

# Coach

Each coach must demonstrate and apply leadership, integrity, responsibility, self-control, knowledge of rules and regulations of the sport, honesty and sportsmanship at all times on and off the playing area/field/court. Because the coach represents the school, the community, the profession, the faculty and the student body, it is necessary and important to act in a responsible and professional manner at all times.

Coaches must always keep in mind the contest essentially belongs to the contestants. The primary justification for including the athletic program in the total school curriculum is based on the premise that athletics provides both physical and character values for

those who participate. Student attainment of these values rests largely with the coaching profession.

Coaching is an extension of the educational process. It is necessary for contestants, coaches and officials to relate and “communicate” when there are concerns about a rule, a regulation or any matter concerning the welfare of all concerned. The coach must show respect, maintain proper sideline conduct before, during and after the contest, thereby assuring common courtesy and honesty when and if problems arise. The coach is probably the most influential person on the playing area/field/court and his/her actions will be reflected in the actions of others

## *Code of Ethics and Responsibilities*

In the coaching profession, the primary purpose of a code of ethics is to clarify and distinguish ethical and approved professional practices from those which are detrimental and harmful. Another purpose is to emphasize and confirm values of the athletic activities programs in schools across the nation. Applied to the coaching profession, ethics help develop a standard of character in which the public has confidence. The success of the principles and standard emphasized in a code is dependent upon those for whom they have been prepared--the coach.

# Ethics of Coaching

A coach assumes certain obligations and responsibilities to the contest, contestants and all coaches. It is essential that every member of the profession be constantly aware of these obligations and responsibilities so the profession will remain honorable. Each member is to conduct him/her self in such a manner as to maintain the dignity and integrity of the profession.

Coaches should always be aware of the tremendous influence they exert. Coaches should never place the value of victory above that of instilling the highest possible ideals and character traits in the contestants. The safety and welfare of contestants should always be uppermost and must never be sacrificed for personal prestige or glory.

High school educational athletics should promote good sportsmanship. It is the responsibility of each coach to teach good sportsmanship. The coach must always set a good example of winning without boasting and losing without bitterness.

It is important that the coach's conduct reflect the principles of integrity and dignity of the school for which they are employed. School policies and the athletic program should be adhered to both in letter and spirit.

A coach should assume that all members of the coaching profession intend to follow the precepts set forth in a code of ethics. Evidence of unethical conduct should be brought openly to the attention of the school administration through prescribed channels. Sportswriters and sportscasters should not be used as an outlet for espousing ill feelings toward other coaches, contestants, officials or schools.

The essential elements in a code of ethics are honesty and integrity. Coaches whose conduct reflect those two characteristics bring credit to the coaching profession, to the contests they coach, the school and to themselves.

One of the coach's fundamental responsibilities must be to inspire the contestants to achieve academic success - not only to make good grades, but to secure a well-rounded high school education and graduate with highest possible grades. To this end the coach should be careful not to create situations where contestants are forced to choose between academic and athletic endeavors.

The coach should be thoroughly knowledgeable about the rules of the contest. Official rulebooks are to be studied and frequently reviewed. The coach is primarily responsible for teaching and interpreting the rules to contestants. The letter and spirit of rules must be respected and observed by the coach. Rules are made for the protection of contestants and in the best interest of the contest. It is the coach's responsibility to see they are observed.

Open criticism of officials, contestants, coaches or the public is unethical. Officials should always be treated in a courteous manner and have the respect and support of coaches and contestants.

The responsibility of coaches to media representatives is to provide news about teams and contestants. The press is to be treated with courtesy, honesty and respect. Coaches are to stress the importance of ethical procedures when teaching contestants how to conduct themselves on and off the contest area/field/court and on out-of-town trips

# **SELF-EVALUATION** *FOR COACHES/SPORTSMANSHIP*

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**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

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

Please complete the following evaluation and review your responses with the Athletic Director.

A. Please rate yourself in the following areas

<b>Excellent-----Needs Improvement</b>					
5	4	3	2	1	1. Emphasizes safety and injury prevention
5	4	3	2	1	2. Encourage players to play by the rules
5	4	3	2	1	3. Encourage players to respect officials
5	4	3	2	1	4. Encourage players to treat opposing teams with respect
5	4	3	2	1	5. Encourage players to react properly to spectators
5	4	3	2	1	6. Encourage players to handle winning and losing in an appropriate manner
5	4	3	2	1	7. Supervising players in a manner that helps to prevent sportsmanship problems
5	4	3	2	1	8. Providing a proper example for the players concerning sportsmanship

B. 1. The thing that I did this year that most promoted sportsmanship for our team was .....

2. The area of sportsmanship that I could most improve in as a coach would be .....

3. The biggest problem that we had this year with sportsmanship was (include your opinion, was this preventable)

4. COACH/ATHLETIC DIRECTOR COMMENTS

# **Expectations** *of the Individual Coach*

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- Keep up with current methods, and strategies in your sport.
- Maintain an appropriate, professional relationship with student athletes.
- Do not let one's ego get in the way.
- Create a positive social and emotional environment.
- Be a good role model by maintaining emotional control and by demonstrating respect for athletes, officials, and fellow coaches.
- Emphasize the physical, psychological, and social growth of the athletes.
- Encourage and reward achievement of personal and team goals and put less emphasis on the final outcome of the contest.
- Understand the principles of motivation and goal setting. Help athletes define and achieve success.
- Realize that all athletes are not created equal. Help them develop at their own pace.
- Provide guidance for successful learning.
- Provide challenging, safe, enjoyable, and successful experiences for the athletes.
- Encourage teamwork and discourage selfishness. Reward effort as much as outcome.
- Foster a love and appreciation for the sport.
- Structure practices to foster skill learning and development for all team members.
- Be positive. Give praise sincerely. Offer immediate encouragement and give corrective instruction.
- Establish clear expectations.

# Coaches

## Code of Ethics

Athletics is an integral part of the school's total educational program. All school activities, curricular and extracurricular, in the classroom and on the playing field, must be congruent with the school's stated goals and objectives established for the intellectual, physical, social, and moral development of its students. It is within this context that the following code of ethics is presented.

As an athletic coach, I understand that it is my responsibility to:

- ✓ Show respect for players, officials, and other coaches.
- ✓ Respect the integrity and judgment of game officials.
- ✓ Establish and model fair play, sportsmanship, and proper conduct.
- ✓ Establish player safety and welfare as the highest priority.
- ✓ Provide proper supervision of students at all times.
- ✓ Use discretion when providing constructive criticism and when reprimanding players.
- ✓ Maintain consistency in requiring all players to adhere to the established rules and standards of the game set forth by the school, the league, the North Coast Section, CIF and the National Federation.
- ✓ Instruct players in the safe use of equipment.
- ✓ Ensure that no pressure is placed on teachers to pass or to raise marks of athletes.
- ✓ Establish a climate wherein a student's decision to enroll in an athletic program at a postsecondary educational institution is not prejudiced by coaches or other school personnel.
- ✓ Encourage athletes to take appropriate academic courses and to strive for the highest possible level of scholastic achievement.
- ✓ Discourage any athlete from the use of illegal and nonprescription drugs, anabolic steroids, or any substance to increase physical development or performance that is not approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration, Surgeon General of the United States or American Medical Association.
- ✓ Observe professional ethics and avoid recruitment of athletes from schools/service areas.
- ✓ Follow the rules of behavior and the procedures for crowd control as established by the Board of Education and the league in which the school participates.

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**Coach's Signature**

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**School**

INSERT  
SCHOOL  
LOGO

# “Doing What’s Right

## Coaches

In order for sports to serve a purpose in the educational system, coaches have a responsibility to help students learn the positive educational benefits from athletics. Examples are: responsibility, self-discipline, sportsmanship, teamwork, work ethic, integrity, and personal sacrifice for the good of others.

## WHAT YOU CAN DO:

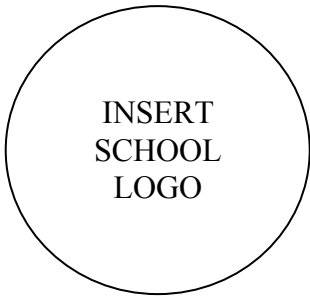
- According to athletes and students, the coach is the single most influential person in determining participant behavior. Take that responsibility very seriously.
- Always set a good example for participants and fans to follow, exemplifying the highest moral and ethical behavior.
- Instruct participants in proper sportsmanship responsibilities and demand that they make sportsmanship a top priority. Eliminate hazing as an acceptable practice.
- Respect the judgment of contest officials, abide by the rules of the event and display no behavior that could incite fans.
- Treat opposing coaches, participants, officials and fans with respect. Shake hands with the officials and opposing coaches in public.
- Develop and enforce penalties for participants who do not abide by sportsmanship standards.
- Establish player safety and welfare as the highest priority.

# SPORTSMANSHIP. . .and The Coach

Each coach must demonstrate and apply leadership, integrity, responsibility, self control, knowledge of rules and regulations of the sport, honesty and sportsmanship at all times on and off the playing area/field/court. Because the coach represents the school, the community, the profession, the faculty and the student body, it is necessary and important to act in a responsible and professional manner at all times.

**T**he coach should .....

- ✓ Always set a good example for others to follow, model winning graciously and losing with dignity.
- ✓ Teach the values of honest effort in conforming to the spirit as well as the letter of the rules.
- ✓ Instruct the players in their sportsmanship responsibilities.
- ✓ Discipline those students who display unsportsmanlike behavior; if necessary, forfeit their privilege of representing their school.
- ✓ Be an accommodating host to opponents; treat them as guests.
- ✓ At every opportunity, remind the student body that the opposing team is their guest, and that as host, they should be polite and courteous.
- ✓ Provide opportunities for social interaction among coaches and players of both teams when appropriate.
- ✓ Nominate officials for NCS playoffs that have demonstrated the highest ethical standards.
- ✓ Respect the judgment of the officials and their interpretation of the rules. Public protests can only lead to similar behavior by the players and spectators.
- ✓ Publicly shake hands with the officials and opposing coach before the contest. After the contest, congratulate opposing coach and team on a good effort.



A member school of  
NORTH COAST SECTION, CIF

**Sportsmanship: *The only way to win***

This form is to be used to report any instance where a coach, player, team, official, or spectator(s) has done an exemplary job of **Sporting A Winning Attitude** at a North Coast Section, league or pre-season interscholastic athletic contest. Prompt reporting of good sportsmanship will help promote and encourage those associated with interscholastic competition. Please forward to the principal of the school whose team displayed the instance of good sportsmanship.

*Please type or print clearly. Include school name when reporting on an individual.*

Report on: Individual \_\_\_\_\_ School \_\_\_\_\_

Contest Date \_\_\_\_\_ Sport \_\_\_\_\_ Boys/Girls \_\_\_\_\_

Contest between \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_  
Home School Visiting School

Specific incident being reported:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

(Attach additional sheet if necessary)

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Print Name \_\_\_\_\_ Position \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Please send a copy to the North Coast Section Office, P.O. Box 2907, Dublin CA 94568, a copy to the principal named above; and retain one copy for your files.