

CODE OF ETHICS FOR BASKETBALL COACHES

I. INTRODUCTION

The Code of Ethics is a binding document for coaches focusing not only on talent development on the court but also on shaping personalities off it. The role of a coach in this process is irreplaceable. They are responsible not just for teaching techniques and tactics, but also for becoming mentors and role models for their players. Their task is to create an environment where ethical values hold the same importance as sports performance and physical preparedness.

The Code emphasizes the importance of respect for the individual uniqueness of each person. It calls for the support of the mental and physical health of athletes and for involvement in the development of the basketball community. The Code of Ethics is valid for all coaches with a ČBF license.

II. GENERAL ETHICAL PRINCIPLES

1. Coaches respect the individual uniqueness of each athlete regardless of their origin, ethnicity, race, skin color, language, age, health status, sexual orientation, economic situation, or religious and political convictions.
2. They actively suppress all forms of bullying and discrimination, whether physical, verbal, psychological, or online. They foster an inclusive and respectful environment for all team members.
3. They recognize the importance of mental health and personal well-being, understanding that neglecting these aspects can have serious consequences both for themselves and their charges.
4. They respect the right of every athlete to self-realization to the extent that it does not impair the same right of others in achieving a common goal.
5. They assist athletes and teams with their knowledge and experience in their development, in accordance with the rules of fair play.
6. They prioritize professional responsibilities over personal interests.
7. They prevent the dissemination of insults, defamation, or unfounded accusations.
8. They must act in a way that does not discredit or damage the prestige of the coaching profession.
9. They are obliged to avoid any actions that could lead to suspicions of bias or lack of objectivity.
10. Coaching activities must not be associated with corruption or fraudulent conduct.

11. They proactively engage in the prevention and monitoring of illegal betting within the club or team.
12. Coaches must not act as contractual agents for players or engage with agencies to avoid conflicts of interest, ensuring their sole focus remains on coaching and athlete development.
13. They represent their work in the media and the public objectively and without distortion.
14. They are committed to protecting the personal data and privacy of athletes in the digital environment.

III. RULES OF ETHICAL CONDUCT OF COACHES IN RELATION TO ATHLETES

15. Coaches guide athletes towards responsibility not just on the field but also in their personal lives. Coaches support player's self-awareness and independence.
16. They protect the dignity, privacy, and rights of all athletes, ensuring they are always respected as individuals.
17. They support and develop the abilities of their athletes, considering their individual needs and possibilities, and motivate them to continuously improve.
18. They emphasize both physical and psychological health, preventing overtraining.
19. They ensure a safe environment where athletes can freely express their thoughts and feelings without fear of negative judgment. They initiate open communication.
20. They promote team spirit and mutual support.
21. They approach all players impartially and fairly without personal bias or external pressure.
22. They evaluate and select players objectively, supporting equal opportunities for all, and preventing subjective bias or favoritism.
23. They educate themselves in mental health to better recognize and address potential psychological issues of their athletes.
24. They prevent any form of sexual harassment—whether physical contact, psychological pressure, verbal hints, inappropriate communication, or behavior on the internet. They ensure a safe and respectful environment, set clear boundaries, and protect the sexual integrity of athletes.
25. They avoid any acts that could be construed as sexual harassment or inappropriate behavior.

26. They actively engage in preventing the use of doping and addictive substances among athletes. They educate their athletes about the risks and consequences associated with these substances, promoting a clean sport and a healthy lifestyle.
27. They inform players about the potential risks and consequences associated with illegal betting and match-fixing.
28. If they witness any actions that could constitute a criminal offense or pose a threat to safety, they must immediately contact the police. In cases where the safety of a minor is at risk, they are required to contact the parents or guardians. It is a legal obligation of every citizen.

IV. RULES OF ETHICAL CONDUCT OF COACHES IN RELATION TO THEIR HOME CLUB AND THE ČBF

29. Coaches responsibly fulfill their duties arising from their commitments to their club, the ČBF, and their employer.
30. They exert full effort to ensure that their methods and work procedures support the common goals of their home club and the Czech Basketball Federation, contributing to the success of both entities.

V. RULES OF ETHICAL CONDUCT OF COACHES TOWARDS THEIR COLLEAGUES

31. Coaches show respect for different opinions and methods of work of their colleagues, even if they do not agree with them. They support open dialogue and mutual respect.
32. They respect the knowledge and achievements of their colleagues and other professionals in the field.
33. They express criticism or disagreement with the methods of their colleagues constructively and with an emphasis on privacy to avoid damaging reputation among peers.

VI. RULES OF ETHICAL CONDUCT OF COACHES IN RELATION TO THEIR ACTIVITY AND EXPERTISE

34. Coaches are committed to maintaining and enhancing the prestige of coaching activities.
35. They enhance their professional level through lifelong learning, utilizing the knowledge and skills of their colleagues, or by applying new approaches and methods.
36. They strive to ensure that coaching activities are performed by qualified coaches at the appropriate level of qualification as per the approved coaching regulations.
37. They collaborate on the education of basketball coaches, sharing their knowledge and skills for the benefit of the entire coaching community.

VII. RULES OF ETHICAL CONDUCT OF COACHES IN RELATION TO REFEREES

38. Coaches respect referees as an integral part of the sporting contest and guide their players and associated personnel accordingly.
39. In case of objections to referees' decisions, they proceed according to official rules and ethical standards. All concerns or evidence of unfair conduct are submitted to the appropriate authorities of ČBF.

VIII. RULES OF ETHICAL CONDUCT OF COACHES TOWARDS OPPONENTS

40. Coaches invest all their knowledge, skills, creativity, and inventiveness for the benefit of achieving objectives with full respect for the opponents. They recognize opponents as entities they strive to surpass solely by methods prescribed by the rules of basketball.

The Code of Ethics for Basketball Coaches was approved by the Committee of ČABT on April 11, 2024.

The Code of Ethics for Basketball Coaches was further approved by the Committee of ČBF on April 15, 2024.