

King of Prussia Football Association



Coaches and Team Staff Codes of Conduct

All coaches and Team Staff shall abide by the KPFA By Laws, Constitution, and Code of Conduct which includes the following provisions. The Team Staff is defined as anyone that steps on the field and represents the KPFA.

Coaches & Team Staff members shall:

- ✓ Not smoke and / or use smokeless tobacco on the field.
- ✓ Not use any alcoholic beverages **before or during** any practice, scrimmage or game.
- ✓ The use of any illegal drug(s) at any time is prohibited.
- ✓ All coaches must have a working knowledge of the league rules to be able to explain them to the players or parents if necessary. Never knowingly circumvent or break the league or organization's rules of play and never permit an ineligible player to participate in a game.
- ✓ Coaches should never criticize or argue with players, referees or other coaches in front of spectators or players. Never criticize an opposing team, its players, coaches or fans by word of mouth or gesture. Any constructive criticism for players should be reserved for later, in private, or in the presence of team members if it might benefit others.
- ✓ With the exception of the Flag and 55lb programs, all coaches must stay off the field and on the sidelines during a game. Only the head coach is permitted to talk to the referees. Coaches, team staff players and spectators should accept decisions of the game officials on the field as being fair and called to the best of the ability of said officials.
- ✓ Coaches should strive to make every activity serve as a training ground for life, and a basis for good mental and physical health. Emphasize that winning is the result of good "teamwork" and emphasize that good athletes strive to be good students and that both are physically and mentally alert.
- ✓ Allow every youth participant a fair opportunity to compete for position they desire, ensure that all participants are given adequate reps in practice and all players and cheerleaders participate during games.
- ✓ Not receive payment, in cash or kind, for services as a coach in KPFA. This includes any coach, expert, consultant or choreographer, regardless of his/her roster status.

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- ✓ All coaches must stay in control. Never lose your temper, use profane or abusive language or any form of violence. Never deliberately incite unsportsmanlike conduct. Together with team officials, be jointly responsible for the conduct and control of teams and spectators. Any fan that becomes a nuisance will be asked to leave. No one other than the team squad and staff are permitted on the sidelines during any game. No coach should ever grasp a player's facemask.
- ✓ Remove from a game or practice any participant when even slightly in doubt about his / her health, whether or not as a result of injury, until competent medical advice is available.
- ✓ Never "run up the score" on an opponent. Coaches shall encourage their team to get a commanding lead and make every effort to get additional playing time to those players who normally are not afforded the opportunity.
- ✓ Not recommend or distribute any medication, controlled or over the counter, except as specifically prescribed by participant's physician and with permission of participant's parent's or guardian's
- ✓ Attend the annual awards ceremony to honor the players and cheerleaders.
- ✓ All coaches agree to help recruit more players in all weight classes.
- ✓ All teams are responsible for their own equipment.
- ✓ All teams must verify the weights and birthdates of all players on the first night of practice.
- ✓ Field use priority will be any game, before any scrimmage, before any practice.
- ✓ All injuries should be taken seriously. All serious injuries should be reported to the Athletic Director immediately. (anything greater than cuts, bruises and sprains)
- ✓ No one is permitted to use "sweating down" tactics in order for a player to make the team weight, nor engage in any equipment modifications, alterations, subtractions or additions before or after weigh-in on game days.
- ✓ Weigh-ins during practice is to be supervised by a coach or a team parent.
- ✓ Keep players out of the TAC house during practices.
- ✓ All scrimmages, home or away should be cleared through the Athletic Director. The AD will insure it is posted on the board in the TAC house for all to see.

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- ✓ Anytime one team scrimmages another KP weight class, discretion should be used in playing heavy players against the younger ones.
- ✓ Last teams to use the sleds are responsible for the return of the pads to the announcer's booth.
- ✓ The storage of equipment to the announcer's booth should be supervised by an adult. If not, we have found the equipment is just thrown in and not put away properly.
- ✓ Hold your post game talks off the field. No matter the score, stress the positives.
- ✓ Playing time (see player participation report)
- ✓ The coaching staff should have their "rotation" of players ready before the preseason games. Talk to each other. Have a plan in place as to what positions you plan to use players to get them the proper playing time each game. Follow through with your plan. Even if kids seem out of place, don't give up on them in the preseason. If you show confidence in their abilities to adapt to the situation, you should find that by the time the season rolls around, even the less talented players will not "hurt" the team. The worst plan is to have no plan for giving playing time.
- ✓ Canceling practices for individual teams due to inclement weather is at the discretion of the head coach and his assistants. The number one priority should be the player's safety. No team should practice during a thunderstorm or the presence of lightning. But be aware not to cancel too early, most thunderstorms are fast moving and some quality practice time could be lost. Also keep in mind, the games will be played in any kind of weather. It is advisable to conduct practice even when raining; it could give you some valuable information as to your team's qualities.
- ✓ If you cancel a practice session, please arrange to contact all team members, and notify the TAC House as soon as the decision is made. You must update your team's phone message mailbox by 5:15pm so any callers will know the status of practices on rainy days. (This would allow parents to know they can check the voice mailbox after 5:15pm for status).
- ✓ Coaches are expected to volunteer in other areas as well as coach, especially on game day. Chains, announcing, 50/50's, food sales, field setup, field breakdown and cleanup. We must set an example for other parents.
- ✓ Communicate with the player's parents. Ask how they are doing in school. Get to know both players and parents.

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- ✓ Utilize your team parents. Distribution of flyers, handling minor injuries, phone chain, information sharing, equipment problems and paperwork are some duties they can help with.
- ✓ For disciplinary problems, first, discuss with the player/cheerleader. Second, discuss problem with the parents. Third notify Athletic Director/Cheerleader Director. Finally, AD/Cheerleader Director, coaches and parents meet to discuss.

The Board of Directors at their discretion may discipline coaches and team staff for breaking any of the above mentioned codes of conduct. Disciplinary action can be up to and including permanent expulsion from the KPFA organization.

This code of conduct will only be valid for the current season and must be signed in order to participate within the KPFA organization.

-----**(tear off and return to KPFA)**-----

I, _____ [print name] have read and agree to abide by and uphold the KPFA Coaches and Team Staff Code of Conduct, By Laws and Constitution.

Signature:

Team and Position:

Date:

Revised: July 3, 2003