



Coach/Team Official Code of Conduct

The athlete/coach relationship is a privileged one. Coaches play a critical role in the personal, as well as athletic development, of the athletes they coach. They must understand and respect the inherent power imbalance that exists in this relationship and must be extremely careful not to abuse it. Coaches must also recognize that they are conduits through which the values and goals of a sport organization are channeled - how an athlete regards his/her sport is often dependent on the behaviour of the coach. The following Code of Conduct, has been developed to aid coaches in achieving a level of behaviour which will allow them to assist their athletes in becoming well-rounded, self-confident and productive people.

- Soccer is a game for happiness, fun and life lessons. A coach's objective, ultimately, is to instill a love of and passion for the game/sport.
- Coaches must place the well-being and safety of each player above all other considerations, including the development of performance.
- Coaches must respect the rights, dignity and worth of every person and treat each equally. Officials, opposing teams and spectators are to be treated with respect and honor. Officials' decisions and/or comments by opposing teams/spectators are to be accepted and bereft of ANY comment (verbal or non-verbal) regardless. 🤝 In soccer, as in life, treat others, as you would have them treat you.
- Coaches must develop an appropriate working relationship with each player based on mutual trust and respect. Coaches must NOT exert undue influence to obtain personal benefit or reward. Coaches should minimize/eliminate shouting from the sidelines, focus on encouragement and speak to players individually/in small groups.
- Coaches must encourage and guide players to accept responsibility for their own behavior and performance.
- Coaches must ensure at the activities they direct or advocate is appropriate for the age, maturity, experience and ability of players.
- Coaches should, at the outset, clarify with the player (and, where appropriate, their parents) exactly what is expected of them and what they are entitled to expect from their coach.
- Coaches must co-operate fully with other specialists (e.g. other coaches, officials, sports scientists, doctors, physiotherapists, etc.) in the best interests of the player.



- Coaches must always promote the appropriate Code of Conduct and positive aspects of the sport (e.g. fair play) to players, parents and spectators alike. 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.
- Coaches must consistently display high standards of behavior and be a role model for players, parents, and spectators.
- Coaches must adhere to all guidelines laid down within the Constitution and the Rules of both BC Soccer and CMFSC.