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COACHES CODE OF ETHICS

This code of ethics is developed to promote highest standards of professional integrity and excellence for coaches in the work related settings. It is intended to provide the general principles and specific ethical considerations to proactively direct the coaches to comprehend and take necessary measures to protect the welfare of those they work with. This Code also provides a common set of values upon which those serving as coaches can build their coaching philosophy. Further, the Code will aid the coaches to gain trust and respect that will allow them to assist their athletes in becoming well rounded and productive citizens.

All BOC Coaches are required to sign the Code of Conduct which will be reviewed as each coach receives his/her certification.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Ethics refers to the generally accepted norms of right or wrong behaviour, often based on universal values. Ethics is not about legality nor is it meant to be legalistic.

1.2 Coaches, due to their close interaction with athletes, exposure to the public, and the strong pressure to win, are potentially vulnerable to various forms of ethical issues and concerns.

1.3 If coaching is to be recognised as a profession, it is important that there exists a code of ethics for coaches. Coaches, by adhering to a code of ethics, would not only minimise the likelihood of being accused of unacceptable behavior but would also project a sense of professionalism in their dealings with others.

1.4 One of the attributes of a profession is that the practitioners subscribe to and enforce ethical codes, which will help to demonstrate their commitment to providing quality services and expertise.

1.5 The Coach's Code of Ethics set out herein has been drawn up by BOC and is applicable to all coaches.

1.6 Individual NSF/SA can choose to adopt, or expand on, the Coach's Code of Ethics set out herein.

2 PURPOSE OF COACH'S CODE OF ETHICS

2.1 To provide an ethical framework that would guide coaches in determining appropriate behaviours.

2.2 To facilitate the self-regulation of coaching standards by coaches and consumers of coaching services by telling the public what is expected of coaches.

2.3 To communicate to the public the professional attitude of coaches, thereby encouraging greater confidence in these coaches.



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2.4 The principle of Responsible Coaching requires that the coach be competent and discharge his/her duty of care to the athlete such that the athletes are not harmed.

3. THE THREE PRINCIPLES OF COACH'S CODE OF ETHICS

The Coach's Code of Ethics are illustrated by a list of key ethical standards related to coaching. The key ethical standards set out below are meant to illustrate and expound on the three broad principles, and are not meant to be an exhaustive list.

1. Respect for Individuals
2. Responsible Coaching
3. Integrity in Actions

3.1 RESPECT FOR INDIVIDUALS

The concept that each individual possesses an intrinsic value and worth is integral to the principle of Respect for Individuals. The coach is called upon to act in a manner respectful of the dignity of individuals.

Key Ethical Standards:

- 3.1.1 Treat and respect everyone equally, regardless of race, language, religion, culture, gender or physical ability.
- 3.1.2 Respect the talent, development stage and goals of each athlete in order to reach their full potential
- 3.1.3 Recognise that your athletes can contribute in providing positive feedback on training methods and how best performance during training and competition could be optimised. Be a good listener when occasions for such interaction arise.
- 3.1.4 Remember that there is a need for certain information to be kept confidential. Disclosure of such information should only be made with the consent of those who requested confidentiality.
- 3.1.5 Be sensitive to the feelings of your athletes when providing feedback on their training progress and performance during competition. Criticisms, if any, should not be directed at your athlete, instead it should be on your athlete's performance.
- 3.1.6 Be reasonable in my demands on athletes' time, energy and enthusiast.
- 3.1.7 Respect the rights, dignity and worth of every person, including opponents, other coaches, officials, administrators, parents, athletes, and spectators

3.2 RESPONSIBLE COACHING

The principle of Responsible Coaching requires that the coach be competent and responsible, and discharge his/her duty of care to the athletes. This encompasses the



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concept that risks to the athlete are minimised and benefits to their holistic development are maximised.

Key Ethical Standards:

- 3.2.1 Be aware and understand the role and influence of a coach as an educator, imparting knowledge of skill as well as proper personal, academic, and social behavior.
- 3.2.2 Display high standards in your language, manner, punctuality, preparation and presentation.
- 3.2.3 Be responsible for periodically updating your coaching expertise through participation in courses, conferences and workshops and through information available in resource materials.
- 3.2.4 Assist in the development and refinement of principles, concepts and strategies that will strengthen the coach development system, and work to build consensus surrounding the development and operation of such programmes.
- 3.2.5 Advise your injured athlete to seek further medical treatment and suggest an appropriate recovery plan whenever possible. When deciding on your injured athlete's ability to continue training or competing, do take into account his/her future health and general well-being.
- 3.2.6 Ensure that training and competition venues meet with minimum safety standards and that your athletes are properly attired.
- 3.2.7 Refrain from physical contact with athletes except where necessary for the development of the athletes' skill(s) or athletic ability
- 3.2.8 Avoid sexual intimacy with your athlete.
- 3.2.9 Any physical contact with your athletes should be only when absolutely necessary and during appropriate situations.

3.3 INTEGRITY IN ACTIONS

The principle of Integrity in Actions requires the coach to act with uprightness and coherence. Coaches are expected to be honest, principled and honourable.

Key Ethical Standards:

- 3.3.1 Be honest and sincere when communicating with your athletes. Do not give false hopes to your athlete.
- 3.3.2 Abide by the rules of your sport and respect your opponents and those in positions of authority.
- 3.3.3 Adopt a professional attitude and maintain the highest standards of personal conduct. It should encompass your mannerism, dress and language.
- 3.3.4 Exercise self-awareness and evaluate how your values and actions influence your coaching activities positively or negatively.
- 3.3.5 Uphold the values of clean, dope-free sport, by complying with all relevant anti-doping rules that are in line with the World Anti-Doping Code and



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cooperating with relevant anti-doping authorities should a need arise. Be a positive influence to those under your charge with respect to the values of clean sport.

3.3.6 Agree to abide by all applicable BOC & NSF/SA rules and regulations, including BOC Safe Sport policy.

4 COMMITMENT TO THE COACHES CODE OF ETHICS

I have received and read the Coaches Code of Ethics and I understand:

- The standards contained in this code and that there may be additional code, policies and laws;
- That I can obtain clarification on any aspect of the code/s from the relevant authority; and

I understand and agree that:

- This code forms part of my terms for my employment in the service and I shall comply with the Coaches Code of Ethics at all times; and
- In the event I violate any of the Coaches Code of Ethics, my organization may take disciplinary actions against me, up to and including termination of my employment.

Employee Name:

Employee CID No;

.....

Signature

Date:

Note:

- *Please sign and return this form to the Human Resource Division of your Organization,*
- *HRD to file a copy in the personal file of the concerned*