



Code of Conduct for Coaches



The Guilford County Schools Board of Education expects coaches of interscholastic sports to model appropriate behavior, demonstrate dedication, scholarship and integrity, and reflect the values and ideals of the education community. As stated in policy GBDBA, the Board of Education has established the following expectations for coaches in the Guilford County Schools:

1. No coach shall recruit any student to move or attend a school in order to play sports or have knowledge of any student or parent doing so. No coach shall enlist other individuals to recruit students on their behalf.
2. The coach shall disclose, fully and honestly, his outside activities and his relationships in a community setting with athletes enrolled at other schools. Coaches with outside contacts with players from other schools will be monitored and if students with outside contacts with coaches transfer schools during their high school career, the coach's outside interests may be deemed to be interfering with the coach's ability to carry out the goals and purposes of the district.
3. Principals and athletic directors at each school will be held responsible for the coaches and assistant coaches at their schools, including assuring that the coaches and assistant coaches follow the policies and practices of the Guilford County Board of Education, North Carolina High School Athletic Association, the NC State Board of Education, and the NC Department of Public Instruction.
4. Participation in any co-curricular activity is an important part of the educational experience in the Guilford County Schools (GCS). A primary goal of such activities is to teach students character and self discipline skills that will enable them to develop to their highest potential. As role models for student athletes, coaches must conduct themselves in a manner that will facilitate teaching desired outcomes to student participants. Due to the public nature of the co-curricular programs sponsored by GCS, coaches are expected to conduct themselves in a manner reflective of the high standards and ideals of GCS, their respective schools, and community. Coaches become subject to the Code of Conduct upon accepting a position of employment as a coach at any level in the GCS system, including as a volunteer coach. Coaches are subject to the Code at all times during the calendar year, including summer months, whether on or off campus.
 - The coach will be aware of the tremendous influence he/she has on student-athletes and will never place winning above the value of instilling the highest desirable ideals of character.

- The coach will strive to set an example of the highest ethical and moral conduct with the student athlete, officials, athletic directors, school administrators, the North Carolina High School Athletic Association, the media, and the public.
- The coach will discipline athletes who display unacceptable behavior, regardless of the impact on competition.
- The coach will know the game rules and be responsible for their interpretation to team members. Additionally, the coach will not try to seek an advantage by circumvention of the spirit or the letter of the rules.
- The coach will assure that all medical forms and Participation forms of the NCHSAA and GCS are completed and in order prior to allowing any student to participate in practice or a competition.
- The coach will promote and work in harmony with the entire interscholastic program of the school.
- The coach will respect and support contest officials by avoiding conduct which will incite players or spectators against the officials.
- The coach will promote good sportsmanship of team members; including players and other team personnel such as managers and statisticians.
- The coach will actively promote good sportsmanship of spectators by working closely with administrators, cheerleaders, pep club sponsors, and booster clubs.
- The coach will meet and exchange greetings with the opposing coach before and after the contest to set and maintain a positive tone for the event.
- The coach will take an active role in the prevention of alcohol, tobacco, and other drug abuse, while stressing the importance of a healthy lifestyle.
- The coach will ensure that every injured athlete is given immediate medical attention.
- The coach will be sure that every participant meets all requirements for athletic eligibility.
- The coach will inspire the student-athletes to achieve the highest academic success possible.
- The coach will advise participants as to the proper conduct in meetings with the media and how to conduct themselves in interviews, both for their own protection and to avoid any embarrassment.
- The coach will conduct all financial transactions in accordance with board policy using good accounting procedures and will act at all times on behalf of the team without taking personal advantage of his/her position.
- No coach shall use participation in a community sports team, camp or facility as a basis for any decision related to school matters or athletics.

Adapted from the NCHSAA Handbook and the Department of Public Instruction Middle School Athletic Manual