

Louisiana High School Lacrosse League Code of Conduct

Louisiana High School Lacrosse League (“LHSSL”) has adopted the following Code of Conduct as a result of its concern for good sportsmanship. All coaches, players and parents must abide by our Code of Conduct. Violations of this code must be reported to the appropriate LHSSL representative. The representative will notify the LHSSL of all reported violations of the Code of Conduct. Each violation will be fully investigated and enforced according to the LHSSL Good Sportsmanship Policy.

Code of Conduct

1. I will place the emotional and physical wellbeing of players ahead of a personal desire to win.
2. I will attend all necessary meetings and rules clinics set up by the LHSSL prior to the beginning of each sport season.
3. I will treat each player as an individual, acknowledging the range of emotional and physical development for the age group.
4. I will do my best to provide a safe playing environment for all players.
5. I will promise to review and practice the basic first aid principles needed to treat player injuries properly.
6. I will do my best to organize practices that are fun and challenging for all my players.
7. I will lead by example in demonstrating fair play and sportsmanship to all my players.
8. I will provide an environment free of drugs, tobacco and alcohol, and I will refrain from their use at all sports events.
9. I will be knowledgeable in the rules of each sport that I coach and I will teach these rules to my players.
10. I will use the coaching techniques appropriate for each of the skills that I teach.
11. I will remember that I am a youth sports coach, and that the game is for the children and not for me or other adults.
12. I will comply with the Coaches Code of Ethics as set forth for by the National Federation of State High School Associations (“NFHS”) and listed below:
 - A. The function of a coach is to educate students through participation in interscholastic competition. An interscholastic program should be designed to enhance academic achievement and should never interfere with opportunities for academic success. Each student should be treated with the utmost respect, and his or her welfare should be considered in decisions by the coach at all times. Accordingly, the following guidelines for coaches have been adopted by the NFHS Board of Directors.
 - B. **The coach** shall be aware that he or she has a tremendous influence, for either good or ill, on the education of the student and, thus, shall never place the value of winning above the value of instilling the highest ideals of character.
 - C. **The coach** shall uphold the honor and dignity of the profession. In all personal contact with students, officials, athletic directors, school administrators, the state high school athletic association, the media, and the public, the coach shall strive to set an example of the highest ethical and moral conduct.
 - D. **The coach** shall take an active role in the prevention of drug, alcohol and tobacco abuse.
 - E. **The coach** shall avoid the use of alcohol and tobacco products when in contact with players.
 - F. **The coach** shall promote the entire interscholastic program of the school and direct his or her program in harmony with the total school program.
 - G. **The coach** shall master the contest rules and shall teach them to his or her team members. The coach shall not seek an advantage by circumvention of the spirit or letter of the rules.
 - H. **The coach** shall exert his or her influence to enhance sportsmanship by spectators, both directly and by working closely with cheerleaders, pep club sponsors, booster clubs, and administrators.
 - I. **The coach** shall respect and support contest officials. The coach shall not indulge in conduct which would incite players or spectators against the officials. Public criticism of officials or players is unethical.
 - J. **The coach** should meet and exchange cordial greetings with the opposing coach to set the correct tone for the event before and after the contest.
 - K. **The coach** shall not exert pressure on faculty members to give student special consideration.
 - L. **The coach** shall not scout opponents by any means other than those adopted by the league and/or state high school athletic association.
13. I will comply with the US Lacrosse Code of Ethics as set forth below:
 - A. The US Lacrosse Code of Ethics promotes sportsmanship and character by teaching, advocating, modeling and enforcing ethical principles, while preserving the integrity of the game.

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- B. I will respect individuals should value opinions, views and roles of others who work to further the mission of the organization. All should safeguard the dignity, privacy and freedom of individuals regardless of their race, color, creed, socio-economic status, age, gender, religion, sexual orientation, disability or nationality.
 - C. I will treat others with fairness in making decision without favoritism or prejudice. Anything that creates an unfair advantage violates the spirit, as well as the integrity, of the sport of lacrosse.
 - D. I will promote team work, which is defined as a cooperative or coordinated effort on the part of a group of individuals who work collectively in the interest of a common goal. All members of US Lacrosse should adopt and promote the philosophy that greater success can be achieved when individuals sacrifice their personal desire for personal accomplishment in favor of the benefits of their team.
 - E. US Lacrosse members should communicate with clarity, honesty, timeliness, and openness. Clear, honest, timely communication allows collaboration and cooperation to occur, building a stronger game and community for sport.
 - F. I will present any instances of conflict of interest in which the actions of an individual could result in actual or perceived personal gain or advantage, and/or have an adverse effect on the interests, mission or integrity of US Lacrosse. Individuals who represent and serve US Lacrosse, at all levels, have a duty to disclose any financial interest or personal obligation that may, actually or perceptually, affect the independence of their judgment.
 - G. I will follow all applicable federal and state laws, specifically adhering to the laws of the state of Louisiana.
14. I will instruct all coaches, site administrators, assistant coaches, parents and volunteers associated with my program of this Code of Conduct. In the case that one of the previously listed individuals does not adhere to the Code of Conduct during lacrosse related activities, then I will warn them of their inappropriate behavior. If the behavior continues, then I will be responsible for removing them from lacrosse related activities.
15. I understand that enforcement of this conduct is the responsibility of the site administrator immediately before, during, and immediately following lacrosse games pursuant to LHSLL Rules & Guidelines Appendix C.
16. I will comply with the LHSLL Rules & Guidelines set forth in Rule 11 and Appendix A, paragraph VIII
17. I acknowledge and recognize that this policy cannot fully capture conduct that could be considered detrimental to the LHSLL. Therefore, I understand that additional action can be taken at the discretion of the board and/or the Commissioner of the LHSLL.

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