



NNYYSL Coaches Code of Ethics

Coaching is a privilege offered and granted to individuals who perform capably during a NYSWYSA sanctioned and affiliated associations' activities. It carries with it an obligation for each individual coach to uphold and promote the stated goals and objectives. Any conduct considered unethical or a conflict of interest shall be subject to discipline by the club/league.

Article I – Responsibilities to Players

1. The coach shall never place the value of winning over the safety and welfare of players.
2. Coaches shall instruct players to play within the written laws of the game and within the spirit of the game at all times.
3. Coaches shall not seek unfair advantage by teaching deliberate unsportsmanlike behavior to players.
4. Coaches shall not tolerate inappropriate behavior from players regardless of the situation.
5. Demands placed on players' time shall never be so extensive as to interfere with academic goals or progress.
6. Coaches must never encourage players to violate club/league or NYSWYSA eligibility or players rules or policies.
7. Coaches shall direct players to seek proper medical attention for injuries and to follow the physician's instructions regarding treatment and recovery.

Article II – Responsibility to Club/League

1. Adherence to all club/league and NYSWYSA rules and policies, especially those regarding eligibility and team formation and member association rules and policies that are mandatory and should never be violated. It is the responsibility of each coach to know and understand these rules.
2. Any problems that cannot be resolved between coaches should be referred to the appropriate club/league officer or committee.

Article III – Responsibilities to the Laws of the Game

1. Coaches shall be thoroughly acquainted with and demonstrate a working knowledge of the Laws of the Game.
2. Coaches are responsible to assure their players understand the intent as well as the application of the Laws.
3. Coaches must adhere to the letter and spirit of the Laws of the Game.
4. Coaches are responsible for their players' actions on the field and must not permit them to perform with intent of causing injury to opposing players.
5. The coach must constantly strive to teach good sporting behavior.

Article IV – Responsibility to Officials

1. Officials must have the support of coaches, players and spectators. Coaches must always refrain from criticizing officials in the presence of players or spectators.
2. Professional respect, before, during and after the game must be mutual. There must be no demeaning dialogue or gestures between official, coach or player.
3. Coaches must not incite players or spectators or attempt to disrupt the flow of the game.
4. Comments regarding an official should be made in writing to the appropriate organization assigning the official.

Article V – Responsibility of Public Relations

1. Coaches have a responsibility to promote the game of soccer to the public. Comments and critiques of governing bodies, teams, coaches, players, parents or media must be positive and constructive.
2. Coaches have the responsibility to assist their players in conducting themselves properly when in public, when representing their team, club/league and the NYSWYSA.
3. Coaches must not attempt to influence their club/league, the NYSWYSA or other clubs/leagues in political or financial dealings outside the framework of their own rules and bylaws.
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Article VI– Other Responsibilities

1. The behavior of coaches must be such as to bring credit to themselves, their organization (s), NYSWYSA and the sport of soccer.
2. While the concept of rivalry is wholly embraced, it cannot take precedence over exemplary professional conduct.
3. The attitude and conduct of the coach towards officials, players, spectators and coaches must be controlled and undemonstrative.
4. It is unacceptable for a coach to have any verbal altercation with an official, opposing coach or bench before, during or after the game.
5. Coaches must use their influence on spectators that demonstrate intimidating and/or unacceptable behavior towards officials, player(s) and opposing team members.

Article VII– Penalties (Removal/Ejection) and Fines:

1. **First Coach, Assistant, or Manager Removal in a Season:** Suspension for a minimum of two (2) game and appropriate fines as noted in the annual schedule of fines. The coach must sit out all League games until they have served the suspension for the team on which the offense was recorded. Individual serving suspension is not allowed near the field of play
2. **Second Coach, Assistant, or Manager Removal in a Season:** Suspension for a minimum of Six (6) games and appropriate fines as noted in the annual schedule of fines. The Coach must sit out all League games until they have served the suspension for the team on which the offense was recorded. Individual serving suspension is not allowed near the field of play.
3. **Third Coach, Asst, or Manager Removal in a Season:** Suspension for a minimum of one (1) calendar year from the date of the infraction and appropriate fines as noted in the annual schedule of fines. The coach must request reinstatement from the Board for play in subsequent seasons. If specifically recommended by the game official on the game report, the Board may elect to impose a longer suspension.

4. Red Cards may not be appealed to the Board and will be mailed by the Referee Association to the team's Club President.
5. Red Card for players totals for the purpose of suspension from the League are based on League games.
6. A coach/player ordered off the field of play for misconduct (red Card) cannot be replaced with another player and the team must play short for the duration of the match.
7. Any coach, assistant coach or team manager ejected from the game shall immediately leave the field and area of play. Failure to do so may result in disciplinary action by the Board.
8. Coach, asst. or manager ejections receive double the red card fine and suspension. This includes having to sit out all League games until the team on which the offense occurred have been sat out. Individual serving suspension is not allowed near the field of play
9. **FINES AND PASS:** A coach who is ejected is subject to a \$50 Fine and must have served his/her suspension with all NNYYSL League games before they are allowed to resume coaching. The pass may be obtained by contacting the League Secretary identified on league web site to pick up the pass and pay the fine.
10. Assaulting the Game Officials, Spectators, Players. There shall be zero tolerance of any coach, assistant, player, parent or fan verbally or physically threatening, harassing or assaulting a referee or each other before, during or after a match. Individuals displaying such behavior shall be dealt with in the most severe disciplinary measures available, up to and including criminal charges if necessary.

By signing this document I certify that I understand that should I breach this code of ethics, either club or league may impose sanctioning consistent with their documented procedures.

Name of Coach (Print): _____

Signature of Coach: _____

Date: _____

Date Received by Club/League: _____