

Athletic Coaches Ethics and Responsibilities

I. Code of Ethics for Coaches

It shall be the duty of each coach to:

- A. emphasize the proper ideals of sportsmanship, ethical conduct and fair play.
- B. eliminate all conditions which tend to destroy the best values of the games.
- C. stress the values derived from playing the game fairly.
- D. show cordial courtesy to visiting teams and officials.
- E. establish a good relationship between visitors and hosts.
- F. respect the integrity and judgment of sports officials.
- G. achieve a thorough understanding and acceptance of the rules of the game and the standards of eligibility of participants.
- H. encourage leadership, use of initiative, and good judgment by the players on the team.
- I. recognize that the purpose of athletics is to promote the physical, mental, moral, social and emotional well-being of the individual players.
- J. remember that an athletic contest is only a game-not a matter of life or death for player, coach, school, official, fan, community.

II. Obligations and Responsibilities of Coaches

- A. Accept all the responsibilities inherent in an assignment.
- B. Remember that every coach is basically a teacher and adult dealing with students.
- C. As a teacher and coach:
 1. Organize and plan.
 2. Follow, lead, or do both. Recognize and accept your responsibilities fully.
 3. Use, to the best advantage, all the knowledge and abilities of everyone officially connected with the sport.
 4. Use good judgment in regard to comments, methods and techniques in order to avoid pressure to win.
 5. Change, invent, vary and experiment, so that practice and games are interesting, challenging and satisfying to the players.
 6. Conduct yourself in a professional manner, so that criticism does not develop in any of the following areas:
 - a. Moral conduct.
 - b. Support and defense of fellow staff members.
 - c. Personal conduct in front of players and fans.
 - d. Be particularly alert to the physical well being of the players.
 7. Provide a good program of public and professional relations with:
 - a. Other teachers and other departments in the school.
 - b. Parents - be warm, friendly - express and show appreciation.
 - c. General public.
 - d. Other schools, coaches, players and fans.

D. Meet current coaching accreditation standards.

END OF POLICY

Legal Reference(s):

[ORS 244.010](#)

[ORS 244.020](#)

[ORS 244.040](#)

[ORS 244.120](#)

[ORS 244.130](#)

[ORS 244.350 - 244.380](#)

[ORS 294.311 \(22\)](#)

[ORS 294.336](#)

[ORS 332.016](#)

[ORS 332.107](#)

[ORS 659.340](#)

[OAR 584-020-0040](#)

Oregon Government Standards and Practices Laws, A Guide for Public Officials, Oregon Government Standards and Practices Commission (Dec. 1993).