

Section 2 - Coaching, Team Administration, and Conduct Policies

2.0 Scope and Purpose

These Coaching, Team Administration, and Conduct Policies establish the required standards, procedures, responsibilities, and enforcement mechanisms governing coaches, athletes, parents, spectators, volunteers, team operations, and conduct expectations for all organization-sanctioned activities. These policies apply to all board members, commissioners, coaches, assistant coaches, volunteers, parents, guardians, spectators, and participants.

Failure to comply with these policies may result in corrective action, suspension, removal from participation, loss of privileges, or other disciplinary measures as determined by the Commissioner, Executive Board, or Board.

These policies shall be reviewed annually and updated as needed to reflect operational, legal, insurance, and league requirements.

2.1 Coach Application, Selection, Supervision, and Removal Policy

This subsection governs coach eligibility, appointment, oversight, corrective action, and removal.

Application Requirements

- All head coaches and assistant coaches must submit a completed coach application prior to the start of each season.
- Applications must include all required personal information, acknowledgments, certifications, and background screening authorizations.
- Incomplete applications shall not be considered.

Eligibility Criteria

- Coaches must meet minimum age (21yo) requirements established by the organization.
- Coaches must successfully complete required background checks and any required training or certifications.
- The organization reserves the right to establish sport-specific qualifications.

Approval Authority

- Final approval authority shall rest with the applicable Commissioner, subject to the Executive Board.
- No individual may act in a coaching capacity prior to written approval.

Preseason Expectations

- Coaches must attend all mandatory preseason meetings.
- Coaches shall review league rules, safety standards, conduct expectations, and administrative procedures.

- Coaches must complete roster and communication responsibilities before the first practice.

Supervision

- Coaches shall be supervised by the Commissioner.
- Ongoing supervision may include observations, complaint review, and compliance checks.

Corrective Action

- Violations may result in verbal counseling, written warning, probation, mandatory retraining, suspension, or removal.
- Coaches may be suspended immediately when conduct creates a safety risk, policy violation, or reputational harm.
- Removal from service may be imposed by the Commissioner, Executive Board, or Board.

2.2 Coach Code of Conduct

- Coaches shall model sportsmanship, professionalism, and respect at all times.
- Coaches must treat athletes, officials, volunteers, parents, and other coaches with dignity and respect.
- Profanity, intimidation, harassment, retaliation, or abusive conduct is prohibited.
- Coaches shall prioritize athlete safety and welfare over competitive outcomes.
- Coaches must comply with all organizational, league, and facility rules.
- Use of alcohol, tobacco, vaping products, or illegal substances during organization events is prohibited.
- Violations may result in discipline up to removal.

2.3 Parent / Spectator Code of Conduct

- Parents and spectators shall demonstrate sportsmanship and respect at all events.
- Officials, volunteers, athletes, and coaches shall be treated respectfully at all times.
- Sideline interference, coaching from the stands, or disruptive conduct is prohibited.
- Profanity, threats, harassment, taunting, and abusive language are prohibited.
- Alcohol, illegal substances, and intoxication at youth events are prohibited.
- Spectators must comply with all facility and event rules.
- Violations may result in warning, removal from event premises, suspension from future events, or additional sanctions.

2.4 Athlete Code of Conduct

- Athletes shall demonstrate sportsmanship, respect, and teamwork.
- Athletes must comply with coach instructions and safety expectations.
- Bullying, harassment, fighting, hazing, or dangerous conduct is prohibited.
- Attendance at practices and games is expected except for excused absences.
- Equipment and uniforms must be properly cared for and returned as required.
- Damage caused by intentional misconduct may result in financial responsibility.

- Violations may result in reduced playing time, suspension, or removal from participation.

2.5 Discipline, Suspension, and Appeals Policy

Complaint Intake

- Complaints must be submitted in writing within forty-eight (48) hours when feasible.

Notice

- The accused party shall receive written notice of the allegation and any interim restrictions.

Interim Restrictions

- Temporary suspension or event restrictions may be imposed pending review.

Investigation Procedure

- The assigned Commissioner or officer shall gather statements, documentation, and witness accounts.
- Investigations shall be documented and maintained in organization records.

Decision-Makers

- Commissioners may decide routine disciplinary matters.
- Serious matters shall be escalated to the Executive Board.

Sanctions

- Sanctions may include warning, probation, suspension, removal, restitution, or permanent ban.

Return to Participation

- Reinstatement may require completion of conditions including meetings, training, or probation.

Appeal Rights

- Written appeals must be submitted within seven (7) days of the decision.
- Appeals shall be reviewed by the Executive Board or Board.

2.6 Complaint Resolution Procedure

- Complaints must be submitted in writing with sufficient factual detail.
- Complaints shall be routed to the appropriate Commissioner or officer.
- Matters involving conflicts of interest shall be reassigned.
- Initial review should occur within five (5) business days.
- All actions, findings, and communications shall be documented.
- Matters requiring higher review shall be escalated to the Executive Board.

2.7 Team Administration Procedure

Roster Administration

- Rosters shall be maintained and approved by the Commissioner.
- Changes after roster lock require approval.

Preseason Parent Meetings

- Mandatory preseason meetings shall be held for all sports by the Commissioner of that sport.
- Attendance, acknowledgments, and required forms shall be documented.

Assistant Coach Assignments

- Assistant coaches must be approved in accordance with organization procedures.

Team Communications

- All official team communications must occur through organization-approved channels such as GroupMe
- Unauthorized external group messaging platforms are prohibited unless approved.

End-of-Season Responsibilities

- Coaches shall return equipment and complete the required survey.
- Any unresolved conduct or administrative matters shall be reported before season close.