

Appendix P

Coaching Expectations

COACHES RESPONSIBILITIES

Prior to student participation in any try-out and/or practice for a sport/activity a signed consent to participate, acknowledgement of risks, emergency contact and medical information form must be completed by parent/guardian and provided to the coach, consult to Appendix A - Sample Interschool Athletics Package for Parents/Guardians.

The coach must be knowledgeable of students' medical conditions (for example, anaphylaxis, diabetes, epilepsy, asthma) and must have the students' Emergency Contact and Medical Information available at all try-outs, practices, and competitions.

Consult school board and local athletic association rules and regulations (consult, safety guidelines, code of conduct, first aid emergency response, concussion protocol, and transportation policy) and adhere to the higher standard of care.

Review sport Safety Guidelines and attend school board/Athletic Associations coaches' meetings/workshop clinics.

The coach must work with athletes in a professional manner that emphasizes respect, fair play and skill improvement.

Establish routines, rules of acceptable behaviour and appropriate duties of students at the beginning of the sport season and reinforce throughout the season. Coaches must discipline students for unsafe play or unacceptable behaviour, and must exercise that responsibility at all times. Consult Appendix J – Rules of Behaviour for Participants at OFSAA Championships for more information on student behaviour.

The coach must implement the appropriate concussion prevention strategies (consult Appendix C-7 - Sample Concussion Prevention Strategies)

For all sports, where the coach is not of the same sex as the student(s) and where the student(s) is required or might be required to stay overnight, a supervisory adult, as approved by the principal of the school, of the same sex as the student(s), must be present and available at the accommodation site for the duration of their stay.

The coach must keep a document/keep a record of:

- student attendance (consult Appendix S – Coach’s Planner);
- practice plans, with reference to progressive development of skills, and the inherent risks of the sport and safety techniques (consult Appendix S – Coaches’ Planner);
- emergency contact and medical information forms and keep them easily accessible (consult Appendix A - Sample Interschool Athletics Package for Parents/Guardians and Students of the Age of Majority); and
- a concussion recognition tool (consult Appendix C-2 - Sample Tool to Identify a Suspected Concussion) and keep a copy easily accessible.

Distribute, collect and file the appropriate forms from any athlete who has required medical attention.

- For non-concussion illness or injury, refer to Appendix B - Return to Physical Activity – Non-Concussion Medical Illnesses/Injuries.
- For concussion, refer to your school board’s concussion protocol. For examples consult Appendix C-3 - Sample Documentation of Medical Assessment, Appendix C-4 - Home Preparation for Return to School (RTS) and Return to Physical Activity (RTPA) Plan, Appendix C-5 - Sample Documentation for a Diagnosed Concussion – Return to Learn/Return to Physical Activity Plan, and Appendix C-6 - Sample Documentation for Medical Clearance).

COACHING QUALIFICATIONS

The coach must meet coaching qualifications as outlined on the sport/activity page.

TRAINING PROCEDURES

The coach must be knowledgeable of the rules and skills necessary for the students to play the game safely. Teach and enforce the rules of the sport. Teach skills in proper progression.

Coaches must teach proper techniques/strategies related to offensive and defensive skills.

Attend to and follow proper training procedures for all sports.

Coaches must provide a suitable level of competition according to skill, size, age, and conditioning of the student. Coaches must examine the intensity and frequency of drills, practices, and games in order not to put the student at risk (for example, excessive repetition of heading or hitting skills).

When there has been an interruption to a competitive season of more than two weeks, coaches must provide appropriate practice time before competition may resume.

Athletes must be appropriately supervised during all phases of the activity: practices, warm-up, competition and breaks. If a coach cannot fulfill the specified level of supervision, the activity must be stopped.

FIRST AID

Ensure there is an individual who takes responsibility to provide first aid, at try-outs, practices, and competitions, who meets the first aid requirements as outlined on the Safety Guidelines sport activity page.

Implement corrective measure to help prevent the reoccurrence of an injury.

GAME PROTOCOL

Officials must be treated with respect. Officials' decisions are final (for example, officials'

decisions can only be questioned through proper procedures).

Coaches must be aware of the school's coaching handbook (if available) and coaching code of behaviour where applicable.

It is the responsibility of the coaches to control their teams and instruct their players to participate in a safe and fair manner according to the rules of the game.

Visiting coaches are responsible for their teams' behaviour.

PARENT/GUARDIAN COMMUNICATION

Coaches must communicate the inherent risk of sport participation to the parents/guardians prior to the first practice. Parents/guardians must sign and return the Emergency Contact/Medical Information, Acknowledgment of Risks and Permission to Participate Form (consult Appendix A - Sample Interschool Athletics Package for Parents/Guardians and Students of the Age of Majority). Inform parents, through written and /or verbal communication, of the times and locations of practices and games.

Consult the school board's transportation procedures related to communicating with parents/guardians the location of an off-site activity and the means of transportation used as well as the need to obtaining parent/guardian permissions.

ATHLETE COMMUNICATION

The coach must communicate to players the school board's policy related to initiation/hazing activities. Inform athletes they are not to share water bottles.