



Code of Conduct for Coaches

Positive Environment

- Provide a safe and secure playing environment.
- Seek ways to increase development as a coach.
- Practice the necessary first aid principles needed to assess and/or treat player injuries.
- Refrain from using inappropriate language at all times during practices and games.
- Demand a playing environment that is free from alcohol, tobacco and drugs.

Well Being of Players

- Place the emotional and physical well-being of players ahead of any personal desire to win. The Bays mantra of *“play smart and battle hard”* places the highest value on player empowerment and improvement over winning.
- Develop team spirit and a sense of belonging where each player supports one another.
- Ensure that all players get equal instruction, support and playing time. At the more competitive level (i.e. VIPL), players must play at least half a game, each game.
- Ensure training activities are suitable for the age, experience, ability and fitness level of players.
- Be generous in praise—positive reinforcement feels great for the players and is the best practice in creating the behavior from a coaching perspective.
- Organize practices that are fun and challenging for all players.
- Be aware that concussion is a brain trauma, [know the signs and symptoms](#), and err on the side of safety. If a head impact results in loss of consciousness or dizziness, sit the player out.

Respect

- Never ridicule or yell at individual players for making mistakes or for performing poorly--instead, focus on what technical or tactical performance needs correcting.
- Never discriminate on grounds of race, gender or sexuality.
- Ask parents to contact you directly (off the field) if they have concerns.
- Ask parents/spectators to move away from the bench or leave the game if they are engaging in unsporting conduct.
- Teach players to play fairly and respect the rules, officials and their opponents.
- Model good sportsmanship by never questioning an officials' judgment in front of players.

****Any coach not adhering to BUFC *Code of Conduct for Coaches* may be required to meet with the club committee and/or General Manager or could be subject to suspension from coaching with the club.**