



Coach Code of Conduct

2024 Season

Coaches are required to read and sign the Vista Jr Eagles Football and Cheer (VJE) Coach Code of Conduct (Coach Code) document in order to coach in the VJE organization. This VJE Coach Code is proudly derived from the “Coaches’ Code of Ethics” of The National Alliance for Youth Sports.

I hereby pledge to provide positive support, care, and encouragement for any child under my care participating as an athlete in the VJE program by following this Coach Code of Conduct:

- I will agree to a DOJ background screening of my application, in accordance with policy set by the VJE Board of Directors (Board), with regards to my suitability to work with children. I will also complete all coaching certification, training, and instructional requirements, as set forth by the VJE Board and the SAC league, to establish my eligibility as a VJE coach.
- I will read the VJE Member Handbook, VJE Parent Code of Conduct, and the VJE Player Code of Conduct to understand what is being asked of all VJE members and will actively promote and enforce the policies, rules and codes contained therein.
- I will accept that I (through my actions and words) am required to set a good example for my athletes, parents, and spectators; I must set the tone and lead by example. I will demonstrate fair play and sportsmanship to all my players. I will not cheat or engage in any form of unethical behavior that violates affiliate league rules. I will stress teamwork and respect with each and every athlete. I will encourage good sportsmanship by demonstrating positive support for all players, coaches and officials at every game or practice. I will not engage in any kind of unsportsmanlike conduct with any official, coach, player, or parent such as booing and taunting, refusing to shake hands, or using profane language or gestures. I will not engage in violent conduct or verbal abuse towards any player, parent, spectator, coach, or official at any time.
- I will reinforce the importance of school by requiring all athletes to meet the academic requirements set forth in the VJE Member Handbook and will restrict game and/or practice playing time accordingly on those athletes not in compliance – even if overall team competitiveness is compromised.
- I will refrain from making negative comments about coaches, Board members, instructors and/or the VJE organization in a public manner.
- I will place the emotional and physical well-being of my players ahead of a personal desire to win and will ensure that the health, character, and development of my players is of paramount importance.
- I will treat each player as an individual, remembering that there may be a large range of emotional and physical development within any given age group. I will never either physically or mentally push players beyond their abilities. I will use coaching techniques appropriate for the skills that I teach and the level of the players. I will place the well-being and safety of each athlete above all other considerations, including the development of performance.
- I will do my best to provide a safe playing environment for my players, including ensuring that each athlete is correctly dressed and has the necessary, properly-fitting safety equipment before being allowed to play. I will review, know, and practice the basic first aid principles needed to treat injuries of my players and I will cooperate fully with medical personnel, when present.
- I will be fully prepared for every practice and game. I will develop a plan and schedule for each practice and will do my best to organize practices that are fun and challenging for all my players.



- I will ensure an environment for my team that is free of drugs, tobacco, and alcohol and I will refrain from their use at all VJE practices, games, and events.
- I will be knowledgeable in the rules of the sport and the rules of the affiliate league, and I will teach these rules to my players.
- I will remember that I am a youth sports coach, and that the game is for children, not adults.
- I will always be prompt, courteous, and direct when dealing with affiliate league officials, opposition coaches and referees. I will accept the decisions of the game and competition officials as being fair and called to the best of their ability. I acknowledge that the game officials are in charge of all games and that their decisions are final. I will teach my players to be gracious in victory and to turn defeat into victory by working towards improvement.
- I will require any player under my care to treat other players, coaches, fans, and game officials with respect regardless of race, sex, creed, or ability.
- I will teach any player under my care to play by the rules and to resolve conflicts through respectful discussion, without resorting to hostility, violence, or verbal abuse.
- I will encourage and guide athletes to accept responsibility for their own behavior and performance and will never condone unacceptable behavior.
- I will provide each athlete with the opportunity to compete and excel. I will strive to develop all players on my team to their potential and refrain from applying a disproportionate amount of attention to just my top performers. I will refrain from favoritism in all forms and will be as fair as possible in assigning positions and playing time.
- I will remember that:
 - I am teaching young children to succeed in more than just a sport;
 - Children have more need for example than criticism;
 - A child is easily affected by outside influences and I will attempt to relieve the pressure of competition, not increase it.

By signing my name below, I confirm I have been provided the above VJE Coach Code in its entirety, have read it, understand it, agree to it, and commit to fulfilling it. I further understand any failure on my behalf to abide by any part or all of the VJE Coach Code may, at the discretion of the VJE Board, result in my suspension, termination, or permanent dismissal from the VJE organization.

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Printed Name: _____