

Legal Duties of Coaches and Athletics Personnel

14 LEGAL DUTIES

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Theory Assignment Prep Agenda Design

Partner up (workshop #1) (ind notes -use with coaching theory assignment)

Similar sport / Gender / age group / etc... WORKS BEST

Design an Outline (1st draft) – Agenda for Preseason Staff meeting

***PICK ONE to design**

1. Pre season staff meeting agenda / outline
2. Pre season team meeting agenda / outline
3. Pre season parent meeting agenda / outline

14 LEGAL DUTIES (overview)

1. Planning
2. Supervision
3. Evaluation Injury
4. Safe Playing Environment
5. Protective Equipment
6. Technique Instruction
7. Matching and Equating
8. Evaluating Conditioning
9. Warnings
10. Insurance Disclosure
11. Medical Assistance
12. Emergency Response
13. Safe Transportation
14. Selecting Coaches

#1 - PLANNING

DUTY TO PLAN

Have a yearly plan, keep it, and follow it

Prevent or reduce injury and loss by developing responsive strategies in:

1. Coaching competence
2. Medical screening
3. Appropriate activities that consider age, maturity, and environmental conditions
4. Injury response
5. Warnings to athletes and their families
6. Child advocacy in cases of alcohol and other drug abuse or family neglect or abuse

#2 - SUPERVISION

DUTY TO SUPERVISE

A coach must be:

1. *Physically present*
2. Provide *competent instruction*
3. *Structure practices that are appropriate* for the age and maturity of players
4. *Prevent foreseeable injuries* and respond to injury or trauma in an approved manner
5. This duty requires supervisors to ensure that facilities are locked and that students are denied access when a competent staff member cannot be physically present to supervise
6. A coach must also supervise the condition, safe usage, maintenance and upkeep of equipment and facilities

#3 – EVALUATE INJURY

DUTY TO ASSESS AN ATHLETE'S READINESS FOR PRACTICE AND COMPETITION

1. Coaches are *required to assess the health* and physical or maturational readiness skills and physical condition of athletes
2. Athletes must be *medically screened* in accordance with CIF regulations before participating in tryouts, practice, or competition
3. Injured athletes who require the services of a physician may not return to practice or competition without *written permission of the physician*

#4 – SAFE PLAYING ENVIRONMENT

DUTY TO MAINTAIN SAFE PLAYING CONDITIONS

1. Coaches are *considered trained professionals who possess a higher level of knowledge* and skill that permits them to identify foreseeable causes of injury inherent in defective equipment or hazardous environments
2. Weather conditions must be considered and *athletes should not be subjected to intense or prolonged conditioning* during periods of extreme heat and humidity
3. A *plan for monitoring and responding to dangerous weather conditions* is necessary **(EAP)**

#5 – PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT

DUTY TO PROVIDE PROPER EQUIPMENT

1. Coaches must ensure that *athletes are properly equipped* with clean, durable and safe equipment
2. Protective equipment must carry a NOCSAE (National Operating Commission on Safety in Athletic Equipment) *certification and must be checked* for proper fit and wearing
3. Athletes *must wear protective equipment any time* they are exposed to the full rigors of contact in practice or competition

#6 – TECHNIQUE INSTRUCTION

DUTY TO INSTRUCT PROPERLY

1. Athletic practices must be characterized by *instruction that accounts for a logical sequence of fundamentals* that lead to an enhanced progression of player knowledge, skill and capability
2. Instruction must demonstrate *appropriate and safe technique* and must *include warning about unsafe technique and prohibited practices*

#7 – MATCHING AND EQUATING

DUTY TO MATCH ATHLETES DURING PRACTICE

Athletes in practices should be matched with consideration for:

1. Maturity
2. Skill
3. Age
4. Size
5. Speed

#8 – EVALUATE CONDITIONING

DUTY TO CONDITION PROPERLY

1. Practices *must account for a progression of cardiovascular and musculoskeletal conditioning* regiments that prepare athletes sequentially for more challenging practices and competitive activities
2. *Consideration must be given* to weather, maturational and readiness factors

#9 - WARNINGS

DUTY TO WARN

1. Coaches are required to *warn parents and athletes of unsafe practices specific to a sport* and the potential for injury or death
2. A generic warning, signed by both athletes and parents is included in the physical packet but *sport specific warnings should be included at the parent meetings for specific sports*

#10 - INSURANCE DISCLOSRE

DUTY TO ENSURE ATHLETES ARE COVERED BY INSURANCE

Athletes *must be cleared through the athletic office* prior to participation and should not be allowed to participate without this clearance

#11 – MEDICAL ASSISTANCE

DUTY TO PROVIDE EMERGENCY CARE

Coaches are *expected to be able to administer approved, prioritized, standard first aid procedures in response* to a range of traumatic injuries

#12 – EMERGENCY RESPONSE

DUTY TO DEVELOP/FOLLOW AN EMERGENCY CARE PLAN *(ECP)*

Plans must be in place to:

1. *Manage uninjured team members while emergency care is being administered* to an injured athlete
2. Ensure *access to a stocked first aid kit*, spine board and other emergency response equipment
3. *Access to a telephone* and ensure a timely call to EMS
4. Expedite rapid access by EMS to the injured athlete by stationing coaches or team members at driveways, parking lots, entry doors and remote hallways

#13 – SAFE TRANSPORTATION

DUTY TO PROVIDE PROPER TRANSPORTATION

1. District transportation should be utilized as much as possible for travel to athletic events
2. Ensure that all athletes are on the bus before it departs from an away contest
3. Coaches and/or parent drivers must have district volunteer driver forms to drive athletes

#14 - SELECTING COACHES

DUTY TO SELECT, TRAIN AND SUPERVISE COACHES

Athletic administrators will be expected to ensure coaches are capable of providing safe conditions and activities as outlined in the preceding list of 13 duties

Communication – legal PREP design workshop #2 (*Review – Add*)

Partner up again (workshop #2) (*individual notes -use with coaching theory assignment*)

Similar sport / Gender / age group / etc... WORKS BEST

****Take your Agenda you designed and now identify how many of the 14 LEGAL DUTIES you have:***

****ADD new Legal Duties you need to have in the meeting - agenda***

#1 SAFETY

#2 LEGAL DUTIES

#3 YOUR LEADERSHIP PHILOSOPHY as HC

Legal Duty = “Your Standard of practice meets standard of care”

**Chapter 3 in text book*

**Angel power point on – 14 LEGAL DUTIES OF A COACH*