

COACH'S CODE OF CONDUCT

School District No. 38 (Richmond)

The relationship between a coach and a student athlete is a privileged one. Coaches play a critical role in the personal and athletic development of student athletes. They are expected to model the fundamentally positive aspects of school sports and must recognize that they are the conduits through which the values and goals of school sports are channeled. Consequently, a coach's conduct must at all time exemplify and promote the values and purposes of the school district and a high level of sportsmanship.

Although athletic activities are extracurricular, because they occur within the school context they are intended to be consistent with and support the school district's purposes as articulated in Policies 100 (Statement of Philosophy), 101 (Goals and Objectives) and 102 (Diversity and Inclusion).

A coach must not exploit his/her privileged relationship with students for personal, ideological, material or other advantage.

Coaches are responsible for their own behaviour as well as that of their student athletes. This Code of Conduct has been developed to aid coaches in achieving a level of behaviour that will allow them to assist their student athletes in becoming well-rounded, self confident and productive human beings.

- Coaches shall recognize that school sport is an extension of the classroom, with moral and legislative obligations required of the coach at all times.
- Coaches shall uphold the rules and regulations of BC School Sports, the Richmond Secondary Schools Athletic Association and applicable Sport Commission.
- Coaches shall actively uphold the rules of the sport, the spirit of the rules of the sport, and encourage student-athletes to do the same.
- Coaches shall fulfill all league, exhibition, invitational, play-off and championship competitive and event obligations, in accordance with Richmond Secondary Schools Athletic Association policy, Vancouver and District Inter-High School Athletic Association, Sport Commission policy or Tournament Organizer agreements.
- Coaches shall treat all participants fairly and equitably, by refraining from discriminating against any student-athlete with respect to race, colour, ancestry, place of origin, religion, family status, physical or mental disability, gender or sexual orientation.
- Coaches shall respect the judgment and interpretation of officials without gesture or argument, and require student-athletes to do the same.

- Coaches shall not use foul, profane, harassing or offensive language or gestures in the conduct of coaching duties.
- Coaches shall not use physical force of any kind in the conduct of coaching duties.
- Coaches shall not, either directly or indirectly, encourage a student to attend a particular school for the purpose of participating in interschool sport.
- Coaches shall not, under any circumstances, endorse, recommend or suggest the use of Performance Enhancing Drugs or Supplements by any student-athlete.
- Coaches shall abstain from the use of tobacco products and alcohol while in the presence of student-athletes, and discourage their use by student- athletes.
- Coaches shall not, under any circumstances, require or imply that a student must be involved in any summer program or club program as part of their obligation to participate on a school team.
- Coaches shall not, under any circumstances, require or imply that a student cannot or should not participate in any BC School Sports approved sport of their choice in the season preceding and/or succeeding the coach's particular season-of-play.
- Coaches shall not, under any circumstances, start pre-season tryouts or practices to the detriment of any in-season sport.
- Coaches shall direct comments or criticism at the performance rather than the athlete.
- Coaches shall ensure that the activity being undertaken is suitable for the age, experience, ability and fitness level of the athletes and educate athletes as to their responsibilities in contributing to a safe environment.
- Coaches shall be aware of the academic pressures placed on student athletes and conduct practices and games in a manner so as to allow academic success.
- Coaches shall ensure an environment for student athletes that is free of harassment. Harassment takes many forms but can generally be defined as behaviour, including comments and/or conduct, that is insulting, intimidating, humiliating, hurtful, malicious, degrading or otherwise offensive to an individual or group of individuals or which creates an uncomfortable environment. Harassment may include:
 - written or verbal abuse or threats;
 - sexually oriented comments;
 - racial or ethnic slurs;
 - unwelcome remarks, jokes, innuendoes, or taunting about a person's body, attire, age, marital status, ethnic or racial origin, religion etc;
 - displaying of sexually explicit, racist or other offensive or derogatory material;

- sexual, racial, ethnic or religious graffiti;
- practical jokes which cause awkwardness or embarrassment, endanger a person's safety, or negatively affect performance;
- unwelcome sexual remarks, invitations or requests whether indirect or explicit, or intimidation;
- leering (suggestive staring), or other obscene or offensive gestures;
- condescension, paternalism or patronizing behaviour that undermines self-respect or adversely affects performance or working conditions;
- physical conduct such as touching, kissing, patting, pinching, etc.;
- vandalism; or
- physical assault.

Coach's Declaration

I have read and understand the above statements and agree to conduct myself in a manner that promotes and demonstrates the standards established in the Coach's Code of Conduct. If ever in doubt as to the action required of me as a coach I will seek the guidance of the Athletic Director or the principal.

Coach's name

Coach's Signature

Date

The original of this agreement is to be kept on file at the school. The coach shall retain a copy and a copy shall also be provided to the employee sponsor and the Athletic Director.