

Sharon Youth Athletic Association

Coaches Code of Conduct

Each and Every Coach and Assistant Coach pledges as follows:

- I will remember that children participate in sports to have fun, and I will work to organize practices that are fun, challenging and instructional to every player on my team.
- I will teach my team that doing one's best and working as a team are the most important goals of youth athletics.
- I will teach and abide by all rules of the game, and ensure that my players and assistant coaches do the same.
- I will never touch any player out of anger or in a forceful manner. I will not physically discipline any child on my team, even my own child. The SYAA has a zero tolerance policy regarding the physical disciplining of any child.
- No profanity or objectionable language shall be used in the presence of the children or parents at any time. Every parent has the right and responsibility to shield their child from objectionable language, and I will ensure that no assistant coach or player uses such language.
- I will be responsible for the sportsmanship of my team, and shall ensure that they conduct themselves in a sportsmanlike manner regardless of whether they win or lose.
- I will strive to develop each child's appreciation of the sport and their team, and I will allow every child the opportunity to experience all positions on the team if they desire without regard to their ability. Ultimate playing positions remain in the sole discretion of the Coach.
- I will do my part to ensure a safe environment for my players. I will not leave any child unattended following practices or games, and will contact the appropriate people in case of such an occurrence.
- I will not use alcohol, drug or tobacco products at any time in the presence of the players during any team event.
- I will provide positive feedback to all children.
- Harassment of officials, board members and players will not be permitted at any time. As a coach through the SYAA, you are responsible for and expected to conduct yourself in a manner that will honor the school's name and team. Enhance the overall objectives of the sports organization and refrain from any moral misbehavior, bad sportsmanship or interference that could adversely affect the benefits, jeopardize community standings or harm overall objectives of the SYAA and SYAA programs and their influence.
- Winning is not the primary purpose of this program. The objective of the SYAA is to provide a safe and fun environment in which the children from each of the involved communities can learn leadership skills, sportsmanship and basic fundamentals for each of the sports programs that are offered.
- A coach who is ejected from a game will submit and follow the official's decision with regards to suspension
- If charged with an offence it is the coach's responsibility to report all offenses to their sports coordinator or directly to an executive board member as soon as the offense happens.

Offenses/Discipline:

- Running up the score: A determination by the SYAA Coordinator with approval of executive board that a coach has intentionally "run up the score" shall result in probation at minimum for a first offence. Subsequent violation may result in suspension, dismissal or other appropriate action as determined by the Coordinator with approval of executive board for that sport.
- Drug/Alcohol use in the presence of players: **Suspension of one year minimum**. SYAA Executive Board has authority to lengthen term of suspension as he/she deems fit. Repeated offences shall result in permanent dismissal of the coach.
- Fighting/Cheating/Threatening of a child, coach, parent or official /Gambling on game outcome: **Suspension of one year minimum**. Coordinator with approval of executive board has authority to lengthen term of suspension as he/she deems fit. A second offence shall result in dismissal of the coach.
- Use of Objectionable/Profane Language: First Offence: Warning; Second Offence: One week Suspension; Third Offence: **Suspension of one year minimum**. Whether or not Language is "objectionable" shall be determined by the coordinator with approval of executive board for that sport.
- Physically Disciplining, Assaulting or intentional rough handling of a player, parent, coach or official: **Permanent Dismissal**.

- Ejection of Coach: Any ejection of coach from a game by an official will result an **automatic two week suspension** from practices and games, with further discipline possible depending on the reason for the ejection. A second ejection in a season shall result in an **automatic one year suspension**.
- Unsportsmanlike Conduct: First Offence: Warning; Second Offence: One week Suspension; Third Offence: **Suspension of one year minimum**. Whether or not an action or conduct is "unsportsmanlike" shall be determined by the coordinator with approval of executive board for that sport.
- Intentional or Grossly Negligent Endangerment of a player: **Suspension of one year minimum**. Whether an action is endangering to a player shall be determined by the coordinator for that sport. Coordinator with approval of executive board has authority to lengthen term of suspension as he/she deems fit.

Any Coach or Assistant Coach that has been suspended shall be suspended from coaching in ALL SYAA sports for the suspension period.

Chain of Command:

In the event that there is any disagreement with the manner in which this code is applied and/or enforced, the following chain of command shall be utilized regarding the review of any application of this code:

- (1) Head Coach of team
- (2) SYAA Sport Coordinator
- (3) SYAA Executive Board Member(s)

All Decisions of any Head Coach, SYAA Sports Coordinator or SYAA Board shall be final and will only be reviewed by the SYAA Board if the incident occurred at an SYAA/SYAA sponsored event or to ensure that the action taken was in accordance with this code and was reasonable and fair to all involved. Decisions of Coaches, Coordinators or school athletics board shall not be disturbed by the SYAA absent a clear abuse of discretion on the part of the individual applying/enforcing this code.

I have read and understand this code of conduct. I agree to abide by this code of conduct.

Coach _____ Date _____

Sports Coordinator _____ Date _____