



south west
academy
of sport

Coach Code of Conduct Policy

Owner: SWAS

Version: 2.0

Approved by: SWAS CEO

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1: Introduction

The South West Academy of Sport (SWAS) supports the development of athlete and coaches. Gaining a coaching position with SWAS is a prestigious opportunity that will assist coaches to increase their level of skill and knowledge.

The South West has a proud sporting history. Good coaches are critical to the development and the success of South West athletes. In order for SWAS to best service athletes, the coaches with SWAS need to be professional, cooperative and committed to continuous improvement.

SWAS coaches are role models for community coaches, officials, administrators, parents, athletes and community sport participants. It is therefore critical that SWAS coaches act with the highest level of integrity.

The Guiding Principles in this Code of Conduct articulate the way in which SWAS coaches should operate, as this will create the best outcome for sport in the South West and will best ensure that SWAS will continue to expand as a positive organisation. In addition to the Guiding Principles, SWAS coaches should be thirsty for knowledge and continuous improvement and should be open to sharing information with athletes, coaches, officials and administrators at all levels from all sports.

This Code is prepared in conjunction with existing documentation and coaches must adhere to, and make themselves aware of all SWAS Governance Policy's as per our website.

2: Guiding Principles for Coach Conduct

The three key principles below provide the framework of the Code.

SWAS Coaches will:

Principle 1: Integrity

- Comply with the SWAS Anti-Doping Policy and with the regulations of the Australian Sports Anti-Doping Authority and the World Anti-Doping Authority. This includes having a zero tolerance to the use of performance enhancing drugs.
- Obey the rules and spirit of the rules for the sport.
- Treat team athletes, opponents and other coaches and officials with respect.
- Perform and react with dignity regarding decisions of officials.
- When appropriate, and with due respect, follow the appropriate avenues for appeal.
- Coaches should seek to positively participate in the building and maintenance of sponsorships by the quality of their interactions with SWAS sponsors.

Principle 2: Treat people with respect

- Maintain respect for oneself as this will form a strong basis for respecting others.
- Treat people involved in sport with courtesy and proper regard for their rights.

- Where possible, try to ensure that all athletes and participants have fun and gain positive experiences from sport, whether they are a team member, opponent, or any other participant.
- Work cooperatively with State and Regional Sport Associations, athletes, coaches, staff, service providers, sponsors, and key stakeholders and supporters of SWAS.

Principle 3: Observe the expectations of being a role model for athletes and the community

- Promote the integrity of SWAS during competition and public engagements.
- Exhibit the highest standards of integrity at SWAS functions and in all aspects of life.
- Conduct one-self in a manner that is beneficial to SWAS and in a way that brings credit to SWAS.
- Recognise and act in a manner responsible for safeguarding the reputation (performance and otherwise) of SWAS in the perception of all people and organisations external to SWAS.
- Take reasonable care when travelling and wearing SWAS apparel to ensure the highest reputation is upheld.
- Act in a respectful manner in one's private life. At all times consider the required discretion and make judgements in all regards to ensure your sport, SWAS, staff, sponsors, key stakeholders, and supporters of SWAS are not undermined and/or brought into disrepute by ones actions.

3: Reporting and Management of Breaches of the Code of Conduct

All breaches of the code of conduct must be provided in writing, via email or letter to the SWAS CEO. The SWAS CEO will then inform the coach under investigation. The CEO will provide the coach with the opportunity to respond to the alleged breach in writing.

The SWAS CEO will consider all information, will question witnesses or others as necessary and will then provide a report to the SWAS Board of Directors. The SWAS Board will then make a decision as to what disciplinary action will be taken.

In the event that the SWAS CEO deems an offense to be minor in nature, the CEO may choose to provide the coach with a written warning, without the need for further consideration from the SWAS Board. All written warnings will be kept on file and may be utilised against the coach in the event of future breaches of the Code of Conduct.

The decision of the SWAS Board and the CEO are final and no appeals will be heard.

In scenarios where a coach breaks law, or regulations such as anti-doping, the appropriate body will be informed, e.g. the Police or the Australian Sports Anti-doping Authority. SWAS may choose to suspend the coach whilst such investigations are carried out.

3 Coach Pledge

I have made myself aware of the conditions within the South West Academy of Sport Code of Conduct.

I realise that if I breach the Code of Conduct, it is very likely that I will face expulsion from all dealings with the South West Academy of Sport. If I am expelled I will accept that I am at fault and I agree to not appeal to SWAS through the legal system.

In the event that I forget any contents of the Code of Conduct, I will re-familiarise myself with the Code and will seek clarification for any areas in which I am uncertain of the meaning. I know that the staff of SWAS will be glad to clarify any terms and to assist me to ensure that I understand the conditions stated within this Code of Conduct.

Coach Name:

Signature:

Date (DD/MM/YY):