

The Victory League

Code of Ethics for Coaches



Every Christian is a representative of Christ. Due to their leadership role and interactions with others during competitive situations, coaches in the Victory League must be especially mindful of the higher character standards to which God has called them. Sports provide a unique opportunity to display Christ-likeness through the ideals of sportsmanship, ethical conduct, fair play, courtesy, integrity, respect, and Christ-centered values. In order to promote these ideals in all league-sanctioned events, the following code for coaches has been developed:

The coach and his/her God:

God has called you to be a minister to children; use the talents that He has given you to bring Jesus glory. Recognize that you are representing Christ, and that the example you provide will have a tremendous bearing on everyone who is a part of this athletic program.

The coach and the game:

Recognize that the purpose of athletics is to educate and promote growth in each area of the participant's life: physical, social, mental, and spiritual. Achieve a thorough understanding and acceptance of the rules of the game and of the league and seek to wholeheartedly adhere to these values of fair play. "Winning" a game occurs when the ideals of sportsmanship, ethical conduct, sound judgment and fair play have been displayed by everyone involved. Maintain the proper sports environment by understanding proper safety and first-aid techniques and by ensuring that all activities are free of drugs, tobacco, and alcohol.

The coach and his/her players:

Treat your players with respect. Help to develop in them a healthy attitude towards sports competition, a positive self-image, a closer walk with Christ, a loving relationship with each other, a sense of dignity in all circumstances, and a conviction to stand for Christian principles. Do not tolerate incidents of profanity or intimidation or other unsportsmanlike behaviors. Demonstrate Christ's gentleness and mercy as their shepherd, while you teach, encourage, instruct, and correct your athletes. Inspire a love for the game in them.

The coach and the other team:

Treat the other teams' coaches, players, and fans with respect while being cordial, trusting, and pleasant. Play hard when winning or losing but in no way intimidate or embarrass the opposition. Develop a positive relationship with and a mutual respect for the ability of the other team.

The coach and the official(s):

Accept the letter and the spirit of the rules. Support the role of the officials in providing judgment to ensure that the games are conducted fairly in accordance with the established rules. Submit to the official's authority by humbly accepting decisions and calls made; respectfully and privately provide relevant information as necessary to officials.