

SSYHA Coaches' Code of Conduct

SSYHA coaches are expected to provide leadership, promote sportsmanship, and support the development of each player and team. Player welfare, safety, and character development must guide all coaching decisions. As a coach, I agree to the following:

Leadership and Professional Conduct

- I will serve as a positive role model, demonstrating emotional maturity and respect at all times.
- I will treat players, parents, officials, and fellow coaches with dignity and professionalism.
- I will not engage in taunting, threats, harassment, or any form of physical violence.
- I will not use excessive profanity, hate speech, or other inappropriate language.

Player Welfare and Safety

- I will prioritize player safety and long-term development over winning.
- I will remove any athlete from play with suspected injury, concussion, or other safety concern.
- I will err on the side of caution and require appropriate medical clearance before allowing return to play when necessary.

Coaching Responsibility

- I will be knowledgeable in the rules, techniques, and strategies of hockey.
- I will be generous with praise, and fair, consistent, and honest in my coaching decisions.
- I will work in alignment with the SSYHA Executive Director and program development model.

Communication and Team Culture

- I will maintain clear and respectful communication with parents, including team expectations and objectives.
- I will encourage healthy habits and positive personal development for players.
- I will not undermine SSYHA policies, staff, or organizational direction.

Social Media and Conduct Standards

- I will use social media responsibly and will not post content that is bullying, harassing, discriminatory, demeaning, or inflammatory.
- I will comply with all SSYHA policies.
- I will comply with USA Hockey SafeSport requirements and will proactively educate myself on applicable standards.

Accountability

- I will not engage in any behavior that results in the involvement of law enforcement.
- If law enforcement is involved, and it will impact your ability to pass a background check, I will report to the association within 48-72 hours.
- I will not be under the influence of alcohol, drugs, or any substance that may impair my judgment or ability to safely supervise players while coaching or at any SSYHA activity.

Coach Acknowledgement

I acknowledge that I have read, understand, and agree to abide by this Coach Code of Conduct, the SSYHA Handbook, and any other governing documents.

Coach Name: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____