



HYFA Code of Ethics

Preamble

All football coaches must realize the game is played for the benefit of the participants. An emphasis will be placed on developing life long values. Coaches are role models and will set an example for players, parents and spectators. The Code of Ethics has been developed to stress operating within specific coaching guidelines that brings credit to HYFA.

Article One - Responsibilities to Players

- 1** A coach must be aware of the influence he has on his players. All actions are expected to follow the rules of proper sportsmanship and respect the dignity of his players and the opposition.
- 2** All coaching techniques and decisions will be within the rules of the game. Every effort must be made to abide by high principles that promote the mutual respect between the coach and his players.
- 3** It is in the best interest of all for the coach to consult trained medical personnel when injuries take place. The orders of the physician or qualified personnel must be followed.
- 4** Medication and treatment should be administered only with the direction of a physician or trained medical personnel.
- 5** All coaches are expected to know eligibility rules and apply them uniformly.

Article Two - Rules of the Game

- 1** The rules and suggestions in the HYFA Rule Book and National Federation of State High School Associations are an integral part of the code and must be followed.
- 2** Every coach has a responsibility to know the rules and to teach them to his players.
- 3** The coach will promote sportsmanship and respect for the opponent by practicing proper techniques in front of players and spectators.
- 4** Proper blocking, tackling, alignment, use of the clock, etc. will be promoted through maintaining high ethical standards in practice and games.
- 5** Coaches should stress that on field communication should be between teammates only.
- 6** Good sportsmanship habits are formed on the practice field. The coach will provide direction to guarantee that proper standards are followed at all times.

Article Three - Disputes

- 1** Any dispute should never be handled in the presence of a player or any other child.
- 2** Disputes between coaches and officials should be handled only between the head coach and the head official. This should not take place in the presence of any other assistant coach, player, or spectator.
- 3** Disputes between parents and coaches should not be handled in front of any other player or parent.
- 4** Any dispute with a spectator should be brought to the official's attention and not handled by the coach.
- 5** If disputes cannot be reasonably resolved in any situation, coaches should contact a member of the HYFA Board of Directors, of which will discuss and determine the best course of action.

Article Four - Other Responsibilities

- 1** Before and after the game opposing coaches should meet and exchange greetings.
- 2** Coaches should help to improve sportsmanship through working with the advisors to the cheerleaders.
- 3** The coach should limit his comments about the game to members of his team and encourage his players to do the same.
- 4** It is ethical to limit all rewards, celebrations, etc. to the team and to respect the dignity of the opponent.
- 5** The coach must follow all rules and regulations as determined by HYFA policy.
- 6** Any use of profanity is not permitted by coaches, players, officials, or spectators. Offenders may be immediately ejected from the game and may face permanent expulsion from participating in future HYFA events. This rule may be enforced without prior warning. It is the coach's responsibility to make this known to his players, parents, and other coaches.