

## Code of Conduct for Coaches



Coaches, we are a key to the establishment of ethics in Soccer. Our concept of ethics and our attitude directly affects the behavior of players under our supervision. We are, therefore, expected to pay particular care to our moral, and the moral aspect of conduct of our players

Coaches, we need to be aware that almost all of our everyday decisions and choices of actions have ethical implications.

It is natural that winning constitutes a basic concern for coaches. This code is not intended to conflict with that. However, the code calls for coaches to disassociate themselves from a "win-at-all-costs" attitude.

Increased responsibility is requested from all of us involved in coaching young people. The health, safety, welfare and moral education of young people must be our first priority, before the achievement or the reputation of the club, school, coach or parent.

Set out below is the Epic Soccer Club Code of Conduct (These will be the standards that we will adhere by as coaches of EPIC). Coaches must adhere to all guidelines laid down at all times.

Our Code of Conduct:

1. Coaches must respect the rights, dignity and worth of each and every person and treat each equally within the context of the sport.
2. Coaches must place the well-being and safety of each player above all other considerations, including the development of performance.
3. Coaches must adhere to all guidelines laid down by governing bodies.
4. Coaches must develop an appropriate working relationship with each player based on mutual trust and respect.
5. Coaches must not exert undue influence to obtain personal benefit or reward.
6. Coaches must encourage and guide players to accept responsibility for their own behavior and performance.
7. Coaches must ensure that the activities they direct or advocate are appropriate for the age, maturity, experience and ability of players.
8. Coaches should, at the outset, clarify with the players (and, where appropriate, parent) exactly what is expected of them and also what they are entitled to expect from their coach. Coaches shall respect and support contest officials. The coach shall not indulge in conduct which would incite players or spectators against the officials. Public criticism of officials or players is unethical. Treat contest officials with respect; don't complain about or argue with official calls or decisions during or after an athletic event. Whenever necessary, take the time

- to calmly and rationally discuss any situation or call made during a game with a referee or league official.
9. Refrain from criticism of other coaches
  10. Respect Parents — treat all parents with respect; be clear about your expectations, goals and policies and maintain open lines of communication.
  11. Profanity — don't engage in or permit profanity or obscene gestures during practices, sporting events, on team events, or any other situation where the behavior could reflect badly on the Team, and Club. **Coaches must not use or tolerate inappropriate language.**
  12. Coaches must always promote the positive aspects of the sport (e.g. fair play) and never condone violations of the Laws of the Game, behavior contrary to the spirit of the Laws of the Game or relevant rules and regulations or the use of prohibited substances or techniques.
  13. Coaches must consistently display high standards of behavior and appearance.
  14. Coaches Before and after contests, should meet and exchange cordial greetings to set the correct tone for the event.
  15. Coaches must not compromise their performers by advocating measures that could constitute unfair advantage. They must not adopt practices to accelerate performance improvement that might jeopardize the safety, total well-being and future participation of the performer. Coaches must never advocate or condone the use of prohibited drugs or other banned performance enhancing substances.
  16. Coaches must ensure that the activities, training and competition programs they advocate and direct are appropriate for the age, maturity, experience and ability of the individual performer.
  17. Coaches must treat opponents with due respect, both in victory and defeat, and should encourage their performers to act in a similar manner. A key role for a coach is to prepare performers to respond to success and failure in a dignified manner.
  18. Coaches must accept responsibility for the conduct of their performers and discourage inappropriate behavior in training, competition, and away from the sporting arena.

I acknowledge that this Code of Conduct has been adopted by the Epic Soccer Club and agree that if I fail to abide by the aforementioned rules and guidelines, I will be subject to disciplinary action by the Executive Members of the Epic Soccer Club that could include, but is not limited to the following:

- Warning
- Probation
- Game suspension
- Season suspension
- Removal from program

In the event a situation rises which calls for interpretation, EPIC will take into account the best interest of each athlete, the entire team, the EPIC Soccer Club, and the integrity of the soccer game. The EPIC Executive Members decision will be final.

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Please print name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

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Coach's Signature