

COACH: Code of Conduct

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

Expected Behavior:

Use appropriate language and tone when interacting with players, league officials, game officials, parents, and spectators.

Include all players in team activities with regard to race, religion, gender, sexual orientation, body type, national origin, ancestry, ability or disability, or any other legally protected classification.

Treat all players, league officials, game officials, parents, and spectators with dignity and respect.

Encourage youth to participate in other sports and activities in order to round out their physical development.

Allow for reasonable absences from practice.

- 2. I will treat each player as an individual, keeping in mind the wide range of emotional and physical development possible with any given age group.**

Expected Behavior:

Recognize that each child develops at a different pace and demonstrate concern for his/her individual needs and well-being.

Encourage all players, regardless of skill level, to be included as team members and remain involved in sports.

Recognize that some physical tasks, drills, and demands are not appropriate for all children.

Recognize that children vary greatly in physical, social, and emotional maturity and consider these factors when setting up competitions and interacting with players.

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

Expected Behavior:

Maintain a high level of awareness about conditions that could be unsafe for the players.

Protect players from sexual molestation, assault, and physical or emotional abuse.

Correct or avoid unsafe practices or playing conditions.

Use appropriate safety equipment necessary to protect all players.

See to it that players are provided with adequate adult supervision while in your care.

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

Expected Behavior:

Keep basic first aid supplies readily available at all practices and games.

Recognize the need for, and administer, first aid to all injured players.

Demonstrate concern for an injured player, notify parents, and cooperate with medical authorities.

Protect an injured player's well-being by removing him/her from activity and not returning him/her to play if he/she is compromised by injury.

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

Expected Behavior:

Establish practice plans that are interesting, varied, productive, and aimed at improving all players' skills and individual abilities.

Devote appropriate time to the individual improvement of each player.

Conduct practices of reasonable length and intensity appropriate to the age and conditioning of players.

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

Expected Behavior:

Teach and demonstrate by example the basic moral code of treating others as we would like to be treated.

Abide by, and support, the rules of the game, as well as the spirit of the rules.

Provide an environment conducive to fair and equitable competition.

Use the position of coach to promote, teach, demonstrate, and demand good sportsmanship and fair play.

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

Expected Behavior:

Be alcohol- and drug-free at all team activities, or in the presence of players.

Refrain from the use of any type of tobacco products at team activities, or in the presence of the players.

Refrain from providing any type of alcohol, drug, or tobacco products to players.

Encourage parents to refrain from the public use of tobacco products at team activities.

8. I will be knowledgeable in the rules of basketball and will teach these rules to my players.

Expected Behavior:

Become knowledgeable, understanding, and supportive of all applicable game rules, league rules, regulations, and policies.

Teach players these rules and require compliance.

9. I will use appropriate coaching techniques to teach my players the skills of the game.

Expected Behavior:

Teach techniques that reduce the risk of injury to your players and their opponents.

Discourage illegal contact, or intentionally dangerous play, and administer swift and equitable discipline to players involved in such activity.

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

Expected Behavior:

Maintain a positive, helpful, and supportive attitude.

Exercise your authority/influence to control the behavior of spectators.

Exhibit gracious acceptance of defeat or victory.

Accept and adhere to all league rules and policies related to the participation of adults and youth.

Fulfill the expected role of a youth coach to adopt a “children first” philosophy.

Allow and encourage players to listen, learn, and play hard within the rules.

Place the emphasis on fun and participation.