



Coaches Code of Conduct

It is the responsibility of all coaches to maintain the highest standards of conduct for themselves, their athletes and in all trainings and competitions. Failure to do so undermines the official's authority and the integrity of the game, resulting in a hostile environment for the athletes, officials, coaches, assistant coaches and spectators. As a role model for the athletes, spectators and coaches participating in the event, all are expected to be supportive of and to acknowledge the effort, good play and sportsmanship on the part of ALL players from all participating teams.

By example, coaches and assistant coaches are expected to show that although they are competing, they have respect for the opponent and officials at all times. Special Olympics Kansas will not tolerate negative behavior exhibited either by demonstrative actions and gestures, or verbally by ill-intentioned remarks, including those addressed toward the official or opposing team members. Coaches exhibiting hostile, negative sarcastic or otherwise ill-intended behavior toward officials, opposing athletes or coaches will be subject to disciplinary action by Special Olympics Kansas.

Responsibilities to the Rules of the Game

1. Coaches should be thoroughly acquainted with and demonstrate a working knowledge of the Rules of the Sport.
2. Coaches are responsible to assure their athletes understand the intent as well as the application of the Rules.
3. Coaches must adhere to the letter and spirit of the Rules of the Game.
4. Coaches are responsible for their athletes actions during competition and must not permit them to perform with intent of causing injury to opposing athletes.
5. The coach must constantly strive to teach good sporting behavior.

Responsibility to the Officials

1. Officials must have the support of the coaches, players and spectators.
2. Coaches must always refrain from criticizing officials in the presence of players or spectators.
3. Professional respect, before, during and after the competition should be mutual. There is to be no demeaning dialogue or gestures between official, coach or players.
4. Coaches must not incite players or spectators or attempt to disrupt the flow of the game.
5. Comments regarding an official should be made in writing to the Management Team personnel.
6. Coaches should not approach officials after the competition to discuss calls.
7. Coaches shall not offer dissent to any call made by an official or referee at any time.
8. Coaches are not to address the official/referee during competition except to: a) respond to officials/referees who has initiated a conversation; b) point out emergency or safety issues; c) make substitutions; and d) ask for the time remaining in regulation play.

I agree to abide by the SOKS Code of Conduct.

Name: _____ **Signature:** _____

Date: _____