



COACHES' CODE OF CONDUCT

The primary goal of coaches should be the development of the players to become better people. The players must be taught sportsmanship and fair play, and the fundamentals of the game. These teachings should always govern their behavior while at practice and at games. Coaches shall be responsible for the conduct of all players, members of the coaching staff and spectators. This includes the time periods before, during and after league games and other events. Improper conduct witnessed by either the game officials or a member of the OFA Board of Directors, on the part of the players, coaches or spectators may result in penalties, expulsion, suspension or forfeiture of the game.

I hereby pledge to live up to my commitment as a Orono Youth Football Coach by following the OYF Coaches' Code of Conduct:

I will lead by example, uphold the values of fair play and honesty, both on and off the field, and will take responsibility for my actions and decisions as a coach.

I will prioritize the emotional and physical wellbeing of my players as well as the development of sportsmanship, fair play, teamwork, and character over solely focusing on winning games or competitions.

I will actively promote inclusion within my team and treat each player as an individual ensuring that all players feel welcome and valued regardless of their background, physical/mental abilities, or beliefs.

I will address any instances of bullying, harassment, or discrimination within my team promptly and effectively, ensuring that all individuals feel safe and respected.

I commit to upholding a professional standard by refraining from posting any inappropriate content on social media platforms and ensuring that players feel secure by never providing rides home without the presence of a third person in the vehicle.

I will provide an environment for my team that is free of drugs, tobacco, and alcohol, and I will refrain from their use or be under the influence of them at all youth sports events.

I will communicate openly and effectively with players, parents, and other stakeholders, keeping them informed about team policies, league rules, schedules, and any other relevant updates.

I will strive to create a fun, supportive and safe atmosphere during practices and games, where mistakes are viewed as learning opportunities and encouragement is provided to all players.

I will ensure that a player with a suspected concussion will stop participating in training, practice or competition immediately and I will not allow that player to participate in any further activities until I receive a physician's letter of clearance.

I will maintain appropriate boundaries and treat all players, parents, officials, opposing coaches and fans with dignity and respect avoiding any abusive behavior or profane language or gestures that could be perceived as inappropriate or crossing professional lines.

I will maintain a balanced and competitive game environment, strategically rotating players on both defense and offense to ensure that all team members can contribute while preventing the game from becoming one-sided.

I will support youth football officials and act in the sport's best interest, maintaining professionalism and integrity in all interactions. I will respect on-field decisions made by the officials, acknowledging their authority during game time situations.

I will complete all of the OFA required (Trusted Coaches) certification modules and will continually seek opportunities for personal and professional development, staying informed about best practices in coaching and player safety and development.

I commit to fully and fairly participating in the OYF player evaluation and draft processes with the goal of creating teams that are as equal in ability as possible.

I will utilize the coaching resources (such as iPads and playbooks) provided by the Orono Football Association. My instruction will be focused on fundamental skills, techniques, and strategies that are appropriate for the grade level I coach and aligned with the high school program.

I commit to ensuring that each player has a safe, fun and developmental experience that makes them excited to return to football next year!