

Coach / Staff Code of Conduct

(from Bylaws for Fairfax Homeschool Athletic Association)

To participate in FHSAA, all coaches agree to follow the FHSAA Coach / Staff Code of Conduct. This Code of Conduct includes the following points.

- We shall try to discern what is pleasing to God and exhibit behavior on and off the field/court which will glorify Jesus Christ. (Colossians 3:23 and 24)
- We shall not take part in nor tolerate any derogatory or taunting activity. This includes foul language, profane gestures, verbal attempts to distract or provoke opponents, sexual innuendos, “trash talk,” and tearing down of teammates, opponents, or others. (Ephesians 4:29)
- We shall uphold the honor and dignity of the coaching profession in all personal contact with players, parents, officials, opposing teams and coaches, athletic directors, spectators, the media, and the public. We shall strive to set an example of the highest ethical and moral conduct. (Matthew 7:12)
- We shall meet and exchange cordial greetings with the opposing coach to set the correct tone for each event, before and after the contest. (Luke 6:31)
- We shall master the contest rules and shall teach them to our team members; we shall not seek an advantage by circumvention of the spirit or letter of the rules. (Matthew 6:33)
- We shall treat our players with the utmost respect. Our player’s welfare should be considered in all coaching decisions. (Matthew 7:12)
- We shall respect and support contest officials, avoiding conduct which would incite players or spectators against the officials, and addressing officials’ decisions in a respectful manner. (Colossians 4:6)
- We shall respect the property and reputation of our opponents as well as that of our own facilities. (Philippians 2:3)
- We shall not take part in nor tolerate any form of violence. (Romans 12:18)
- We shall encourage aggressive (hard-working) play, but not tolerate dangerous or out-of-control play. (1 Thessalonians 5:8)
- We acknowledge we have a tremendous influence, for either good or ill, on the development and growth of each player and, thus, we shall never place the value of winning above the value of instilling the highest ideals of character. (Hebrews 12:1-2)
- We shall address disputes in a Godly manner as soon as possible between the parties involved (Matthew 18:15-17)
- We shall not post, send or share negative or inappropriate comments, memes, photos, or videos regarding our program, athletes, teammates, coaches and staff or our opponents, officials, media, spectators or the general public via social media or any other electronic means. (Ephesians 4:29, 1 Corinthians 1:10, James 3:10-12)

- We acknowledge that a players' use of illegal or performance-enhancing drugs or alcohol will not be tolerated and is grounds for dismissal from all FHSAA programs. We shall avoid the use of alcohol or tobacco products when in contact with players. (1 Thessalonians 5:6-8)
- We acknowledge that, for players to participate in practices and games, all fees and required paperwork must be submitted to FHSAA on schedule. (1 Timothy 5:18)