



**Wilmington Youth Lacrosse Association
COACHES CODE OF CONDUCT
2010 Spring Season**

The **WYLA Coaches Code of Conduct** is based on the premise that the opportunity for children to play the game is great, however for them to develop a life long love for the game is greater. To share that love should be the goal of the coach.

Coaches are educators within the lives of all associated with Wilmington Youth Lacrosse. This includes players, parents, and administrators of the league and the fans of **THE GAME**. The field serves as the classroom. Practices provide the opportunity for players to learn and develop their skills while on the field. The primary function of the coach (es) is to teach Lacrosse and life skills in a safe environment conducive of learning for all players.

While winning is a consideration in every young player's eyes, it should not be the only one, nor the most important one. WYLA'S focus is on the development of skills, enjoyment of **THE GAME** and fair play for all. Coaches should never place the value of a win above the objective of instilling the highest ideals and character traits in their players. The safety and welfare of the players should always be uppermost in their mind and these values must never be sacrificed for personal prestige or personal gain. Remember players are involved in Lacrosse for fun and enjoyment

Be a positive role model to your players, display emotional maturity and be alert to the physical safety of the players. Coaches will always conduct themselves to be accountable to the highest principles, integrity and dignity of **THE GAME**. Whenever a player exhibits UN-sportsman like behavior it is the responsibility of the coach to address that behavior and put an end to it. Coaches are responsible for the conduct of their players.

Coaches will treat all game officials, including but not limited to on-field officials, scorers, timekeepers and all facility personnel in a professional and courteous manner.

WYLA Coaches must:

- Be generous with praise when it is deserved: be consistent, honest: be fair and just: do not criticize players publicly: learn to be a more effective communicator and coach, don't yell at players as individuals.
- Adjust to personnel needs and problems of players, be good listener, never verbally or physically abuse a player or official: give all players the opportunity to improve their skills, gain confidence and develop self-esteem: teach them the fundamentals of Lacrosse.
- Organize practices that are fun and challenging for your players. Familiarize yourself with the rules, techniques and strategies of Lacrosse: encourage all your players to be team players. Coaches are responsible for knowing the rules of MBYLL and US Lacrosse which drives most of the on-field play of the league
- Maintain an open line of communication with your players' parents. Explain the goals and objectives of your association.
- Be concerned with the overall development of your players. Stress good health habits and clean living.
- Adhere to the letter and spirit of all rules which govern the MBYLL, WYLA and where appropriate the US Lacrosse playing rules.

I acknowledge this Code of Conduct as the basis for how I will be viewed by my parents, players and other members of this organization

SIGNATURE _____ **DATE** _____