



## Coach Pledge

Coaching is a privilege that should elicit pride in the coach as well as in the athletes and families. It is a responsibility that demands extra commitment as a leader to the players on your team, the other coaches and BFA. I understand that my responsibilities as a youth coach are of great importance and that my actions have the potential to significantly influence the young athletes I coach. I promise to uphold the following pledge to the best of my ability.

**1. Develop a high level of professional coaching competence**

- a. Commit to teaching the game with a view towards best practices.
- b. Commit to development of my personal coaching skills by attending clinics, doing research, etc.
- c. Collaborate and partner with other coaches for personal and game improvement and to gain curricular consistency across the organization

**2. Achieve and maintain excellence on the field**

- a. Maintain concern for the health and safety of the athletes
- b. Focus on mastery of skills over winning; effort over outcome
- c. Foster success through positive feedback, valuing teamwork and consistently providing support to players

**3. Demonstrate an ongoing commitment to the wellbeing and development of athletes off the field**

- a. Concern myself with the development of the athletes as a whole person – emotional, physical and intellectual.
- b. Understand and embrace my role as a mentor and role model
- c. Respect the rights, dignity and worth of every athlete and treat everyone equally regardless of background or ability

**4. Honor and respect the game**

- a. Uphold the spirit as well as the letter of the rules of the game
- b. Respect all opponents, officials and opposing players
- c. Instill a love of the game to players
- d. Abide by the parent/guardian Code of Conduct

**5. Mentor inexperienced coaches**

- a. Give inexperienced coaches meaningful roles and a positive early coaching experience
- b. Involve inexperienced coaches in all aspects of the game
- c. Instruct inexperienced coaches in qualities of effective coaches/leaders

**6. Communicate effectively with players and parents**

- a. Provide appropriate avenues for communication – player/parent conferences, access to conversation via email, phone, etc.
- b. Listen effectively, keeping in mind that both parents and coaches have the wellbeing of the athlete in mind
- c. Observe the 24 hour rule in the face of conflicts (refer to the BFA grievance policy)

**I have signed this Coach Agreement to indicate that I understand this responsibility and will always strive to meet the commitments in this pledge.**

Coach Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_