

Coaches' Pledge



Coach: I hereby state that I will:

- Place the emotional and physical well-being of my players ahead of any personal desire to win.
- Remember to treat each player as an individual, acknowledging the large spread of cognitive, physical and emotional development for the same age group.
- Do my very best to provide a safe, fun, inclusive and organized environment for my players.
- Do my best to organize practices that are fun and challenging for all my players.
- Lead by example in demonstrating fair play and sportsmanship to all my players.
- Be knowledgeable in the rules and teach those rules to my players.
- Use those coaching techniques appropriate for each of the skills that I teach.
- Remember that I am a youth coach and that the game is for children, not adults.
- Refrain from using any tobacco or alcohol products while coaching in the presence of players.

Coach: I further understand my responsibilities are to:

- Provide accurate background information to the league.
- Understand my role and influence as a coach and to never abuse that influence.
- Understand intervention and reporting procedures of possible child abuse.
- Be an advocate of the club philosophy.
- Set expectations for the season.
- Look at the special needs of each athlete individually, gifted and not gifted.
- Keep interactions free from verbal abuse, including put-downs, trash talk and profanity.
- Motivate with praise and specific instructions.
- Avoid any use of physical punishment.
- Learn effective ways to channel frustrations and anger.
- Communicate respectfully to parents, players, referees and club administrators.

Coach: I further understand my obligation to:

- Act in the best interest of the club on player development, recruitment and retention.
- Act in the best interest of the club on parent communication and reinforcing the club philosophy.
- Communicate proactively with club administrators when any issues or conflicts arise.

Club: Likewise, the club and representatives of the club pledge to:

- Do our best to ensure coaches receive the information and training needed to be effective in the role.
- Do our best to support each coach with any issues involving players and/or parents.
- Maintain respectful communication and continue to build upon a culture of trust.

As a coach, I recognize that my failure to abide by this pledge may result in discipline, up to and including suspension or dismissal from the club.

Coach signature _____ Date: _____