

VOLUNTEER COACHES' CODE OF CONDUCT and Expectations

It is the philosophy of Si View MPD that the focus of our sports programs will be on skill development, positive sportsmanship and fostering life skills for kids beyond their years in sports.

1. I will ask myself a very important question, "Why am I coaching?"

Behaviors Expected:

- Am I coaching because of sole personal gain? If so, a call to reevaluate you coaching is needed
- Am I coaching because I truly love the game?
- Would I coach youth sports even if my child is not involved with a specific team?
- Do I have the necessary background to coach/relate to youth in a sports setting?
- Do I have the necessary background to coach with little assistance from Si View Metro Parks? This includes daily plans, communication with parents, schedules, adjustments made through the season, and overall organization of a team including parents and players.

2. I will treat each player as an individual, remembering the vast range in emotional and physical development within the same age group.

Behaviors Expected:

- Recognizing the differences of each child and treating them as an individual while showing concern for their needs and well-being.
- Encouraging all players, regardless of ability, to be included as a part of the team and to stay involved in sports.
- Realizing that youth may vary greatly in physical, social, and emotional maturity, and considering these things when interacting with youth.

3. I will do my utmost to provide a safe playing situation for my players.

Behaviors Expected:

- Maintaining a high level of awareness of potentially unsafe conditions.
- Protecting players from any and all types of abuse.
- Using appropriate safety equipment necessary to protect all participants.

4. I will review and practice basic first aid principles for my players in case of an emergency.

Behaviors Expected:

- Keeping basic first aid supplies, (Select Coaches only are provided supplies by Si View Metro Parks).
- Recognizing and applying proper first aid to an injured player.
- Showing concern for an injured player, notifying parents, and cooperating with medical authorities.
- Protecting players by removing them from the activity when injured and not returning them if they are compromised by injury.

5. I will do my best to organize practices that are fun and challenging for all my players.

Behaviors Expected:

- Devising practice plans that are interesting, varied, productive and aimed at improving all players' skills/abilities.
- Devoting appropriate time to the individual development of each player.
- Running practices of reasonable length and intensity suitable to the age and fitness level of players.

6. I will lead by example when displaying fair play and positive sportsmanship to all my players.

Behaviors Expected:

- Remembering the GOLDEN RULE – treat others as we would like to be treated. This includes players, parents, and referees.
- Endorsing and supporting the rules of the game, as well as the spirit of the regulations.
- Providing an environment that promotes fair and equal competition.
- Using the influential position of coach as an opportunity to encourage, teach, and expect good sportsmanship and fair play.

7. I will provide an environment for my players that is free from drugs, tobacco, and alcohol, and I will not use these substances before or during any youth sports activities.

Behaviors Expected:

- Refraining from the use of tobacco, alcohol and drugs at all team activities or in the presence of players.
- Abstaining from providing any type of alcohol, drug, or tobacco products to players, parents, or staff at any time.
- Encouraging parents to refrain from the public use of tobacco, drug or alcohol products at all team activities.

8. I will know the rules of the game that I coach and teach these rules to my players.

Behaviors Expected:

- Knowing, understanding, and supporting all game and league rules, regulations, and policies.
- Teaching and requiring adherence of the rules and regulations of the appropriate league/tournament your team is assigned to.

9. I will remember that I am a volunteer youth sports coach and that the game is for children, not adults.

Behaviors Expected:

- Maintaining a positive, helpful, and supportive attitude while being able to hold players accountable.
- Using your authority and influence to control the behavior of the fans and spectators.
- Displaying gracious acceptance of defeat or victory.
- Adhering to all league rules, regulations, and policies set forth by Si View Metro Parks, leagues, and tournaments.
- Adopting a "children first" policy by emphasizing fun and participation.
- Allowing and encouraging players to listen, learn, and play hard within the rules.

By coaching in our program you adhere to the expectations and code of conduct mentioned above. All are in compliance with Si View Metro Parks and all youth sports programming.

Thank You!