



Eastern Lehigh Valley Code of Conducts

Coaches Code of Conduct & Participation Agreement:

The essential elements of character-building and ethics in sports are embodied in the concept of sportsmanship and six core principles: trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring and good sportsmanship. The highest potential of sports is achieved when completion reflects these "six pillars of character."

I therefore agree:

- Always remember that kids participate for pleasure, enjoyment and winning is only part of the fun.
- Never use negative ridicule or yell at children for making a mistake or not winning.
- Be considerate and reasonable in your demands on kids time, energy and enthusiasm. Kids sports is only one part of their busy lives.
- Always operate within the code of conduct, rules and fair spirit of your sport and instruct the kids to do the same.
- Always ensure that the time kids spend with you as coach is a positive experience. All kids are deserving of equal attention and opportunities.
- Try to avoid overplaying the talented more skillful kids.
- Ensure that sporting equipment and facilities meet safety standards and are appropriate to the age and ability of all players.

- Display control, respect and professionalism to all involved within the sport. This includes opponents, coaches, officials, administrators, the media, parents and other spectators. Encourage players to do the same, be a great role model.
- Always show concern toward sick and injured players. Follow the advice of a trained medical trainer when determining whether an injured child is ready to recommence training and competition.
- Where appropriate obtain qualifications and keep up to date with the latest coaching practices and the latest principles of growth and development of children.
- Any physical contact with a child should be appropriate to the situation and necessary for the player's skill development or medical care.
- Respect the rights of all participants regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background or religion.
- I will place the emotional and physical well being of my players ahead of a personal desire to win.
- I will treat each player as an individual, remembering the large range of emotional and physical development for the same age group.
- I will do my best to provide a safe playing situation for my players.
- I promise to review and practice basic first aid principles needed to treat injuries of my players.
- I will do my best to organize practices that are fun and challenging for all my players.
- I will lead by example in demonstrating fair play and sportsmanship to all my players.
- I will not cheat or engage in any form of unethical behavior that violates league rules.
- I will be knowledgeable in the rules of each sport that I coach, and I will teach these rules to my players.
- I will use those coaching techniques appropriate for all of the skills that I teach.
- I will remember that I am a youth sports coach, and that the game is for children and not adults.

As a coach in the Eastern Lehigh Valley Softball League, I acknowledge:

- That I have read, understand and will adhere to this Code of Conduct;
- That my continued participation to coach in the ELV is to adhere to this Code of Conduct; and
- That I will help my fellow parents and coaches when, in the heat of the moment, they need to be reminded of their commitment to this Code of Conduct.

Date: _____

Printed Name: _____

Signed Name: _____