

Coach Code of Conduct

NCL Youth Lacrosse appreciates your commitment as a coach to helping and working with the youth of our community. As coaches, we should all recognize the profound effect our actions may have on our youth lacrosse participants. In order to promote a positive, fun, and healthy environment, the Board of the NCL has adopted the following Coach's Code of Conduct, which shall be agreed to by all coaches and assistant coaches participating in the program:

1. I will emphasize at all times that playing lacrosse is an opportunity to be part of a team, and that sportsmanship, camaraderie, and respect are valuable priorities of the NCL lacrosse community. I will deemphasize playing only to win but rather promote the sport, healthy competition, and the desire to continually improve by developing one's own skills and working together as a team. By instilling these ideals, I will provide both players and parents with a better opportunity for success through their future participation in lacrosse and other sports.
2. Winning is a very important goal in coaching, but it will not be my only goal. I will keep in perspective that these young people have an interest in a great game. I will encourage and enhance that interest and not create an environment that promotes winning at all costs. I understand that coaching is a privilege, and that in my role as coach, I am an ambassador of the game and a role model for my team. I understand that my behavior and actions will have a great influence on the future participation of these young players and their enjoyment of the game.
3. I acknowledge that NCL expects that all coaches and assistant coaches involved in the NCL program will adhere to a high standard of personal conduct.
4. I will minimize individual accolades and promote the team concept of success. I will make decisions without favoritism or prejudice.
5. I will instill in my players the concepts of teamwork and sportsmanship that are consistent with the objectives of NCL.
6. I will avoid both verbal and physical confrontations with parents, other coaches and officials. I will never get into an argument with a parent in the presence of any player or others. If I have any criticism of an official's performance, I will do it through proper channels by reporting it to the NCL Board, and will never create a scene on the field during or after a game. I will communicate clearly to parents the expectations of the NCL for all players, parents, and coaches.
7. I will refrain from smoking and not tolerate the use or anyone under the influence of alcohol or any illegal or controlled substance around participants.
8. I will refrain from using any language which is racially or ethnically offensive or which is in any way discriminatory towards others. I will not use profane, obscene, or other off color language.
9. I will not initiate physical contact with any player for disciplinary reasons.
10. I will attend any lacrosse clinics or coaches' meetings required by the NCL.



11. I will not use my authority as a coach to allow a participant to have special treatment, whether related to myself, other coaches or personal friends.
12. I will not use in a practice or game a player who appears to need medical attention until such time as competent medical advice is available and that player is cleared by a doctor to play.
13. I will seek to control disruptive or excessively outspoken parents or fans.
14. I will accept the decisions of game officials.
15. I will never verbally abuse or criticize a player in front of spectators, but reserve constructive coaching/teaching for a later time in private or in the presence of other team members if others might benefit.
16. I will never criticize, belittle, antagonize, berate or otherwise incite an opposing team, its players, coaches, or fans by word of mouth or by gesture.
17. I will demonstrate sportsmanship at all times.
18. I will be ever conscious of not running up the score. If my team has a commanding lead, and the outcome of the game is not in doubt, every effort shall be made to let all players play.
19. I will not permit an ineligible player, a player without proper equipment or the appropriate medical clearance to participate in practice, scrimmage or games.
20. I am responsible for reading, understanding, and adhering to the following:
 - The NCL Youth Lacrosse Manual
 - US Lacrosse Rules for Boys\Girls Youth Lacrosse
 - The NCL Coaches and Players Code of Conduct
21. I will abide by the rules, regulations, policies and procedures outlined in the NCL Youth Lacrosse Manual and all referenced documentation herein at all times along with any and all decisions made by the NCL Board of Directors.
22. I further acknowledge that if I violate any of the above guidelines I may be subject to disciplinary action by the NCL which may include an oral or written warning, suspension from or termination of my position as a coach.

Name of participant: _____

Participant signature: _____

Date signed: _____

