

Issaquah Lacrosse Club Coach Code of Conduct

This Code of Conduct incorporates the core principles of the **USA Lacrosse Code of Conduct** and aligns with the expectations of the **Issaquah Lacrosse Club**. It applies to all ILC coaches—paid or volunteer—whenever they represent the Club (games, practices, tournaments, travel, team communications, online activity, or Club events).

1. Core Principles

1. **Honor the Game** – Promote fair play, respect for officials, opponents, teammates, parents, and fans.
 2. **Player-Centered Development** – Prioritize athlete safety, growth, and enjoyment over wins-and-losses.
 3. **Integrity & Sportsmanship** – Model honesty, self-control, and ethical behavior on and off the field.
 4. **Inclusive Environment** – Provide a safe, welcoming space free from harassment, bullying, and discrimination.
 5. **Accountability** – Accept responsibility for words, actions, and decisions; address issues promptly.
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2. Prohibited Conduct

- **Harassment, bullying, or hazing** (verbal, physical, written, or electronic).
- **Discriminatory language or behavior** based on race, color, religion, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, national origin, or disability.
- **Use, possession, or influence of alcohol, tobacco, vaping products, or illegal substances** during any youth event.
- **Physical intimidation or violence** toward athletes, officials, spectators, or fellow coaches.
- **Reckless or excessive criticism** of officials, opponents, or athletes in public or on social media.
- **Possession of explosives, weapons, or other hazardous items** during any Club activity is prohibited.
- **Violation of Federal, State, local laws, WHSBLA/GELL regulations, or ILC policies.**

3. Positive Coaching Expectations

Area	Coach Responsibilities
Safety	Maintain current USA Lacrosse membership, annual background check, First-Aid/Concussion training; follow return-to-play protocols.
Respect	Address athletes, parents, officials, and opponents with courtesy; resolve conflicts privately and professionally.
Teaching	Plan age-appropriate practices; emphasize skill development, game IQ, and character; give constructive feedback.
Communication	Send timely schedules/updates; encourage athletes to speak directly about playing-time or role concerns.
Substance-Free Culture	Enforce zero-tolerance for drugs, alcohol, and tobacco at all youth events; model the same standard.
Digital Conduct	Use team platforms professionally; no private 1-on-1 messaging with minors; never post content that discredits ILC or athletes.

4. Social Media & Electronic Communication

- Use **group channels** (SportsEngine, GroupMe, email CC'ing parents) for athlete messaging.
 - No late-night, derogatory, or suggestive posts involving players.
 - Photos/video of minors require parental consent for public posting.
 - Coaches must report cyber-bullying or inappropriate content to the Program Director or Board within 24 hours.
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5. Compliance & Reporting

- **Self-Report** any arrest, criminal charge, or league sanction within 72 hours.
 - Suspected child abuse or misconduct must be reported immediately to appropriate authorities and the ILC President.
 - The ILC Board may investigate alleged violations and impose sanctions up to suspension or contract termination.
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6. Acknowledgment

I have read, understand, and agree to abide by the Issaquah Lacrosse Club Coach Code of Conduct. I understand that violations may result in disciplinary action, including removal from coaching duties and forfeiture of compensation.

Coach Name (print)

Signature

Date

Return this signed page to the ILC Board Secretary before your first practice each year.