



**Northampton Student Sport**

Coaches Code of Conduct

Introduction

The purpose of this Code of Practice is to address and set the expected behaviour of club coaches associated with Northampton Student Sport clubs, which is in the best interest of informing and protecting members of the Students’ Union.

Coaches are expected to:

1. Maintain responsible association with the University of Northampton Students’ Union through annual induction training and an end of year review
2. Allow the elected club committee to run their sports club and only act in a mentoring/ coaching role
3. Pursue personal and professional growth, remaining current on new developments in the field through continued education
4. Use their sport specific knowledge and expertise for the benefit of the club which they are appointed to
5. Always strive to be truthful and present themselves, players, colleagues and other representatives in a professionals and positive manner
6. Respect the integrity, protect the welfare and rights to confidentiality with the members who they are working with
7. Avoid discrimination in all of its forms and promote inclusivity
8. Avoid bringing the University of Northampton Students’ Union and Northampton Students’ Sport into disrepute
9. Submit all their relevant qualifications, risk assessments and public liability insurance annually and where necessary an updated Unique Tax Reference (UTR) numbers
10. Report to the Sports Development Coordinator (SDC) and student commitee
11. Maximise the benefits and minimise the risk to players, coaches must attain a high level of competence through appropriate qualifications and a commitment to ongoing training that ensures safe and correct practice.

This code of conduct:

* Is a constituent part of a policy and procedure for dealing with allegations and complaints
* Is used as the definitive guide and benchmark measure of coaching practice in determining any need for sanctions against a coach

Careless statements, verbal and written, and/or commitments made could be embarrassing and ultimately harmful to you personally and to the University of Northampton Students’ Union.

It is important that all coaches adhere to the principles and guidelines in this Code of Practice and make them part of your work in your respective sport.

Being a coach for Northampton Student Sport encompasses these key principles:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Principle | Statement | Actions |
| Rights | Coaches must respect and champion the rights of  every individual to participate in sport | * Assist in the creation of an environment where every individual has the opportunity to participate in a sport or activity of their choice * Create and maintain an environment free of fear and harassment * Recognise the right of all members to be treated as individuals * Respect the rights of others to hold values, attitudes and opinions that differ from their own * Being inclusive by not engaging in discrimination based on age, gender, race, ethnicity, national origin, religion, sexual orientation, marital status, disability, language, socio-economic status * Be aware of academic pressures placed on members and be flexible in your conduct of training sessions and matches |
| Relationships | Coaches must develop a relationship with athletes  (and others) based on openness, honesty, mutual  Trust and respect | * All relationships with coaching staff and members will be maintained on a professional and confidential basis * Must not engage in behaviour that constitutes any form of abuse or harassment (physical, sexual, emotional, neglect, bullying) * Direct comments or criticism relative to the performance, not the individual * Strive to develop individual and team respect for the ability of opponents * Encourage members to accept responsibility for their own behaviour, performance in training, participation and competition * Must respect the authority of the clubs committee |
| Responsibilities  Personal Standards | Coaches must demonstrate proper personal  Behaviour and conduct at all times | * Consistently display high personal standards in the use of language, manner, punctuality, preparation and presentation * Project a favourable image of the Northampton Student Sport and the University of Northampton * Must be fair honest and considerate to members and to others involved in their sport * Must not use status to develop a relationship off of the pitch which prompts favouritism amongst members |
| Responsibilities  Professional Standards | To maximise benefits and minimise the risks to athletes.  Coaches must attain a high level of competence through formal qualifications and commit to ongoing personal development to ensure continuing safe and correct practice. | * Make a commitment to provide a quality service * Provide a safe environment that maximises benefits and minimise risk * Ensure that all activities are suitable for the experience and ability of the members * Educate members on their responsibilities in contributing to a safe environment, ensure that all facilities and equipment meet safety standards * Do not tolerate or promote the use of performance enhancing drugs * Consider the members’ health and well-being as foremost when making decisions * Provide advice in the best interest of the member regarding an injured athlete's ability to continue competing or training * Contribute to the development of coaching as a profession by exchanging knowledge and ideas with others |

Should I attend a Match/ Competition day on and off the field, I will:

* Show respect to all those involved in the game including all students involved, match officials, coaches, managers, officials and spectators
* Be knowledgeable off all sport specific and general BUCS rules and regulations
* Adhere to the laws and spirit of the game
* Promote Fair Play and high standards of behaviour
* Always respect the match official’s decision
* Never enter the field of play without the referee’s permission
* Never engage in public criticism of the match officials
* Never engage in, or tolerate, offensive, insulting or abusive language or behaviour.

When working with players, I will:

* Place the well-being, safety and enjoyment of each player above everything, including winning
* Explain exactly what I expect of players and what they can expect from me
* Never engage in or tolerate any form of bullying
* Develop mutual trust and respect with every player to build their self-esteem
* Encourage each player to accept responsibility for their own behaviour and performance
* Ensure all activities I organise are appropriate for the players’ ability level, age and maturity
* Co-operate fully with others in my respective sport (e.g. officials, doctors, physiotherapists, welfare officers) for each player’s best interests.

Coach of: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Counter Signed: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (SDC)