media site. The use of hate speech or hate symbols is unacceptable.
4. Coaches may never engage in or condone any type of hazing, as defined by the imposition of strenuous, dangerous and or humiliating tasks as part of a program and/or initiation.

B. Respect

5. Coaches must treat people with respect and demonstrate good sportsmanship and ethical conduct. This includes other coaches, parents, opposing teams, spectators, and students.

6. Coaches must treat officials with respect and not complain, harass or demean officials in any way, including on social media.
7. When visiting other schools, coaches are to ensure students respect the property and equipment.
8. Coaches will respect the rules and policies of School Sport Nova Scotia, Regional Centres for Education and the member school.

C. Health

9. Coach should always put the physical and mental health of the student athlete as the first priority.
10. Coaches must ensure the sport environment is always safe for all participants
11. Abstain from the use of tobacco products and alcohol while in the presence of student-athletes, and discourage their use by student-athletes

D. Leadership

12. Coaches are expected to set an example. Coaches must report racist, sexist, homophobic or hazing incidents.

The Coach agreement:

I acknowledge that, as a SSNS coach, I have significant responsibilities to my student athletes, school community, and School Sport. I agree to behave as a respectful member of my team and in a manner that positively represents the values of school sport. I understand that I must exercise good judgment and conduct myself with honesty, integrity and respect for others at all times.

I understand and agree to each of the expectations listed above and understand that a failure to abide by these expectations may result in suspension or dismissal from school sport.

Coach Signature/Date