



Coach Code of Conduct

The athlete/coach relationship is a privileged one. Coaches play a critical role in the personal and athletic development of their athletes. 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. Thus 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 behavior that will allow them to assist their athletes in becoming well-rounded, self confident and productive human beings.

COACHES HAVE A RESPONSIBILITY TO:

1. Treat everyone fairly within the context of their activity, regardless of gender, place of origin, colour, sexual orientation, religion, political belief or economic status.
2. Direct comments or feedback at the performance rather than the athlete.
3. Consistently display high personal standards and project a favourable image of New West Volleyball Association, their sport and of coaching.
 - Refrain from public criticism of fellow coaches; especially when speaking to the media or recruiting athletes.
 - Abstain from the use of tobacco or vaping products while in the presence of her/his athletes.
 - Abstain from drinking alcoholic beverages when working with athletes.
 - Refrain from the use of profane, insulting, harassing or otherwise offensive language in the conduct of his/her duties.
4. 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.
5. Communicate and co-operate with registered medical practitioners in the diagnoses, treatment and management of their athletes' medical and psychological problems. Consider the athletes' future health and well being as foremost when making decisions regarding an injured athletes' ability to continue playing or training.
6. Recognize and accept when to refer athletes to other coaches or sport specialists. Allow athletes' goals to take precedence over their own.
7. Regularly seek ways of increasing professional development and self-awareness.
8. Treat opponents and officials with due respect, both in victory and defeat and encourage athletes to act accordingly. Actively encourage athletes to uphold the rules of their sport and the spirit of such rules.
9. In the case of minors, communicate and co-operate with the athlete's parents or legal guardians, involving them in management decisions pertaining to their child's development.



COACHES MUST:

10. Ensure that they have completed the Person In Authority Check prior to working with athletes.
11. Notify New West Volleyball Association and Volleyball BC immediately if there are any changes to questions/statements disclosed by them on their Screening Disclosure Form or Criminal Record Check.
12. Understand a [coach's responsibility](#) to create a physical, psychological, and emotional safe space for athletes.
13. Maintain an [Open and Observable Environment](#) at all time.
14. Maintain [appropriate boundaries](#) with athletes.
15. [Report](#) any maltreatment or abuse.
16. At no time become intimately and/or sexually involved with their athletes. This includes requests for sexual favours or threat of reprisal for the rejection of such requests.
17. Never advocate or condone the use of drugs or other banned performance enhancing substances.
18. Never provide underage athletes with alcohol, tobacco, or vaping products.
19. Read and uphold [Volleyball BC's Code of Conduct and Ethics](#) in any Volleyball BC-sanctioned activities.

"By signing this Coach Code of Conduct I acknowledge that I have read and agree to support all of the above statements."

Coach Name

Coach Signature

Date