

Softball Association of Sylvan Lake

Coach Code of Conduct

Approved by the Board: October 9, 2025

1. Purpose

The purpose of this Code of Conduct is to establish clear expectations for all coaches representing the Softball Association of Sylvan Lake (SASL). Coaches are entrusted with the responsibility of providing a safe, positive, and respectful environment for athletes, parents, officials, and fellow volunteers.

2. Scope

This Code applies to all individuals acting in a coaching or assistant coaching capacity within SASL, including volunteer, temporary, and appointed coaches for all divisions (ages 5–19).

3. General Conduct Expectations

All coaches must:

- Act as positive role models both on and off the field.
- Treat all players, parents, officials, and volunteers with respect, fairness, and dignity.
- Demonstrate honesty, integrity, and professionalism at all times.
- Follow all Association policies, Softball Alberta regulations, and the Societies Act of Alberta.
- Prioritize player safety and well-being above all competitive outcomes.
- Maintain appropriate boundaries with players and avoid any actions or communications that could be interpreted as unprofessional or inappropriate.

4. Commitment to Athlete Development

Coaches shall:

- Foster skill development, teamwork, sportsmanship, and enjoyment of the game.
- Provide all players fair opportunities to participate and develop regardless of ability level.
- Refrain from yelling, bullying, or any form of verbal or emotional abuse.
- Encourage athletes to demonstrate respect toward teammates, opponents, and officials.

5. Compliance and Safety

- Maintain all required certifications (NCCP, Respect in Sport, First Aid, etc.).
- Submit and maintain a valid Criminal Record Check with Vulnerable Sector Screening as required by SASL.
- Report any safety concerns, injuries, or incidents immediately to the appropriate division coordinator or board member.
- Never permit or encourage any athlete to participate while injured or unfit.

6. Substance Use and Behavior

- Coaches must not consume alcohol, cannabis, or any impairing substances before or during any Association activity involving players.
- The use of tobacco or vaping products in the presence of players is strictly prohibited.
- Coaches shall refrain from the use of profane or discriminatory language at all times.

7. Social Media & Communication

- Coaches are expected to represent SASL positively in all online communications.
- Do not post or share photos, videos, or comments that may reflect poorly on the Association or its members.
- Do not communicate privately with players through social media or personal messaging apps; all communication should occur through approved team channels or parent contacts.

8. Conflict Resolution

- Coaches are expected to handle conflicts professionally and constructively.
- Concerns about players, parents, officials, or other coaches should be directed to the Division Coordinator or Executive Board in writing.
- Coaches must not engage in arguments or confrontations during games or practices.

9. Disciplinary Action

Violation of this Code of Conduct may result in disciplinary measures up to and including suspension or removal from coaching duties. Decisions will be made by the Executive Board in accordance with the Association's Discipline Policy.

10. Acknowledgment

I, the undersigned, have read and understand the Softball Association of Sylvan Lake Coach Code of Conduct. I agree to uphold these standards and understand that failure to do so may result in disciplinary action or removal from my coaching position.

Coach Name: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Division/Age Group: _____

Approved by the Board of Directors

Softball Association of Sylvan Lake

Date: October 9, 2025

Signature: _____ Position: _____