

HBSA Code of Conduct for Coaches

The primary goal of all coaches should be the development of children participating in the HBSA program. All players should be taught by the coaching staff about sportsmanship and fair play, and these teachings should always govern a coaches behavior while at practice and at games. Coaches are responsible for addressing the conduct of all players, members of the coaching staff and spectators. In addition, coaches are expected to bring any significant or reoccurring issues to the attention of the HBSA Board of Trustees.

Specifically:

- Coaches are responsible to teach players the importance of developing a competitive spirit and an understanding of sportsmanship.
- Coaches are responsible for building the confidence of the players and teaching the fundamentals of the sport they are coaching.
- Coaches will emphasize that good athletes are good students, and both are physically and mentally alert.
- Coaches will protect the health and safety of their participants by insisting that all of the activities under their control be conducted with health and safety in mind, rather than interests of adults.
- Coaches will emphasize that winning a game or competition is the result of teamwork and is not the most important aspect of the game.
- Coaches will fairly evaluate and play all the participants through the course of a practice or game, and subject to specific program rules for the league/division in which they are coaching.
- Coaches will not show favoritism towards a family member and/or a participant, nor will the coach have an alternate agenda when evaluating, playing or instructing a participant.
- Coaches will not criticize the officials, the opposing team, the coaches, fans or parents, through language or gesture. Coaches will also accept the decisions of officials.
- Coaches will learn the strengths and weakness of their players so they might be placed into situations where they have a maximum opportunity to achieve success. Coaches will provide constructive feedback to players as a means of growth and development.
- Coaches will be responsible for the positive promotion of the program.
- Coaches will set an example in personal conduct at all times and be a good role model.
- Coaches will treat each player, opposing coaches, parents, administrators and board members with respect and dignity. This includes in person interactions, as well as in written, verbal or digital/social media communication.
- Coaches shall not use abusive or profane language during any game, practice or league event with players present.
- Coaches will encourage open communication with all players, parents and fans.
- Coaches will follow all league, competition, and program rules.
- Coaches will follow the direction of the HBSA Board and not deviate for any reason.
- Coaches shall not be under the influence of alcohol or drugs. In addition, coaches will abstain from possession and drinking of alcoholic beverages or any illegal substance at practice and game fields, and at competitions.
- Coaches will not smoke or use any form of tobacco, including vape while on the field of play, during games, scrimmages, practices or competitions.
- Coaches will be responsible to read, understand, and follow all HBSA coaches' requirements including but not limited to the Rutgers Coaching Certification course and the online concussion course.

Improper conduct or any violation of the HBSA Coaches Code of Conduct may result in accountability measures being implemented as stated below. The HBSA Board will review any infractions for appropriate action steps.

If there is a compliance violation of the above Code of Conduct, the procedure for remediation will be as follows:

- The coach will be contacted by the appropriate league trustee to arrange a meeting to discuss the infraction. The meeting will take place as soon as possible after an alleged violation has occurred.
- The trustee will meet with the Board to present all information related to the violation and discuss appropriate actions steps need to take place – action steps could include verbal or written warning, game, season or league suspensions for the coach depending upon the infraction.
- Upon a vote from the HBSA Board, the coach will be notified of the decision and the appropriate action that are being implemented.

Name: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____