



## Atlanta Youth Football League

### *Coach's Code of Ethics*

A coach must always be aware that he or she has a tremendous influence, either good or bad, in the education of athletes and thus, **shall never place the value of winning above the value of instilling the highest desirable ideals of character.** The following Code of Ethics will be enforced for all coaches involved in the AYFL. ***Disciplinary action will be taken for failure to maintain the Code of Ethics while involved in any coaching capacity for the AYFL.***

1. Coaches must uphold the honor and dignity of the AYFL. In all personal contact with the athletes, officials and parents, the coach must strive to set the examples of the highest ethical and moral conduct.
  - a. Respect each player as an individual.
  - b. Teach respect for the opposing team, coaches, officials, and spectators.
  - c. Develop a sense of team spirit.
  - d. Encourage self-discipline, cooperation, leadership, courtesy, honesty, initiative, and fair play.
  - e. Use positive reinforcement when administering criticism.
  - f. Cooperate with the program's director.
  - g. Encourage spectator to display conduct of respect and hospitality toward opponents and officials.
  - h. Set a good example – teach the players the importance of these standards.
2. The AYFL supports a smoke and alcohol-free athletic competition, thus the use of tobacco products, alcohol and drugs around the players or parents during practice or games will not be tolerated. The use of these products will not be permitted in or around facilities being utilized for practice or competition.
3. Use of profanity during practice, games or in the presence of player will not be tolerated.
4. Physical abuse, intimidation, verbal abuse, corporal punishment of players will not be tolerated. Each child's welfare should be of the utmost importance.
5. Coaches are expected to be familiar with the rules governing their sport and the age group of their team. Strict adherence to those rules will be expected. The spirit and letter of the rules should be regarded as mutual agreement. The coach shall not seek an unfair advantage by circumvention of the spirit of the letter of the rules.
6. Teams must be rostered in accordance with AYFL rules. Coaches will not be allowed to limit their team size in interfering with maintaining this fair and equitable balance.
7. No coach will be allowed to begin competition until the Director of that sport has approved the roster for that team and registration forms and fees have been received.
8. Before and after each contest, opposing coaches should meet and exchange friendly greetings and set the proper tone of the event.

***I have read and agree to abide by the above AYFL Coach's Code of Ethics.***

Coach's Name (Printed): \_\_\_\_\_

Coach's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime Telephone # \_\_\_\_\_ Sport: \_\_\_\_\_