

Lee County Parks and Recreation Department
Coaches Policies and Ethics

1. All Head coaches must complete a Volunteer Application Form, a background consent form and must be approved by the league coordinator. Head Coaches children may play for FREE.
2. All Coaches must attend the required coaches' clinic each year in the sport he or she wished to coach. Failure to attend will cause loss of his or her team. Coaches may not conduct practices or games until certification is complete. Certification will cost \$20.00 payable to NYSCA, National Youth Sports Coaches Association.
3.
 - 1) A coach returning in the same age group, for the same sport will have the first opportunity to coach that team again, if he or she meet the other requirements above.
 - 2) A coach with the most years coach experience with that sport will have the second opportunity to coach a team in the program.
 - 3) A coach who coached in the sport last year in another age group, will have the first opportunity to move up or down in age groups when an opening occurs.
 - 4) An assistant coach who helped coach that team will be next in line for the team he or she helped.
 - 5) A coach from a previous sport will be next in line.
 - 6) Volunteers will be recruited from interested persons in that sport.
 - 7) Parents from the team without a coach will be next in line for coaching.
 - 8) No coach or assistant coach may change teams while he or she is coaching.
4. Coaches will study the rules of the game, observe the rules, and attempt to improve him or herself through knowledge of the sport.
5. Team meetings/outings should only be scheduled with parent's knowledge and permission. All players are to be included in all practices and activities.
6. Coaches should remember that you are out there for the children and not to draw attention to yourself, but only to the children.
7. Coaches should shape their character and conduct so it is a worthy example to the youth under their jurisdiction.
8. Coaches should be fair and unbiased in their decisions, regarding the playing of children.
9. Coaches should cooperate and be professional in their association with fellow coaches and do nothing to cause them or the Recreation Department public embarrassment.
10. Coaches should keep in mind that the children are more important than the game or the ambitions of any player or parent.
11. The Recreation Department discourages Wednesday and Sunday practices due to church. Any coach caught penalizing children for missing a Wednesday or Sunday practice will be brought before the League Coordinator. All practice times and sites must be approved by LCRD.
12. Coaches will not smoke on or in the vicinity of the playing field, or drink alcoholic beverages on the day of the game or practice.
13. No coach may coach for more than one team during a single sport.

14. All coaches are responsible for collecting their teams uniforms and/or equipment no later than (2) two weeks after their last game.
15. The mandatory playing time varies from sport to sport. Please see specific rules for minimum playing time. This is a rule to cover minimum-playing time only. Coaches are encouraged to play participants as much as possible.
16. Coaches should be dignified, courteous, positive, friendly, calm, and always be alert; never rude, arrogant, and overbearing during practice or games.
17. Coaches are expected to refrain from cursing, brutality, and use of alcohol, gambling, and other objectionable activities during practices, games, and all youth sites. Penalty results in suspension or dismissal of coach.
18. Coaches not playing their players the required time will forfeit the said game, and they must start the players the next game and double the required playing time before leaving the game.
19. Any coach acting in an unsportsmanlike manner or in conduct that could prove detrimental to the league, players, umpires, or spectators will be subject to disciplinary action by the Recreation Department and the League Coordinator.
 - 1) Language unbecoming to the league: suspend 1 game
 - 2) Unsportsmanlike conduct at an athletic event: suspend 1 game
 - 3) Thrown out of a game: suspend next game
 - 4) Damage to recreation property: suspend indefinitely
 - 5) Fighting: suspend for 1 year from the date of incident and must leave
 - 6) Touching or striking an official: suspend indefinitely
20. Any coach who is involved as a parent, coach or spectator participating in a LCRD activity must adhere to the Policies and Ethics Manual. Failure to do so result in suspension or termination from coaching with this department.
21. Any Coach having knowledge of players in the league or tournament under the Lee County Recreation Department, or the GRPA, under false age or identification, will be suspended indefinitely.