

**Plum Senior High School  
COACHES CODE OF ETHICS**

The function of a coach is to properly educate students through participation in interscholastic competition. The interscholastic program is designed to enhance academic achievement and should never interfere with opportunities for academic success. Each child should be treated as though they were the coach's own and their welfare shall be uppermost at all times. In recognition of this, the following guidelines for coaches have been adopted by the Athletic Department.

The coach must be aware that he or she has a tremendous influence, either good or bad, in the education of the student athlete and, thus, shall never place the value of winning above the value of instilling the highest desirable ideals of character.

The coach must constantly uphold the dignity of the profession. In all personal contact with the student athlete, officials, athletic directors, school administrators, the state high school athletic association, the media, and the public, the coach shall strive to set an example of the highest ethical and moral conduct.

The coach shall take an active role in the prevention of drug, alcohol, and tobacco abuse and under no circumstances should authorize their use. All coaches must abide by the district's tobacco policy No. 323.

Coaches are not to be involved in any type of fundraising activities or sale of merchandise or apparel. All fundraising activities are to be conducted by the booster organization. Coaches should never accept cash or checks for booster related activities. All fundraising activities are to be conducted by the booster organizations. See attached PBS policy #618.

The coach shall abide by the policies of the Plum Borough School District. Pay special attention to Policy 323 Tobacco Use, Policy 618 Special Purpose Funds and Policy 247 Hazing Policy.

The coach shall promote the entire interscholastic program of the school and direct his or her program in harmony with the total school program.

The coach shall be thoroughly acquainted with the rules of the contest and is responsible for their interpretation to team members. The spirit and letter of the rules should be regarded as mutual agreements. The coach shall not try to seek an advantage by circumvention of the spirit or letter of the rules.

The coach shall actively use their influence to enhance sportsmanship by their spectators, working closely with cheerleaders, pep club sponsors, booster clubs, and administrators.

Contest officials shall have the respect and support of the coach. The coach shall not indulge in conduct that will incite players or spectators against the officials. Public criticism of officials or players is unethical.

Before and after contests, rival coaches should meet and exchange friendly greetings to set the correct tone for the event.

A coach shall not exert pressure on faculty members to give student athletes special consideration.

It is unethical for coaches to scout opponents by any means other than those adopted by the league and/or state high school association.

The coach should at all times refrain from using inappropriate language or gestures.

I have read and understand the code of ethics as stated above. I also understand that failure to comply with the code of ethics could lead to disciplinary action by the Athletic Department.

COACH: X \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_