



ISA CODE OF CONDUCT

The ISA seeks to uphold high standards of personal conduct consistent with the ideals of competitive sport and within the best tradition of collegiality amongst independent schools.

The pursuit of excellence in games and the enhancement of positive educational experiences for all students is of paramount importance to the ISA approach to sport. ISA schools are expected to place the highest priority on players' safety and to ensure that Coaches are fully aware of the Code of Conduct as well as the particular rules and safety requirements in their particular sport. ISA Schools are also expected to provide the necessary facilities in regards to the provision of First Aid and support for injured players. The following Code of Conduct outlines the spirit of the Association and serves as broad guidelines for all who participate in games conducted under the aegis of the ISA.

GUIDELINES FOR COACHES

1. Students must perceive that the sporting programme of the School is consistent with the educational aims of the School. The role that coaches play in this is crucial. Coaches should be aware of their responsibility as role models in insisting on proper attitudes both on and off the field and by making games attractive, safe and enjoyable for students.
2. It is imperative for coaches to be clear on the standards associated with amateur sporting ideals. Coaches must always be ready to combat those views widely expressed in the media that run counter to the spirit of the amateur ethic.
3. Coaches should recognize that games are for enjoyment, and satisfaction comes from doing one's best for the team.
4. Coaches should develop in their players respect for the judgment of all officials (umpires, referees, touch judges, etc).
5. The home coach should welcome the visiting coach, and encourage the Captain of the team to seek out the visiting Captain.
6. Coaches should be reasonable in their expectations of the players and in their demands on the players' time and energy. They should be sensitive to the age, skill and physical maturity of their players.
7. It is an educational responsibility of coaches to acquaint their players thoroughly with the rules or laws of the game as these provide structure and order. For this reason, coaches should continually update their knowledge of the game, and schools should ensure this occurs.
8. The role of the coach is to support and encourage the players. Criticism should be focused on the mistake and no personal derogatory remarks should be made. There should be no recriminations in defeat.
9. Coaching from the sidelines must be restrained, tactful, infrequent and substantially out of earshot of spectators, except in those sports where it may be officially sanctioned under the rules of the game, eg. basketball. In all cases however, the role of the Coach should be understated rather than overstated.
10. Coaches should warn those players who are losing their composure and becoming too physical, and if necessary remove them from the playing arena should such warnings not be heeded.
11. Coaches should not encroach on the court or field of play.
12. Coaches are to accept player safety as an essential priority and correct techniques are to be insisted upon. Under no circumstances are matches to start or to continue under conditions which a coach considers contentious, eg. the absence of an appropriate umpire or referee; or an unsafe playing surface.
13. Coaches must notify their Sports Convenor if any student from a team is sent off. All students who are dismissed from the field shall be disciplined according to custom and practice of the member school, appear before the Teacher-in-Charge of that sport and the Director of Sport. It is the general rule that students will receive at least a one game suspension or similar penalty as outlined by the rules for individual sports.