



National Youth Sports Coaches Association

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NAYS.ORG

a program of

National
ALLIANCE
For Youth Sports

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About Your NYSCA Membership

Initial Level Program requirements:

1. Participation in a two part NYSCA interactive video training clinic (Viewing of the Introduction to Coaching Youth Sports video and sport specific video)
2. Signing of the NYSCA Code of Ethics Pledge
3. Completion of the Initial Level Exam

Adding an Additional Sport:

If you choose to coach in another sport within the same year, you simply need to attend a clinic to view the sports specific video for the additional sport and sign the Coaches Code of Ethics Pledge. If you attend a live additional sport clinic, you do not need to retake the exam nor pay an additional fee. You may add another sport to your membership through the NYSCA Online Clinics website for only \$5. Visit www.nays.org/nyscaonlineclinics for information.

NYSCA Initial Level Member Benefits:

- \$1,000,000 liability insurance policy
- High quality membership card with key tag
- A subscription to SportingKid Magazine
- Monthly E-Newsletter
- Personalized NYSCA Coach Member Page

Continuing Membership Program (2nd year and beyond):

Prior to your membership's expiration date, you will receive a membership renewal notice sent from the NAYS national office. To continue your membership, you simply resign the Coaches Code of Ethics Pledge and remit the annual \$20 membership fee. You may renew your membership by mail, online at www.nays.org or by contacting NYSCA Member Services at (800) 729-2057 to renew by phone.

Continuing Member Benefits:

- Excess liability insurance increased to \$2,000,000
- \$250,000 excess accident/medical insurance
- High quality membership card with key tag
- A subscription to SportingKid Magazine
- E-Newsletter
- Personalized NYSCA Coach Member Page

Access to your NYSCA Coach Member Page is available after your clinic's paperwork has been received and processed by the NAYS National Office.

What it means to be an NYSCA member coach...

Becoming an NYSCA member does not indicate that you are qualified in the sense of a paid coach on the high school, college or professional level. By virtue of you attending the NYSCA Training Program conducted by a qualified Clinician, NYSCA Headquarters certifies that you have been trained in your responsibilities to children in sports. Specifically:

1. Responsibility for being aware of the psychological and emotional needs of children while participating in sports.
2. Responsibility for knowing that safety and first-aid care are the most important factors in the well-being of children and that at all times a person of authority (physician, paramedic, etc.) should be called to treat any kind of injury.
3. Responsibility for being aware that conditioning, nutrition, flexibility and strength development are important factors in children playing sports.
4. Responsibility that to the best of your ability you will teach the proper sports techniques that are age-appropriate to the children you are coaching.
5. Finally, by signing the NYSCA Coaches' Code of Ethics Pledge, you are reminded that in youth sports the consideration of the children should be placed above all and that as an NYSCA volunteer coach you are held accountable through the NYSCA Accountability and Enforcement Policies.





Effectively Dealing With Parents

Open communication is the key when it comes to successfully dealing with parents. That's why it's helpful to conduct a preseason meeting where you can introduce yourself, put to ease parental fears, discuss the goals of the program and explain what you expect of the parents.

INTRODUCE YOUR ASSISTANT COACHES

It's important to parents to know who the coaches are and to know a little about each of them. This helps make the parents more comfortable with who is supervising their children.

EXPLAIN YOUR COACHING PHILOSOPHY

Let parents know your coaching philosophy revolves around equal playing time for every child. Stress that helping kids learn and develop skills while having fun is far more important than how many games the team wins.

REVIEW THE PRACTICE AND GAME SCHEDULE

Parents need to plan for this and other family events. A review of the practice and game schedule is very much appreciated by the parents, but the appreciation is easily lost if you don't make every effort to stick as close to the schedule as possible.

DISCUSS EQUIPMENT NEEDS

Parents need your advice on the kind of equipment they should purchase for their child, along with recommendations on size and fit. Common sense doesn't always work in this area which is evident when a parent buys a huge glove or bat that the child may "grow into." The same thing occurs with shoes, pads, and even balls. The parent will look to you as the expert in the area of equipment needs for their child.

ESTABLISH A RAINY DAY POLICY

If it rains before, during or after practice, you can eliminate tremendous confusion and establish an understood procedure that will provide a safe situation for all the players. Parents need to know exactly what to do in the event of rain – email, phone call?

PICK A TEAM PARENT

A team parent is someone who will assist the team with duties that can be relieved from the coach's responsibilities. For example, helping with phone calls, arranging for water, ice, after game treats, post season picnic or pizza party, etc. This individual can be of tremendous help and allow the coaches more time to work with the kids.

COACH EVALUATIONS

Inform the parents of the online NYSCA Coaching Rating System and request to be evaluated. Send them to the NAYS website at www.nays.org and ask them to click on the Rate Your Coach link. You will need to give the parents your NYSCA member number to be evaluated. Let them know you will only see overall results and not have access to individual names or evaluations. You will be amazed by how much their honest evaluation will help you be the best coach you can be.



Finish your meeting by letting them know you have an open door policy, and if at anytime during the season they have a question or concern, you'll be happy to discuss it with them.

