

--- Football Coaching Rules, Guidelines, and Obligations ---

In an effort to provide the children of the Association with a safe and appropriate environment in which to learn and enhance their knowledge and skills of football, SVJFAC has established the following rules, obligations, and guidelines for all coaches.

SVJFAC Rules for Coaches:

Failure to comply with the following rules is grounds for the Board of Directors to immediately review the specific action, and the circumstances surrounding it. Expected BOD actions include reprimand, probation or even dismissal from further participation as a coach or in Association activities.

1. Theft or other misappropriation of SVJFAC property is not permitted.
2. Profanity is not to be expressed at any Association game, scrimmage, practice, or meeting.
3. Unreasonable or excessive verbal abuse of an athlete is not permitted. Coaches are urged to use common sense in the use of harsh language as a motivating tactic.
4. Physical abuse of an athlete is not permitted. Common coaching punishments such as running a few extra laps, or doing push-ups, etc., are not considered to be physical abuse. Again, coaches are urged to use common sense in the use of these tactics.
5. Extreme caution should be taken with any player injuries. Especially those that involve the area of the head, neck and back.
6. Physical abuse and/or fighting with a parent or an official are not permitted.
7. Smoking at any Association game, scrimmage or practice is not permitted.
8. Alcohol consumption prior to or during any Association game, practice, or scrimmage is not permitted.
9. Coaches should refrain from expressing their views with the children on subjects including but not limited to race, religion, or political issues.
10. Assistant coaches shall abide by the decisions of the Head Coach. Head coaches shall abide by the decisions of the Football Coordinator/Board of Directors.

Guidelines for Proper Conduct: The coaches and volunteers of SVJFAC are the primary interface between the Association and its members at large. Your conduct when representing the Association during practices, games, meetings and special events such as equipment handouts and registration is our best advertisement for the values and quality of the organization.

Guidelines for Proper Conduct	Head Coach	Assistant Coaches
1 Any and all disputes between coaches, or between coaches and parents or officials, must be handled off the field and away from the players	X	X
2 Treat athletes, parents, coaches, officials and opponents with respect and teach the athletes to do the same.	X	X
3 Any issues that remain unresolved at the individual level between coaches and parents or between coaches and coaching staffs should be referred to the Football Coordinator and escalated, if necessary, to the Board of Directors.	X	X
4 Exhibit an attitude that the athletes come first. Place the emotional and physical well-being of the children ahead of any personal desire to win	X	X
5 Exhibit an attitude of teamwork within the Association, the coaching staff and the league.	X	X
6 Treat each child with respect, and as an individual, regardless of skill level. All children do not develop emotionally or physically at the same time within the same age group.	X	X
7 Teach football, sportsmanship and respect for the game, teammates, coaches & volunteers, opponents and officials to the best your ability.	X	X

Guidelines for Safety: Football by its nature is a dangerous sport. Exercise sound judgment and practices in the application of safety measures when interacting with athletes before, during and after practices and games.

Guidelines for Safety	Head Coach	Assistant Coaches
1 Teach proper technique for all drills and skills. Stress proper tackling techniques.	X	X
2 Monitor activities before and after practice to ensure roughhousing does not result in injury	X	
3 Take all necessary precautions when dealing with an injury to avoid further trauma.	X	X
4 Keep up to date on First Aid certifications. (enough per team that one at least one coach at practice is certified)	X	At least 1 other
5 Report any injury that required professional medical attention to the Football Coordinator or Association President at the next practice or game day. Provide a note that lists the players name, team, nature and date of injury, medical procedure conducted and status.	X	

6	Discourage admittance onto the practice field of any unregistered child or adult. Only sanctioned players and coaches should be on the fields of play while practice or games are in session.	X	X
7	A sanctioned coach or team parent should remain with a child until a parent or designated guardian accepts responsibility for them after practices or games.	X	
8	Familiarize yourself with any pre-existing physical limitations of the athletes under your supervision	X	X
9	Gauge the level of physical contact and exertion based on the physical capabilities of the athletes and weather conditions.	X	X
10	Make every attempt possible at practice to create match-ups between similarly-abled players. Create an environment where players have the opportunity to match up with those of like weight and ability.	X	X

Obligations: Accepting the position of a coach within the SVJFAC is a significant commitment and responsibility. It is a leadership role that requires not only a great deal of time on the football field teaching the skills, tactics and strategies of the game, but also the management of many support activities off the field. These activities and events are fundamentally important and vital to enable the Association to function effectively. They help to provide and ensure a good experience for all members and players.

Obligations	Head Coach	Assistant Coaches
1 Attend all Coaches' meetings	X	X
2 Attend a majority of Board and General Association meetings	X	X
3 Support registration sessions	X	X
4 Support equipment/uniform handout and turn-in sessions	X	X
5 Provide support coverage for Association sponsored physicals.	X	X
6 Review and interview all Assistant Coaches who have applied and then nominate your selections to the Football Coordinator and then request in writing approval from the Executive Board.	X	
7 Ensure all necessary paperwork is submitted on a timely basis; Physical forms, Birth Certificates, etc.	X	
8 Support and implement all of the Association's philosophies, decisions, and programs. Support the presentation for Orientation and set expectations around the philosophies.	X	
9 Encourage parents to volunteer for one or more of the many important volunteer positions within the Association.	X	
10 Select a Team Mom and Team Dad as administrative assistants. Team Parents must submit an Act 33/34 Form (criminal background check) Notify Coordinator in writing of appointments and submit completed forms. Forms must be kept on file with Recording Secretary.	X	
11 Conduct Parent Meetings; First week of practice and again in mid September. • Review perception of team assessment, practice plans, etc.,	X	
12 Organize practices that are fun and challenging.	X	
13 Know the rules of the game and teach them to all the children.	X	X
14 Provide for an open line of communication for parents throughout the season.	X	
15 Facilitate, in conjunction with the Team Parent, all participants' compliance with fundraiser obligations.	X	
16 Communicate with the Coordinator when canceling scheduled practices. (This impacts concession stand operations)	X	
17 Support the Punt, Pass & Kick competition at Community Day (July 4 th)	X	
18 Communicate with registered players the dates of physicals, equipment handout, mini-camp	X	
19 Communicate with the Football Coordinator when planning either home or away scrimmages or canceling scheduled practices. (This impacts concession stand operations)	X	

Please sign as an acknowledgment that you have read, understand and will comply with the rules and obligations of coaching within the Seneca Valley Junior Football Association of Cranberry Twp.

Print Name		Team	
Signed		Date	
Received by Recording Secretary			
Signed		Date	