



## COACHING WITHIN EASTERN YORK RECREATION AUTHORITY

### Code of Ethics & Conduct

July 2021

All volunteer coaches within Eastern York Recreation Authority (EYRA) serve at the discretion of the EYRA Board, Director and Volunteer Coordinator(s) for that sport. EYRA requires that each sport have a process whereby it collects certain information from each coach applicant to include personal information, level of preferred coaching, and to protect the children, any past legal convictions in their background. To comply with Pennsylvania Law, all volunteers, coaches, assistant coaches, and parents who regularly help with EYRA programs must submit: 1. The report of criminal history from the Pennsylvania State Police (PSP); 2. Child Abuse History Clearance from the Department of Human Services (Child Abuse), and 3. Resident Affidavit.

The function of a coach is to encourage, develop, and educate all players participating in EYRA youth sports. Skills, sportsmanship, and teamwork should be taught and promoted. Each participant should be the coach's uppermost concern. To promote these ideals, EYRA has adopted the following Code of Conduct that all coaches must adhere to:

- The **EYRA coach** shall be aware that he/she has a tremendous influence, for either good or ill, on the development of the participants.
- The **EYRA coach** shall never place the value of winning above that of instilling the highest ideals of character. He/she will place the emotional and physical well being of the players ahead of any personal desire to win. He/she will encourage and display team unity and not taunt or criticize any players or opponents.
- The **EYRA coach** shall strive to impart improvement of skills and confidence as the season progresses by maintaining a regular practice schedule. If a conflict arises, he/she shall plan to reschedule or have another volunteer conduct practice so to avoid a lapse in training.
- The **EYRA coach** shall display good sportsmanship and uphold the honor and dignity of the sport, organization, and league in all personal contact with players, parents, coaches, officials, administrators, and spectators.
- The **EYRA coach** shall acknowledge and support the role of the officials. He/she shall not indulge in conduct which would incite players or spectators. If a coach feels his/her team is being treated unfairly, he/she shall bring the matter to the attention of the official with respect.
- The **EYRA coach** shall strive to set an example of the highest moral and ethical conduct by demonstrating positive support for all players, coaches, officials, and spectators on every occasion.
- The **EYRA coach** shall respect all facilities used for practices and games and be responsible for those under his/her control to do the same.
- The **EYRA coach** shall actively discourage drug, alcohol, and tobacco use, and shall avoid the use of alcohol and tobacco products when in contact with players and/or using assigned facilities.
- The **EYRA coach** shall strive to master the particular sport and its age-appropriate rules, shall teach these rules to his/her team members, and communicate the same to the parents. The coach shall not seek an advantage by circumvention of the rules. The EYRA coach shall pursue resources to educate him/herself.
- The **EYRA coach** shall use appropriate language during practices and games and exert his/her influence to encourage sportsmanship. Foul or otherwise objectionable language or gestures will not be tolerated.
- The **EYRA coach** shall initiate an exchange of cordial greetings between competing teams.

An EYRA coach must acknowledge that he/she is an extension of the EYRA organization and agree to conduct him/herself in a fashion that will bring pride to the youth sport programs and the community. The coach must agree to abide by the Code of Conduct. At any time, before, during or after the season, a coach fails to meet the standards set by EYRA, the EYRA representatives, at their discretion, may terminate the coach, and replace them, as necessary. If the coach believes that he/she has been unjustly removed, they have the right of appeal before the EYRA Board.