



ERAA Coaching Code of Conduct

As a youth coach for East Ridge Athletic Association (ERAA), I understand the importance of its Coaching Code of Conduct and I am committed to presenting myself and ERAA to the student athletes and to the community in a professional and ethical manner. I also understand there are consequences for inappropriate behavior while coaching for ERAA, some of which would prevent me from continuing my participation as a coach within ERAA. I agree to abide by and follow the rules and guidelines listed below:

1. I will respect the athletes selected for the team and recognize that all players have a talent or skill to contribute, and I will use those talents and skills during a game so that each athlete understands they are a valuable part of the team. My primary focus will be on player development and I will avoid lengthy periods of time a player spends watching the game.
2. I will demonstrate good sportsmanship at all times. I will refrain from put downs, profanity, and/or use of language that is condescending. I will teach players skills in the sport that I am coaching that will help prevent injury to themselves and others.
3. I will be organized and on time for each game and practice. I will inform the team if I cannot make a practice and I will designate a coach to serve as a substitute in my place. I will make good use of the time given for practice by teaching age appropriate skills and strategies.
4. I will be respectful of the time athletes put into practice and games, and I will support the time athletes need for academic success.
5. I will provide a safe environment while coaching that is free from drugs, alcohol and tobacco use, or possession of any type of weapon during or after any practice, game or at any ERAA event home or away.
6. I will respect players, officials, coaches, spectators, parents, or any other individual involved with the ERAA program regardless of race, creed, color, sex or ability. I expect to be treated respectfully in the same manner in order to provide a positive experience for all.
7. I understand that any significant officiating disputes that I believe need to be escalated, should be directed to the ERAA board in writing. The appropriate organization will be contacted by the reporting coach and board member(s).
8. I will observe a "cool down period" period, and wait at least 24 hours to discuss any serious, non life-threatening problems with an athlete, parent or any other individual involved with ERAA. I will respectfully speak to the individual(s) in an appropriate setting regarding these issues.
9. I recognize that if I cannot successfully resolve a coaching conflict or issue on my own, I can escalate to the ERAA board in writing. The ERAA board will make every effort to understand the facts and help resolve the matter. I understand the ERAA board's decision is final.
10. I will be responsible for understanding the rules and strategies of the game and teaching these to the athletes. I will also ensure that I remain up to date with the sport I am coaching by attending any ERAA hosted sports specific coaching clinics that are offered.
11. I will follow the rules of the game and teach the players the importance of adherence to these rules.
12. I will not ask or entice an athlete that is already registered on another team to join the team I am coaching.
13. I will represent the ERAA to the public in a dignified and respectful manner by providing positive and constructive comments that enhance the philosophy and reputation of the ERAA and the sport I am coaching.

14. I will remind myself that I am in youth coaching to ensure the student athletes I am coaching learn the game, have fun, most importantly... enjoy their experience and participate again next year!

15. I understand that by coaching in ERAA that I am making a commitment to BUILDING A PROGRAM and that the primary charter of ERAA is a feeder program to East Ridge High School and its varsity programs. I recognize that coaching in athletic associations outside of ERAA may be viewed as a conflict of interest and could have a negative impact on my ability to coach within ERAA in the future.

I also agree that if I do not abide by the aforementioned rules and guidelines, I may be subject to disciplinary action(s) decided by the ERAA executive board. All decisions will be final. This action could include, but is not limited to the following: verbal warning, written warning, game suspension, season suspension, or permanent coaching ban.

I agree to support and promote the philosophy of ERAA sports: *Excel, Attitude, Strength, Team, Respect, Integrity, Dignity, Goals, Energy.*

Date

Print Name

Signature