

Coach Code of Conduct

Ringette BC is committed to providing its members with a safe and positive environment in which all individuals are treated with respect. Ringette BC has pledged to the Responsible Coaching Movement and the True Sport Principles.

All Coaches are expected to adhere to the Responsible Coaching Movement by completing Ethics Training, completing a screening process and criminal record check, and adhering to the Rule of Two.

Ringette BC has pledged to the True Sport Principles of Sport. All ringette competitions, events and related activities are True Sport Events. All coaches are expected to promote and exemplify the True Sport Principles.

The athlete/coach relationship is a privileged one. Coaches play a critical role in the personal as well as athletic development of their athletes. They must understand and respect the inherent power imbalance that exists in this relationship and must be extremely careful not to abuse it. Coaches must also recognize that they are conduits through which the values and goals of a sport organization are channeled.

The following Code of Conduct has been developed to aid coaches in achieving a level of behaviour that will allow them to assist their athletes in becoming well-rounded, self-confident individuals. Coaches found in breach of this code of conduct will be subject to disciplinary sanctions.

COACHES HAVE A RESPONSIBILITY TO:

1. Uphold and promote the True Sport Principles in all aspects of my athlete experience.

The True Sport Principles are:

- ⦿ GO FOR IT!
Rise to the Challenge – always strive for excellence. Discover how good you can be.
- ⦿ PLAY FAIR
Play honestly – obey both the letter and the spirit of the rules. Winning is only meaningful when competition is fair.
- ⦿ RESPECT OTHERS
Show respect for everyone involved in creating your sporting experience, both on and off the field. Win with dignity and lose with grace.
- ⦿ KEEP IT FUN
Find the joy of sport. Keep a positive attitude both on and off the field.
- ⦿ STAY HEALTHY
Place physical and mental health above all other considerations – avoid unsafe activities. Respect your body and keep in shape.
- ⦿ INCLUDE EVERYONE
Share sport with others. Ensure everyone has a place to play.
- ⦿ GIVE BACK
Find ways to show your appreciation for the community that supports your sport and helps make it possible

2. Treat all players, coaches, officials and spectators with respect regardless of a person's culture, color, ancestry, nationality, age, political beliefs, religion, family status, physical or mental disability, gender or sexual orientation;
3. Direct comments or criticism at the performance rather than the athlete;

4. Consistently display high personal standards and project a favorable image of their sport and of coaching by:
 - a. Refraining from public criticism of fellow coaches, especially when speaking to the media or recruiting athletes;
 - b. Abstaining from the use of tobacco or cannabis products while in the presence of their athletes and discourage their use by athletes;
 - c. Abstaining from drinking alcoholic beverages when working with athletes;
 - d. Discourage the use of alcohol in conjunction with athletic events or victory celebrations at the playing site; and
 - e. Refraining from the use of profane, insulting, harassing or otherwise offensive language in the conduct of their duties.
5. Ensure that the activity being undertaken is suitable for the age, experience, ability and fitness level of the athletes and educate athletes as to their responsibilities in contributing to a safe environment.
6. Communicate and cooperate with registered medical practitioners in the diagnoses, treatment and management of their athletes' medical and psychological concerns. Consider the athletes' future health and well-being as foremost when making decisions regarding an injured athlete's ability to continue playing or training.
7. Recognize and accept when to refer athletes to other coaches or sport specialists. Allow athletes' goals to take precedence over their own.
8. Regularly seek ways of increasing professional development and self-awareness.
9. Treat opponents, officials and spectators with due respect both in victory and defeat and encourage athletes to act accordingly. Actively encourage athletes to uphold the rules of Ringette and the spirit of such rules.
10. In the case of minors, communicate and cooperate with the athletes' parents or legal guardians, involving them in management decisions pertaining to their children's development.
11. Be aware of the academic pressures placed on student-athletes and conduct practices and games in a manner so as to allow academic success.
12. Ensure athletes, parents, and team members are following social media guidelines and policies when interacting with Social media applications.

COACHES MUST:

1. Ensure the safety of the athletes with whom they work;
2. At no time become intimately and/or sexually involved with their athletes. This includes requests for sexual favors or threat of reprisal for the rejection of such requests.
3. Respect their athletes' dignity; verbal or physical behaviors that constitute harassment or abuse are unacceptable.
4. Never advocate or condone the use of drugs or other banned performance enhancing substances or methods. Never provide underage athletes with alcohol.
5. Adhere to the Rule of Two and safe sport practices.

I, _____ have read and understand the above statements and agree to conduct myself in a manner that demonstrates the standards established in the Coaching Code of Conduct and Coaching Code of Ethics.

DATE

COACH SIGNATURE

WITNESS NAME

WITNESS SIGNATURE

