

What We Expect from You

We appreciate the work you do as a coach. Without you, our program would not exist. On occasion there will be a coach who loses sight of why we are all volunteering our time. Here is a reminder of what we look for in our volunteer coaches:

1. A person who genuinely likes working with kids. Our coaches must care as much about every player on the team as about his or her own son or daughter. In fact, our coaches must care as much about the players on the other teams as they do about the players on their own team. Remember we may be on opposite teams now but as our children grow, they will merge to be on the same teams.

2. A person who likes to teach and knows the fundamentals of the sport. Yes, winning is better than losing. Yes, we want to teach our players to be competitive and to win. But we would rather be known for the quality of our players and coaches. We need coaches who remember that these are, after all, still children. Our primary job is to teach them the skills of a fine game, and that is how you will be judged as a coach or player--not on your win-loss record. So, if you fail to teach the players the fundamentals of the game, or teach them the wrong things in order to win, or teach them to cheat or be poor sports, then you will not succeed as an AYS coach.

3. A person who is a good role model for children. We are trying to teach our children to be good sports, even if this idea does not seem as universal as it was in the past at the high school, college and professional levels. So, if you think that arguing with the umpires/refs or other coaches, heckling the other team, or even cheering obnoxiously for your own team is a good idea (likewise if you allow your players to "trash talk", cheat, or try to hurt other players), then you will fail to be a good coach.

4. A person who is responsible. We have over 800 boys and girls who participate in the AYS program a year. The board of directors and/or commissioners of each league cannot be present at every game, even though we try. We count on our coaches to be responsible. You are our "first line" of responsibility. That means that you represent the AYS organization at all times. So, if you can't control your players, fans, fellow coaches or yourself, if you don't take care of the equipment or return all of it at the end of the year, if you don't communicate to the commissioner or board, then you won't be a successful AYS coach.

We at AYS just want our program to be a positive uplifting experience during practices and at games for all our athletes and families. So thank you again for volunteering to coach this season. Please do yourself, your team and the AYS organization proud as we go through this sports season.

~AYS Board of Directors

I have read the above expectations of an AYS coach and feel I have the qualifications to be a successful positive, knowledgeable AYS Coach.

Signature _____ Date _____