

GUIDELINES FOR TEACHERS/ TEAM MENTORS

1. Respect the rights, dignity and worth of every person and treat each one equally regardless of age, gender or ability.
2. Ensure that nobody involved with the team acts towards or speaks to another person in a manner or engages in any other conduct which threatens, disparages, vilifies or insults another person on the basis of that person's race, religion, colour, nationality, ethnic or socio-economic background.
3. Be positive during coaching sessions so that participants always leave with a sense of achievement and an increased level of self-esteem.
4. Recognise the development needs of young players (avoid excessive training or competition) and ensure that they are matched on an individual or team basis.
5. Rotate the team captain and the method used for selecting teams so that the same children are not always last to be selected.
6. Be punctual, properly attired, lead by example and avoid smoking and the consumption of alcohol in the presence of young people.
7. Plan and prepare appropriately for each session and ensure proper levels of supervision.
8. Ensure games, activities and playing equipment are customized to suit the needs of those involved in terms of age, ability, experience and maturity.
9. Avoid overcoaching i.e. insisting upon set playing patterns where individual decision-making and creativity are stifled or where young people are confined to playing in set positions on a continuous basis.
10. Don't shout at/lecture players or reprimand/ridicule them when they make a mistake.
11. Set realistic (achievable) performance goals.
12. Praise and reinforce effort/commitment and provide positive feedback.
13. Don't equate losing with failure, do not develop a preoccupation with medals and trophies.
14. Encourage parents/guardians to play an active role in organising activities and draft a Code of Discipline for everyone involved.
15. Never use any form of corporal punishment or physical force.
16. Never use foul language or provocative language/gestures to a player, opponent or match official.
The Coach should only enter the field of play with the referee's permission and should not question their decisions or integrity.
17. It is important to recognize that certain situations or friendly actions – e.g. horseplay/role play/telling jokes etc – could be misinterpreted and could lead to allegations of misconduct or impropriety.
18. Do not have a situation where you are alone in a car or dressing-room with a player.
19. Avoid any inappropriate touching when assisting players to perform a technique or when administering First Aid.

20. Make adequate provision First Aid and do not encourage or allow players to play when injured. Keep a record of each injury and ensure that another official- referee/ team mentor- is present when a player is being attended to and can corroborate the relevant details.
21. Ensure players are safely attired and that proper insurance arrangements are in place.
22. ensure that all dressing rooms and areas occupied by the team, prior to, during or immediately following the completion of any match are kept clean and are not damaged in any way.
23. Be alert to the dangers of the misuse of mobile picture phones, especially in dressing rooms.
24. Schools are responsible for the behavior and actions of non-playing pupils.

EVERY EFFORT SHOULD BE MADE TO ENSURE THAT THE GREATEST POSSIBLE NUMBER OF YOUNG PEOPLE MAINTAIN AN ONGOING INVOLVEMENT AND THAT THEY EXPERIENCE THE FEELING OF SUCCESS THAT COMES FROM SOMEONE SAYING
“WELL DONE” OR “YOU TRIED AS HARD AS YOU COULD” OR “YOU GAVE AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE TO THE TEAM”

“If only the sun-drenched celebrities are being noticed and worshipped, then our Youth are going to have a tough time seeing the value in the shadows, where the thinkers, probers and teachers are keeping society together”.

Rita Dove