

COACH'S CODE OF CONDUCT

- a) At all times be a positive role model for your sport and athletes under your care. This includes refraining from any form of misconduct directed towards any persons.
- b) Be professional and accept responsibility for your actions. Display high standards of professionalism, language, manner, punctuality, preparation and presentation. Display control, respect, dignity to all involved in the sport - this includes opponents, any other coach's, officials, administrators, the media, parents and spectators. Encourage your athletes to demonstrate the same qualities and standards.
- c) Respect the rights, dignity and worth of every human being. Within the context of the activity, treat everyone equally regardless of sex, disability, ethnic origin or religion.
- d) Be fair, considerate and honest with athletes. Ensure the athlete's time spent with you is positive. All athletes deserve attention and opportunities.
- e) Encourage team work, spirit and harmony amongst all players, and place emphasis on fair play and sportsmanship at all times.
- f) Adhere to and encourage all athletes and other team personnel to maintain the principles of *"Think. Act. Play."* and *"Play by the Rules"* programs endorsed by Water Polo NSW Incorporated (WPNSW).
- g) Provide a safe environment for the conduct of any activity under your direction. Be aware of your responsibilities under the Children and Young Persons (Care and Protection) Act 1998 (NSW) (Act) and report any matters as required under the mandatory reporting requirements of the Act.
- h) Treat the team or squad under your care with the upmost respect. Treat each athlete as an individual. Respect the talent, development stage and goals of each athlete, help each athlete reach their potential.
- i) Make a commitment to providing a quality service to your athletes. Maintain or improve your current accreditation. Seek continual improvement through performance appraisal and ongoing coach education.
- j) Provide a planned and sequential training program. Maintain appropriate records where necessary or required.
- k) Operate within the rules of your sport. The guidelines of National and International bodies governing your sport should be followed. If required, contact WPNSW for a rule book and any relevant policies.
- l) Show concern and caution towards sick and injured athletes. Provide a modified training program where appropriate. Encourage athletes to seek medical advice when required. Maintain the same interest and support towards sick and injured athletes.
- m) Provide a Drug Free Environment - do not advocate, prescribe, recommend, support, administer or participate in the use of drugs, stimulants, or doping practices in respect of any athlete under your care or direction and abide by the Anti-Doping Policy of Water Polo Australia Limited (WPA) as endorsed by WPNSW. Coaches should assist educate athletes on drugs in sport issues as per ASADA guidelines.
- n) Any physical contact with athletes should be appropriate to the situation and relevant or necessary for the athlete's skill development.
- o) Refrain from any form of abuse towards any athlete. This includes verbal, physical and emotional abuse. Be alert to any forms of abuse directed towards athletes from other sources whilst they are in your care.
- p) Refrain from any form of harassment. This includes sexual harassment, racial vilification and harassment on the grounds of disability. You should not only refrain from initiating a relationship with an athlete but should also discourage any attempt by an athlete to initiate a sexual relationship with you, explaining the ethical basis of your refusal.
- q) Provide a safe environment for training and competition. Ensure equipment and facilities meet relevant safety standards. Equipment, rules, training and the environment need to be appropriate for the age of the athletes.
- r) Refrain from inappropriate behaviour towards officials and parents. Refer "Harassment- Free Sport guidelines" available from the Australian Sports Commission (ASC).
- s) Do not knowingly, recklessly or carelessly do, write or say anything or omit to do anything which in the sole opinion of Water Polo NSW is likely to bring Water Polo NSW or the sport of water polo into disrepute or cause damage to Water Polo NSW or its officers or employees or any Official.