

Football Newfoundland and Labrador's

Coach Code of Conduct

Updated on February 11, 2026





Coach Code of Conduct

Respect for Others

- The principle of respect challenges members to act in a manner respectful of the dignity of all participants in sport. Fundamental to this principle is the basic assumption that each person has value and is worthy of respect.

Responsible Actions

- The principle of responsible action carries the basic ethical expectation that the activities of members will benefit society in general, and participants in particular, and will do no harm. Fundamental to the implementation of this principle is the notion that each member is responsible for the consequences of their actions or inactions.

Integrity

- The principle of integrity means that members are expected to be honest, sincere, and honourable in their relationships with others.

Honouring Sport

- The principle of honouring sport in general and football in particular, challenges members to recognize, act on, and promote the value of football for individuals and teams, and for society in general.

Coaches have the following responsibilities:

Maintain and enhance the dignity and self-esteem of athletes and other individuals by:

- Demonstrating respect to individuals and consistently treating others fairly.
- Focusing comments or criticism appropriately and avoiding public criticism of athletes, coaches, officials, organizers, volunteers, employees, or members.
- Consistently demonstrating leadership in sport.
- Ensuring adherence to the rules of the sport.
- Demonstrating ethical behaviour at all times and abiding by the NCCP Code of Ethics.
- Exhibiting exemplary professional behavior.
- Refraining from any behaviour that constitutes harassment, where harassment is defined as a comment or conduct directed towards an individual or group, which is offensive, abusive, racist, sexist, degrading, or malicious.
- Refraining from any behaviour that constitutes sexual harassment, where sexual harassment is defined as unwelcome sexual comments and sexual advances, requests for sexual favours, or conduct of a sexual nature.



Ensure Athlete Safety

- Ensuring a safe environment by selecting activities and establishing controls that are suitable for the age, experience, ability, and fitness level of the involved athletes.
- Preparing athletes systematically and progressively, using appropriate time frames and monitoring physical and psychological adjustments while refraining from using training methods or techniques that may harm athletes.
- Abstaining from the non-medical use of drugs or the use of performance-enhancing drugs or methods. Football NL adopts and adheres to the Canadian Anti-Doping Program. FNL will respect any penalty enacted pursuant to a breach of the Canadian Anti-Doping Program imposed by any other sport organization

Support Athlete Development

- Supporting the coaching staff of a training camp, provincial/territorial team, or national team; should an athlete qualify for participation with one of these programs.
- Providing athletes (and the parents/guardians of minor athletes) with the information necessary to be involved in the decisions that affect the athlete.
- Acting in the best interest of the athletes development as a whole person.
- Respecting athletes playing with other teams.

Ensure Athlete Protection

- Recognizing the power inherent in the position of coach, and respect and promote the rights of all participants in sport. This is accomplished by establishing and following procedures for confidentiality (right to privacy), informed participation, and fair and reasonable treatment. Coaches have a special responsibility to respect and promote the rights of participants who are in a vulnerable or dependent position and less able to protect their own rights.

Duty of Confidentiality

- Undertake and agree to treat all information and documents as confidential.
- Take all reasonable steps to ensure the privacy and safekeeping of a member or player's personal and confidential information.
- Agree not to disclose confidential information to others, except as authorized by FNL or as required by law.

- I understand and acknowledge that, as a volunteer coach with Football NL, I am required to honour and be bound by those provisions even after I cease to be a volunteer coach or a member of Football NL.
- I understand that compliance with the confidentiality requirements of Football NL is a condition of my coaching duties, and that failure to comply may result in termination of my membership and coaching duties with Football NL.
- I understand the Board of Directors of Football NL will take the necessary disciplinary action should any breach of the Code of Conduct occur.
- I understand that I cannot receive any financial compensation, payment, gift, or monetary benefit related to my coaching role, other than approved and documented expense reimbursements.



I hereby declare that I have read the above and understand and accept the terms and conditions outlined.

Name (first and last)

Date

Signature

FNL Representative