



## Eastern Pennsylvania Youth Soccer Coach Code of Conduct

*Any violation of this code of conduct may result in disciplinary action.*

### A Coach Will...

- Hold themselves to the highest standard of coaching and **promote a positive and safe environment for all participants.**
- **Treat all players, staff members, officials, and opponents with respect.** It is important to consider the effect of conduct, rather than relying only on the intent behind conduct.
- **Communicate with honesty and integrity,** while maintaining appropriate boundaries and following all state, league, and club standards for communication, including on social media.
- **Model inclusive behavior and encourage diversity while opposing all types of discrimination,** including, but not limited to, discrimination based on race, color, religion, national origin, citizenship, disability, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, or veteran status.
- Use **positive coaching and constructive criticism.**
- Maintain **appropriate relationships with players** by establishing healthy boundaries and exercising caution when participating in social activities with players outside of team events.
- Ensure **appropriate meeting environments,** specifically related to time and location.
- Ensure facilities, equipment, and **resources provided meet appropriate safety standards.**
- Guarantee the team and staff have appropriate and readily available **access to hydration and fluid needs.**
- Ensure their organization has **emergency equipment, training and emergency action plans** they are prepared to execute in the interests of health and safety across all stakeholders.
- Accept feedback and **seek continuous personal and professional improvement.**
- Understand and **act upon their mandatory reporting obligations,** reporting any suspected child abuse to law enforcement and to the Center for SafeSport.
- **Self-report their behavior** to a supervisor if they violate the code of conduct or applicable prohibited conduct policies.
- Recognize their **responsibility to report when they witness a violation of the code of conduct,** or when they have reason to believe a violation is likely to have occurred.

### A Coach Will NOT...

- **Break policies** set forth by the U.S. Soccer Federation, member organizations, leagues, or clubs. This includes all safeguarding policies such as the organization's prohibited conduct, the MAAPP, and the SafeSport Code.
- Verbally, physically, sexually, or emotionally **abuse, harass, or haze** any player, referee, or peer.
- **Illegally use or possess drugs, alcohol, and tobacco** at team events.
- **Meet one-on-one** with players in a private setting.

- Engage in any conduct with a player that could be reasonably construed as romantic or sexual, including, but not limited to, **pursuing, or maintaining a romantic relationship** where a power imbalance exists.
- **Show excessive favoritism** toward one player over another, but rather will treat all players with equal dignity and compassion.
- **Intentionally isolate, shame, or single-out a player** that is in a destructive or harmful way.
- **Retaliate against a player, parent, peer, or referee**, including, but not limited to, in response to when a concern has been raised about the coach.