

CODES OF CONDUCT

All athletes, coaches and spectators are reminded that the rules of the game are to be regarded as mutual agreements, the spirit or letter of which no one should try to evade or break. Decisions of game officials are to be accepted without displays of anger. No participant will utter abusive or irritating remarks. Participants will strive to win with humility and lose with dignity. To win is desirable but to “Win at all Costs” defeats the purpose of the game as it applies to the educational objectives of each member school. Players and coaches subscribe to a code of conduct as outlined (By-Laws Section I and II). The conduct of players both on and off the field of play is the responsibility of the coach. Conduct of the spectators is the responsibility of supervising teachers. All participants (i.e. athletes, coaches, spectators and officials) are subject to the contents of the “Safe Schools Act.”

SECTION I – CODE OF CONDUCT FOR STUDENT/ATHLETES

1.01.1 EACH STUDENT/ATHLETE SHOULD STRIVE TO DEMONSTRATE THE FOLLOWING VALUES AND BEHAVIORS:

1. to understand the responsibilities involved in being a team member in terms of willingness to participate in practices, games, and maintaining satisfactory academic standards.
2. to be generous in winning and graceful in losing.
3. to gain a good knowledge and understanding of the rules of the game.
4. to understand that winning is desirable but to win at any cost defeats the purpose of the game.
5. to exhibit the qualities of good sportsmanship, dedication, pride, team spirit and leadership.
6. to demonstrate courtesy and respect towards coaches, sponsor teachers, officials and student minor officials
7. to understand that the only way to play the game is fairly and cleanly.
8. to understand that fighting, instigating threatening and/or other intimidating behaviors are not acceptable in W.E.C.S.S.A.A. competition. Any form of “HAZING” is strictly forbidden
9. to understand that obscenities, trash talk or other forms of verbal abuse directed at coaches, officials, players or spectators are not acceptable behaviors in W.E.C.S.S.A.A. competition.
10. to understand that the student /athlete’s violation of the Association’s policy (see Article 2.01; p. 1) regarding anabolic steroids and other illegal performance enhancing supplements will result in discipline against him/her including, but not limited to, restriction from WECSSAA activities. WECSSAA will accept any test results for illegal steroid use or other illegal performance enhancing supplements done by an accredited outside agency (ex. Canadian Centre for Ethics in Sport - CCES).
11. to understand that athletes must remain fully clothed in the appropriate uniform in the competition area, and use the designated locker room or change area to change to and from competitive attire.

FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH THE BEHAVIORS AND EXPECTATIONS OF THE ABOVE CODE WILL RESULT IN DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS AS OUTLINED IN THE W.E.C.S.S.A.A. CONSTITUTION.

1.02 A “Code of Conduct for Student Athletes” is to be signed by all participating student/athletes. This shall be the responsibility of member schools. A “Code of Conduct Acknowledgement Form” shall be submitted with the eligibility list to the Secretary/Treasurer.

SECTION II – CODE OF CONDUCT FOR COACHES

2.01 It is the purpose of this code to develop a set of standards for W.E.C.S.S.A.A. coaches that would be acceptable to and upheld by all coaches involved with student athletes participating in W.E.C.S.S.A.A. sponsored activities.

2.02 The areas of concern governing coaches have been divided into four categories:

1. The physical and psychological well-being of all participants
2. Deportment
3. The development of positive attitudes and skills
4. Responsibility to the Association

1. The Physical and Psychological Well-Being of all Participants

- a) The coach must assume responsibility for the physical and psychological well-being of the students in his/her care. Any form of “HAZING” is strictly forbidden.
- b) The coach must be concerned with the prevention, care and rehabilitation of sport injuries, and should make sure that appropriate first aid supplies are available at all game sites.

c) The coach must develop an appropriate level of physical fitness in the athletes.

d) The coach is restricted from distributing or administering any medication to a student/athlete as per Board and OFSAA policies.

e) The coach shall make every reasonable effort to prevent students/athletes from using steroids or other illegal performance enhancing supplements. If a coach suspects or has knowledge that a student/athlete is using steroids or another illegal performance enhancing supplement, h2. Deportment

a) A coach is a representative of the school. He/she, therefore, must first and foremost, uphold the educational values of sport and be ever mindful of the role sport plays within the educational objectives of the school, the School Boards, and the W.E.C.S.S.A.A.

b) The coach’s behaviour must be exemplary and beyond reproach. Dress and personal appearance should be professional and appropriate to the occasion.

c) It is the responsibility of all coaches to understand the standards and expectations set by their school and W.E.C.S.S.A.A.

d) The coach must show respect for all involved in the competition: opponents, officials, student minor officials and their own athletes.

e) The coach must respect the spirit as well as the letter of the rules governing the competition and not attempt to manipulate them.

f) To win is desirable. But to win at any cost defeats the purpose of the game.

3. The Development of Positive Attitudes and Skills

a) Through teaching and by example, the coach should attempt to instill in the athletes: high ideals of sportsmanship, qualities of cooperation, reliability, self-control, self-discipline and commitment.

b) The coach is responsible for the conduct of his/her athletes at all times and therefore must set positive standards for their behaviour. Respect for the property of others must be upheld.

4. Responsibility to W.E.C.S.S.A.A.

a) As a member of W.E.C.S.S.A.A., each coach is responsible to uphold the standards of the Association. Coaches must express promptly their concerns regarding infractions of the standards to the convenor of their sport and/or the President of the Association, who in turn may bring the concern to the Executive.

SECTION III – CODE OF CONDUCT FOR OFFICIALS

3.01 Annually, a copy of the Codes of Conduct for players, coaches and spectators will be distributed to each referees' association. A letter will ask each association to make every attempt to officiate within the guidelines of the Codes of Conduct. Every coach and player and the W.E.C.S.S.A.A. Executive will commit to working with officials in this regard. e/she must inform his/her Principal and the WECSSAA Secretary/Treasurer. 3.02 W.E.C.S.S.A.A. Executive will annually request the philosophy or the Code of Conduct for each association to ensure all are operating within the same basic philosophies and expectations.

3.03 Each convenor will annually hold a pre-season meeting of coaches and invite a representative from the referees' association so that any new rules and/or expectations can be shared.

3.04 Department

(a) The official's behavior must be exemplary and beyond reproach. Dress and personal appearance should be professional and appropriate for the occasion.

(b) It is the responsibility of all officials to understand the standards and expectations set by their Association and W.E.C.S.S.A.A.

(c) The official must show respect for all involved in the competition: students/athletes, teacher/coach/supervisors and spectators.

The Referee Associations shall insure that all members who officiate W.E.C.S.S.A.A. activities read and sign a document indicating that they are aware and will abide by the contents of the "Code of Conduct for Officials."

3.05 Officials attending games of the sport that they officiate, especially if they are a staff member of one of the participating schools, as a spectator should have no contact with the officials or coaches during that game.

SECTION IV – CODE OF CONDUCT FOR SPECTATORS (as prescribed by O.F.S.A.A.)

W.E.C.S.S.A.A. subscribes to the "O.F.S.A.A. Code of Conduct for Spectators".

4.01 The following code must be posted in every gymnasium where it can be seen and understood by all spectators:

1. Cheer in a positive manner.
2. Respect official's and minor student official's decisions.
3. Do not interfere with competition.
4. Keep off playing area.
5. Be courteous and respectful.

4.02 Failure to comply with this code may lead to ejection.