



## SAA Coach Code of Conduct

24-February-2006

SAA programs focus on the best interest of the youthful participants in an atmosphere of wholesome community participation with an emphasis dedicated to helping children enrich their lives, becoming good and decent citizens in the community. SAA Programs strive to inspire youthful participants with the fundamental principles of teamwork and fair play, while having a focus on fun. SAA is committed to provide a safe environment and to prevent child abuse and sexual misconduct.

### **As a coach for an SAA Program, I agree to the following:**

1. I have NO legally documented history of child abuse/molestation or any other conviction or record that would bring unnecessary risk to the health and safety of the participants of SAA Programs.
2. I recognize that I am representing SAA, my community and my team and agree to act accordingly at all times.
3. I will learn and know the rules of the game and the policies of SAA as defined in the SAA Program Administration Guidebook, including specific safety program policies and shall support and uphold them ALWAYS.
4. I understand that coaching is a position of trust. Therefore, I will be a positive role model for my players and will maintain my personal integrity and dignity at ALL times.
5. I will demand a sports environment that is free from drugs, alcohol and tobacco and will refrain from their use at all games, exhibitions, practices and events. I will never coach a game or conduct a practice if I am under the influence of drugs or alcohol.
6. I will NEVER swear, use profanity or make obscene gestures, or engage in any inappropriate behavior or conduct, at ANY time.
7. I will always remember that my players are involved in SAA Programs for fun and enjoyment, and I will do everything possible to keep the game fun and enjoyable. I am a youth coach and understand that the game is for the children, not the adults.
8. I will always have a positive attitude and will always praise my players for trying hard, playing fair and doing their best, regardless of the outcome of the game.

9. I will never criticize or yell at any player for making a mistake. I will NOT tolerate physical, mental or verbal abuse of any SAA Program participant and report any such incidents to SAA representatives and responsible authorities if appropriate.
10. I understand that winning is a consideration, but not the only one, nor the most important one. I will place the well being of every player above my personal desire to win. I will be humble in victory and gracious in defeat.
11. I understand that being a coach means being, first and foremost, a teacher. I will teach my players basic skills, safety practices, techniques and strategies, and will give all my players the opportunity to improve their skills, gain confidence and develop self-esteem at practice and in games.
12. I will always display good sportsmanship and fair play, and will encourage the same from my players, colleagues, opponents, parents and spectators.
13. I will treat all my players in a fair and equal manner. I will stress that teamwork and being a team player are more important than any individual goals.
14. I will know and understand SAA playing time guidelines and will give every player an opportunity to play as much as possible. I will never, knowingly or intentionally, violate any provision of the SAA playing time guidelines.
15. I will maintain an open line of communication with my players and parents. I will explain my goals and objectives for the team, as well as the rules of the game and the policies of SAA, whenever requested or necessary, to the best of my ability.
16. I will inspect all equipment and fields on a regular basis to ensure the safety of my players.
17. I will respect the referees and game officials and their authority during every game. I will never dispute, challenge, or excessively argue any decisions made by them, or confront any referee or league official at the field before, during or after a game. Whenever necessary, I will take the time to calmly and rationally discuss any situation or call made during a game with a referee or league official.
18. I acknowledge that this Code of Conduct has been adopted by SAA and agree that if I fail to abide by the aforementioned rules and guidelines, I will be subject to disciplinary action by SAA that could include, but is not limited to the following:
  - Warning
  - Probation
  - Game suspension
  - Season suspension
  - Removal from Program

Coach Name (Print): \_\_\_\_\_

Coach Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_