

USA Softball of Oregon Coaches Code of Ethics Pledge

I understand that my responsibilities as a youth coach are of great importance and that my actions have the potential to significantly influence the youth athletes I coach. There-fore I promise to uphold the following rights of young athletes to the best of my ability.

- I. Right to have fun in sports.
- II. Right to participate in sports.
- III. Right to participate at a level commensurate with each child's maturity and ability.
- IV. Right to qualified adult leadership
- V. Right to play as a child and not as an adult.
- VI. Right of children to share in the leadership and decision-making of their sport participation.
- VII. Right to participate in a safe and healthy environment.
- VIII. Right to proper preparation for participation in sports.
- IX. Right to an equal opportunity to strive for success.
- X. Right to be treated with dignity.

I also promise to conduct myself in accordance with the Code of Ethics for Coaches as given next:

1. I will treat each athlete, opposing coach, official, parent and administrator with respect and dignity.
2. I will do my best to learn the fundamental skills, teaching and evaluation techniques and strategies of my sport.
3. I will become thoroughly familiar with the rules of my sport.
4. I will become familiar with the objectives of the youth sport program with which I am affiliated.
5. I will strive to achieve these objectives and communicate them to my athletes and their parents.
6. I will uphold the authority of the officials who are assigned to the contest in which I coach, and I will assist them in every way to conduct fair and impartial competitive contest.
7. I will learn the strengths and weaknesses of my athletes so that I might place them in situations where they have a maximum opportunity to achieve success.
8. I will conduct my practices and games so that all athletes have an opportunity to improve their skill level through active participation.
9. I will communicate to my athletes and their parents the rights and responsibilities of individuals that are on our team.
10. I will cooperate with the administration of our organization in the enforcement of rules and regulations, and I will report any irregularities that violate sound competitive practices.
11. I will protect the health and safety of my athletes by insisting that all of the activities under my control are conducted for their psychological welfare, rather than for the vicarious interest of adults.
- 12. I will not use intoxicants as defined by the law when any player is under my direct charge. This includes practices, games, tournaments and traveling. I agree to abide by the by all applicable USA Softball rules and regulations, including USA Softball's SafeSports policy**
13. I will not tolerate any form of abuse of children, be it physical, verbal, emotional, ethnical or sexual and will immediately report any such abuse to the proper authorities.
14. I will treat my fellow coaches with respect and in an ethical manner at all times.
- 15. I will only communicate/text with team players through normal means but ONLY for notification of practices, games, and team transportation arrangements. I will not have one on one interactions with any player unless another adult is present or if it occurs at an observable and interruptible distance by another adult.***

I have read the above Code and understand that failure to comply with all provisions may result in suspension or revocation of my coaching certification. With my signature, which I voluntarily affix to this pledge, I acknowledge that I have read and understood, and will do my best to fulfill the promises made herein. The agreement is in effect as long as I continuously register as a coach every season.

Print Name of Coach

Signature of Coach

Address

City, State and Zip Code

Date

Team/Age & Classification