



Bowling Federation of Canada

Coaches Code of Conduct

UNDERSTANDING THE POWER OF THE ROLE:

The relationship between an athlete and an instructor or coach is a privileged one. Instructors and coaches play critical roles in the personal as well as athletic development of their athletes. They must understand and respect the authority and level of influence associated with these roles and take great care not to abuse their power and position. Instructors and coaches must also recognize that they represent the Bowling Federation of Canada and that their behaviors will influence how athletes value themselves, others and the sport of bowling.

Coaches and instructors should never impose their personal goals on their athletes. Athletes' goals and needs must take precedence over their own.

The following Code of Conduct has been developed to aid coaches in achieving a level of behavior which will allow their athletes in becoming well-rounded, self confident and productive human beings.

INSTRUCTORS AND COACHES HAVE A RESPONSIBILITY TO:

1. Treat everyone fairly within the context of their activity, regardless of gender, place of origin, colour, sexual orientation, religion, political belief or economic status.
2. Direct comments or criticism at the performance rather than the athlete.
3. Consistently display high personal standards and project a favorable image of their sport and of coaching.
 - a) Refrain from public criticism of fellow coaches, athletes, officials and volunteers at all times.
 - b) Abstain from the use of tobacco products while in the presence of her/his athletes and discourage their use by athletes.
 - c) Abstain from drinking alcoholic beverages when working with athletes.
 - d) Discourage the use of alcohol in conjunction with athletic events or victory celebration at the playing site.
 - e) Refrain from the use of profane, insulting, harassing or otherwise offensive language in the conduct of his/her duties.
4. Ensure that the activity being undertaken is suitable for the age, experience, ability and fitness level of the athletes and educate athletes as to their responsibilities in contributing to a safe environment.
5. Communicate and co-operate with registered medical practitioners in the diagnosis, treatment and management of their athletes' medical or psychological problems.
6. Consider the athletes' future health and well being as foremost when making decisions regarding an injured athletes' ability to continue playing or training.
7. Regularly seek ways of increasing professional development and self-awareness.
8. Treat opponents and officials with respect, both in victory and defeat and encourage athletes to act accordingly. Actively encourage athletes to uphold the rules of their sport and the spirit of such rules.

9. In the case of minors, communicate and co-operate with the athlete's parents or legal guardians, involving them in management decisions pertaining to their child's development.
10. Be aware of the academic pressures placed on athletes and conduct practices and games in a manner so as to allow academic success.

COACHES MUST:

1. Ensure the safety of the athletes with whom they work.
2. At no time become intimately and/or sexually involved with their athletes. This includes requests for sexual favours or threat of reprisal for the rejection of such requests.
3. Respect athletes' dignity; verbal or physical behaviours that constitute harassment or abuse are unacceptable (refer to Bowling Federation of Canada Harassment Policy).
4. Never advocate or condone the use of drugs or other banned performance enhancing substances.
5. Never provide under age athletes with alcohol.
6. Never put themselves in situations of either real or perceived conflict of interest while coaching athletes.

Breach of this Code of Conduct will be referred to the BFC Discipline Policy