COACHES CODE OF ETHICS

The function of a coach is to educate students through participation in interscholastic competition. An interscholastic program should be designed to enhance academic achievement and should never interfere with opportunities for academic success. Each student-athlete should be treated as though he or she were the coaches' own, and his or her welfare should be uppermost at all times.

The coach shall be aware of and implement the NFHS Suggested Guidelines for Management Of Concussion In Sports.

The coach shall be aware that he/she has a tremendous influence, for either good or ill, on the education of the student-athlete and, thus, shall never place the value of winning above the value of instilling the highest ideals of character.

The coach shall take an active role in the prevention of drug, alcohol and tobacco abuse.

The coach shall avoid the use of alcohol and tobacco products when in contact with players.

The coach shall promote the entire interscholastic program of the school and direct his or her program in harmony with the total school program.

The coach shall master the contest rules and shall teach them to his/her team members. The coach shall not seek an advantage by circumvention of the spirit or letter of the rules.

The coach shall exert his/her influence to enhance sportsmanship by spectators, both directly and by working closely with cheerleaders, sponsors, booster clubs, and administrators.

The coach shall respect and support contest officials. The coach shall not indulge in conduct which would incite players or spectators against officials. Public criticism of officials or players is unethical.

Coaches should follow these guidelines in performing their duties:

1. Be friendly to your opponents. Before and after contests, coaches for competing teams should meet, shake hands, and exchange cordial greetings to set the proper tone for the event.
2. Do not exert pressure on faculty members to give student athletes special consideration.
3. Be a model of good sportsmanship. Refrain from running up the score or degrading the opponent in any way.
4. Display modesty in victory and graciousness in defeat in public and with the media.
5. Respect the integrity of the officials - even when you disagree with their judgement.
6. Refrain from the use of profanity or improper actions and expect the same from your players.
7. Recognize good performances and expect your athletes to recognize the good efforts of others.
8. Develop a program that rewards participants and spectators for positive, supportive actions.
9. Immediately remove any athlete from play that exhibits possible signs and symptoms of concussion. Ensure "Return to Play "status is allowed only after clearance by approved professional health care provider.

The Alaska School Activities Association expects all coaches to be competent and know the rules, recognize the importance of his/her duties, respect dignity and integrity of officials and opponents,and promote good sportsmanship among all those involved.