



COACH CODE OF CONDUCT

The GBYLA is committed to promoting the "Honor the Game" philosophy for all who enjoy the sport of lacrosse. To help fulfill this commitment, the GBYLA expects coaches (as well as officials, players, parents and spectators) to abide by a Code of Conduct that "Honors the Game" and embodies basic principles of fair play and good sportsmanship; demonstrates consideration of others; and projects a positive image to the youth we serve.

Accordingly, each GBYLA Coach is expected to follow a "Code of Conduct" exemplified by the following pledge:

I HEREBY PLEDGE THAT AS A GBYLA COACH I WILL:

- Honor the Game of Lacrosse
- Consider it a privilege to coach youth and recognize that the game I am coaching is for youth and not for my benefit as an adult.
- Recognize that as a coach I am the single person who is the most responsible for setting the tone of behavior for my players and my team's parents and fans.
- Lead by example in demonstrating a sense of fair play and superior sportsmanship to all my players.
- Strive to master the rules of lacrosse and teach those rules to my players and their parents.
- Teach lacrosse skills, and use coaching techniques, appropriate for the age I coach.
- Emphasize positive coaching methods designed to foster a love and appreciation for the sport of lacrosse in my players.
- Place the emotional and physical wellbeing of my players ahead of my personal desire to win.
- Remember to treat each player as an individual and recognize that there is a large spread in emotional and physical development of players within the same age group.
- Avoid excessive displays or outbursts of anger in the presence of my players.
- Not threaten, harass or abuse a player physically, verbally, mentally or sexually.
- Not use alcohol, tobacco, or illegal drugs in the presence of players.
- Not maliciously criticize, badger, harass, or threaten any official.
- Comply with Alabama law and GBYLA policy regarding concussions; educate myself about the risks and symptoms of concussions; and not return to play a player who has been suspected of sustaining a concussion until I have received reasonable assurance that the player has been evaluated by a licensed physician who has provided the player with written clearance to return to play.
- Not use the media (including electronic media such as websites, blogs, Twitter, Facebook, etc.) to criticize an official, opposing coach or player, or those associated with administering the sport of lacrosse thru the GBYLA.