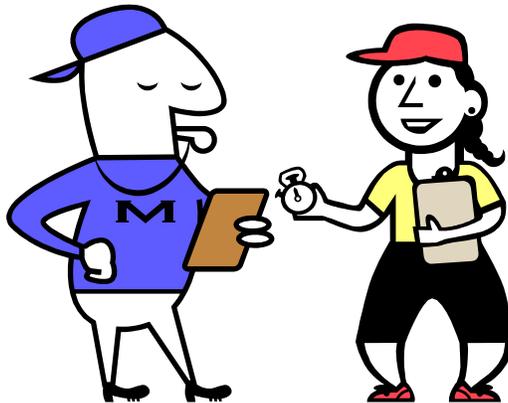


Coaches' Code of Ethics

- I will place the emotional and physical well being of my players ahead of a personal desire to win.
- I will treat each player as an individual, remembering the large range of emotional and physical development for the same age group.
- I will do my best to provide a safe playing situation for my players.
- I promise to review and practice basic first aid principals needed to treat injuries of my players.
- I will do my best to organize practices that are fun and challenging for all my players.
- I will lead by example in demonstrating fair play and sportsmanship to all my players.
- I will provide a sports environment for my team that is free of drugs, tobacco, and alcohol, and I will refrain from their use of all youth sports events.
- I will be knowledgeable in the rules of each sport that I coach, and I will teach these rules to my players.
- I will use those coaching techniques appropriate for all the skills that I teach.
- I will remember that I am a youth sports coach, and that the game is for children and not adults.



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Coaches Guidelines

The following guidelines have been established as a guide for volunteer coaches of sports teams participating in the Westfield Parks and Recreation Department sponsored leagues. It is hoped that by following these guidelines you will have a worthwhile experience.

Conduct on the field:

- Shall be that of a mature and responsible adult.
- Shall set a good example for the youth.
- Shall not use foul or abusive language.
- Shall not consume alcoholic beverages or take drugs.
- Shall not smoke on the fields or any facility where a Westfield Parks and Recreation program is held.

Conduct with the youth:

- Treat all youths equally.
- Follow a hands-off disciplinary policy with all youth.

Contact with referees, umpires and league officials:

- Treat them with respect
- Be sure you know the rule before questioning the official. (better off not saying anything at all)
- Only the coach or assistant coach of the teams shall discuss matters with an official.
- Shall not question judgment calls.

Conduct in general:

- As a coach you are a leader
- Set the example.
- Treat everyone, as you would like to be treated.
- You must exercise control over fans, within your capacity as a coach.
- You are expected to follow the established rules for your league.
- Deal in a fair and ethical manner with your fellow coaches.
- Be courteous and considerate of your player's parents.
- If you have a complaint about a coach regarding their conduct, please notify the Parks and Recreation department staff as soon as possible at 572-6263. If you do not bring it to the attention of the department then we will not be able to resolve the situation.

All coaches are required to complete a CORI/SORI (Criminal background check) every season they volunteer to coach. Mandatory and also, read and complete the Conflict of Interest Law forms each year. A coach's manual of drills and skills are handed out at coaches meetings.

Tips for coaching

Laugh a lot- laugh with them, not at them. If the kids see you enjoying yourself, chances are good, they will too.

An uptight, screaming coach does little to foster a positive attitude. It does nothing to improve their skills and develop them as a player. What **does** is give **you** (and those around you) a headache. **Enjoy the opportunity you are given!**

Promote good sportsmanship- Do not permit temper tantrums on your part, on the kids' part, or your assistant coach's part, or on your parent's part. **Teach by example**

Be the person they remember (Positively) Twenty years from now chances are each of us remembers a coach or teacher from our past, that we can recall fondly. It is also highly likely that we can recall a least one individual that causes us to inwardly cringe when we remember our past experience with them. Strive to be a pleasant memory, and a positive influence. **Build memories**

Keep expectations realistic- You're probably going to have between 12-14 kids on your team. The best you can hope for is that half of them will understand the game fairly well by the end of the season, and if that is the case, thank your lucky stars. Do not expect to take your team and "whip them into a finely tuned offensive and defensive machine." Anticipate teaching key skills, developing players and keeping them from getting hurt.

See it for what it is!

Most of all play all your players fairly and do not play favorites in every game. Every child should have equal playing time.

Have fun and enjoy!