

# **West Coast Impact Athletic League**

## **Coaches Handbook 2014-2015**

### **West Coast Impact Athletic League Coaches Handbook**

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Jodie Joslin, Athletic Director

All Coaches and volunteers need to adhere to the guidelines set forth by West Coast Impact Athletic League (WCIAL)

## **Philosophy of Christian Coaching**

West Coast Impact Athletic League's philosophy of coaching is grounded in three main principles of Christian athletics.

- 1.** The Christian coach should view athletics as a ministry. The Christian coaches is sensitive to the leading of the Holy Spirit and prays for their athletes to develop a deeper desire for the things of Christ. The Christian coach also understands the great opportunity for active ministry as opponents, fans and community are watching to see if there is a difference in the Christian athlete. Christian coaches are to be used for God's work in the lives of the athletes of whom they have been entrusted. They are ambassadors for Christ in our athletic community.
- 2.** The Christian coach views athletics as an arena for teaching the principles of God's Word. Athletes are confronted with many types of situations that run parallel to life situations. These situations become perfect opportunities for teaching biblical principles. It is the job of the Christian coach to biblically direct athletes to build Christ-like character qualities and to encourage the athletes to express these qualities openly through the medium of athletics. The Christian coach is to primarily build eternal values in our athletes and, therefore, need to stress attitudes and actions in relation to God's Word.
- 3.** Finally, the Christian coach understands the importance of sports from a Christian perspective. Coaches spend many hours thinking of ways to help their team win games, but the Christian coach anticipates winning a lot more than just games. The Christian coach understands that true victory only comes when the athletes please the Lord with their effort, attitudes and actions. Now they do it to obtain a corruptible crown, but we an incorruptible. (1 Corinthians 9:25). Examples of victory to the Christian coach include athletes demonstrating the fruit of the Spirit during normal and stressful situations, seeing team members develop a deep desire for the things of Christ, or having an athlete share their faith with boldness to teammates and opponents. The Christian coach wants their athletes to desire to please the Lord rather than people. Whatsoever you do, do it with your whole heart as working for the Lord, not for men. (Colossians 3:23). The Christian coach wants their athletes to catch the vision that our Lord attends every athletic event and is their primary audience and their greatest fan.

## **I. Special Requirements & Guidelines**

**A.** Each athlete must have a current physical, waiver of liability and signed athletic handbook compliance form ***prior to*** practicing or playing on a WCIAL team. The athlete cannot compete in tryouts, practice, or games without the above documents. Payment in full or the first payment will also be due at the time of the first practice. Payments are then due by the 5th of each month.

**B.** Each coach should conduct a meeting with the families and athletes of their particular sport to discuss the philosophy and standards set forth in the Athletic Handbook within one week of beginning their first practice.

**C.** Each coach should compile a list of rules and regulations and a calendar that pertain to your specific sport for the athletes and parents to follow and have a parent meeting to go over these.

**D.** Help to secure support staff, such as statistician, scorekeeper, bookkeeper, timer, manager, etc. as you see fit.

**E.** Given that some sports are co-ed (e.g., track & field, cross country, etc.) It is the desire of WCIAL and all the coaches to be above reproach in establishing boundaries/guidelines to those athletes in our charge. We encourage healthy co-ed relationships by treating each other as brothers and sisters in Christ. We encourage coaches to develop their own set of Christ-like guidelines where this area is concerned.

**F.** In the event that a coach or assistant coach must provide transportation to an athlete of the opposite sex that coach must be accompanied by their spouse or another family member or another adult of the same gender as that of the athlete.

## **II. Guidelines for Eligibility and Participation in Practices, Games & Meets**

**A.** All those involved in the athletic program must be privately homeschooled; that is one who is taught at home by his parents, grandparents, older sibling of at least 18 years of age, or legal guardian or charter school at least 51% of the time.

**B.** A player is not home schooled 51% if; they are enrolled in multiple classes that are in a non-home-school or charter school setting. Such as; public school, private school, or college courses. These courses must clearly be less than the 51% of the home-schooled courses. Home schooled does not mean college classes, vocational classes, private school classes, Christian school classes, or public school classes

**C.** Athletic eligibility will be determined by the parent(s) of the athlete. In an effort to allow families to have the freedoms home education affords, we feel athlete participation based on grades and responsibilities at home should be determined by what is appropriate to the rules and needs for each individual family.

## **III. Disciplinary Procedures**

Unacceptable attitudes and behaviors of the athletes should be dealt with immediately.

If a coach becomes aware that any athlete is in serious violation of the Athletic Handbook they must notify the Athletic Director immediately. Then the player's coach meets with the athlete and parent and explains the discipline that has been decided upon.

## **IV. Medical Guidelines**

**A.** Coaches must always have first aid kits at practices and games/meets.

**B.** Coaches must always carry a copy of the athlete's physical and waiver of liability with them at practices and games/meets so as to have them readily available if the need arises.

**C.** All injuries and need for emergency medical personnel must be reported to the Athletic Director.

**D.** Parents must be contacted immediately following an injury. If parents cannot be reached, then the best possible medical attention is sought. Rely on the emergency medical authorization forms to provide the essential information you need.

## **V. General Responsibilities**

**A.** A coach is the spiritual example and leader of the team, integrating spiritual truth and life into the program.

**B.** Establish a devotional and prayer time with your athletes.

**C.** Lead your athletes biblically, not by opinion or emotion. Let God's Word direct you.

**D.** Provide a means for athletes performance and improvement to be evaluated throughout the season.

**E.** Encourage excellent stewardship in our athletes. Coaches are responsible for the condition of the athletic facilities. It is your job to see that the facility you are using is cleaned, locked or secured after you have finished.

**F.** Prepare the facilities prior to a practice or a game. This does not mean you do the work, but you see that the work gets done. Engage the help of your athletes

**G.** Expect that your athletes use equipment wisely. Encourage the athletes to keep track of equipment and to not abuse what God has given us.

**H.** Each head coach should complete a postseason meeting with each assistant and junior high coach to evaluate the season.

**I.** Each head coach should make contact with the Athletic Director to have a brief of the season in order to find out what went well and in what areas we can improve upon as a league.

## **VI. Equipment Room Responsibilities and Procedures**

- A.** At the beginning of each season, equipment is checked out.
- C.** At the end of the season, coaches are responsible for returning all uniforms and equipment after they have been cleaned and accounted for.

## **VII. Certification**

All coaches, assistants and volunteers for junior high through high school teams are required to complete the following and have the results on file with the Athletic Director:

- A.** BLS certification
- B.** Heads Up: Concussions in Youth Sports (free online 30 minute course:  
[http://www.cdc.gov/concussion/HeadsUp/online\\_training.html](http://www.cdc.gov/concussion/HeadsUp/online_training.html))

# COACH'S HANDBOOK COMPLIANCE FORM 2014-2015

This form is to be completed and returned ***before*** an athlete participates in his first sport (prior to or at the first practice).

***I have read and understand the rules, regulations and guidelines set forth in this handbook. I do agree to abide by these rules, regulations and guidelines and will faithfully exemplify Christ-like behaviors,.***

COACH'S SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

HOME PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

CELL PHONE(S): \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

SPORT(S): \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_