

# Coaches' Code of Ethics

**As a coach for the Pittsylvania County Parks and Recreation Department, I pledge to abide by the following Code of Ethics:**

1. I will place the emotional and physical well-being of my players ahead of a personal desire to win. \_\_\_\_\_
2. I will treat each player as an individual, remembering the large range of emotional and physical development for the same age group. \_\_\_\_\_
3. I will lead by example in demonstrating fair play and sportsmanship to all my players. \_\_\_\_\_
4. I will be knowledgeable of the rules of each sport that I coach and I will teach these rules to my players. \_\_\_\_\_
5. I will do my best to provide a safe playing situation for my players. \_\_\_\_\_
6. I will do my best to organize practices that are fun and challenging for all my players. \_\_\_\_\_
7. I will provide a sports environment for my team that is free of drugs, tobacco and alcohol. \_\_\_\_\_
8. I will use coaching techniques that are appropriate for all of the skills that I teach. \_\_\_\_\_
9. I will maintain control of my emotions and I will avoid actions, language or gestures that may be interpreted as hostile or humiliating. \_\_\_\_\_
10. I will emphasize winning without boasting and losing without bitterness. \_\_\_\_\_
11. I understand that my attitude can influence players and spectators. \_\_\_\_\_
12. Neither I nor my players and spectators will address an Official before, during or after the game in a demeaning fashion. \_\_\_\_\_
13. I will be a positive role model for my team and encourage sportsmanship by showing respect and courtesy, and by demonstrating positive support for all players, coaches, officials and spectators at every game. \_\_\_\_\_
14. I will not encourage any behaviors or practices that would endanger the health and wellbeing of the athletes. \_\_\_\_\_
15. I will demand that my players treat other players, coaches, officials, and spectators with respect. \_\_\_\_\_
16. I will praise my players for competing fairly and trying hard. \_\_\_\_\_
17. I will take appropriate steps to minimize scoring in runaway games. \_\_\_\_\_
18. I will remember that I am a youth sports coach and that the game is for children and not adults. \_\_\_\_\_

**Coaches are responsible for the conduct of their players and spectators, specifically as it relates to the officials, coaches, players and spectators of the opposing team. Verbal and/or physical abuse will not be tolerated.**

**I fully understand and completely accept the standards of behavior outlined. My initials by each standard and signature below will serve as my public acknowledgment of my unconditional agreement with each standard contained in this document.**

**I realize that if at any time my behavior becomes non-compliant with any of these standards I will be subject to disciplinary action that could include, but is not limited to the following:**

- **Verbal and/or written warning by the head coach, booster club, official or Parks & Recreation Department.**
- **One or multiple game suspension.**
- **Season or multiple season suspension.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Age Division & Booster Club**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Team Name**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Date**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Coaches' Printed Name**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Coaches' Signature**