

JUNIOR BISON CLUB VOLLEYBALL COACH CODE OF CONDUCT



The athlete/coach relationship is a privileged one. Coaches play a critical role in the personal as well as athletic development of their athletes. You must understand and respect the inherent power imbalance that exists in this relationship and must be extremely careful not to abuse it. As coaches you must also recognize that you are conduits through which the values and goals of our organization are channeled.

The following Code of Conduct has been developed to aid coaches in achieving a level of behavior which will allow you to assist your athletes in becoming well-rounded, self-confident and productive human beings.

AS COACHES YOU HAVE A RESPONSIBILITY TO:

- Treat everyone fairly within the context of their activity, regardless of gender, place of origin, race, sexual orientation, religion, political belief or economic status.
- Direct comments or criticism at the performance rather than the athlete.
- Consistently display high personal standards and project a favourable image of the sport and of coaching.
 - Refrain from public criticism of fellow coaches; especially when speaking to the media or recruiting athletes.
 - Abstain from the use of alcohol or tobacco products while in the presence of athletes and discourage use by your athletes also.
 - Refrain from the use of profane, insulting, harassing or otherwise offensive language in the conduct of your duties.
- Ensure that the activity being undertaken is suitable for the age, experience, ability and fitness level of the athletes and educate athletes as to their responsibilities in contributing to a safe environment.
- Communicate and co-operate with registered medical practitioners in the diagnoses, treatment and management of their athletes' medical and psychological problems. Consider the athletes' future health and well-being as foremost when making decisions regarding an injured athletes' ability to continue playing or training.
- Treat opponents and officials with respect, both in victory and defeat and encourage athletes to act accordingly. Actively encourage athletes to uphold the rules of their sport at all times.
- Communicate and co-operate with athlete's parents or legal guardians, involving them in management decisions pertaining to their child's development.

AS COACHES YOU MUST:

- Ensure the safety of the athletes you work with.
- At no time become intimately and/ or sexually involved with your athletes. This includes requests for sexual favours or threat of punishment for the rejection of such requests.
- Respect athlete's dignity; verbal or physical behaviors that constitute harassment or abuse are unacceptable (definition of harassment is attached).
- Never advocate or condone the use of drugs or other banned performance enhancing substances.
- Never provide athletes with alcohol.

DEFINITION OF HARASSMENT

Harassment takes many forms but can generally be defined as behavior including comments and/ or conduct which is insulting, intimidating, humiliating, hurtful, malicious, degrading or otherwise offensive to an individual, or group of individuals, or which creates an uncomfortable environment.

Harassment may include:

- written or verbal abuse or threats
- sexually oriented comments
- racial or ethnic slurs unwelcome remarks, jokes, innuendoes, or taunting about a person's body, attire, age, marital status, ethnic or racial origin, religion etc.
- displaying of sexually explicit, racist or other offensive or derogatory material
- sexual, racial, ethnic or religious graffiti
- practical jokes which cause awkwardness or embarrassment, endanger a person's safety, or negatively affect performance
- unwelcome sexual remarks, invitations or requests whether indirect or explicit, or intimidation
- leering (suggestive staring), or other obscene or offensive gestures
- condescension, paternalism or patronizing behavior which undermines self-respect or adversely affects performance or working conditions
- physical conduct such as touching, kissing, patting, pinching, etc.
- vandalism
- physical assault

I agree to act in a professional, responsible, sportsmanlike manner at all times as outlined in the above Code of Conduct. I understand that if I violate any of the above guidelines I may be suspended or removed from the program without payment.

_____ Coach Name (printed) _____ Date

_____ Coach Signature