



# Flag Football 2018 Coach Orientation

## General

- Set the "example" for your parents/players (commitment, attendance, promptness)
- Be as organized as possible (rosters, equipment, etc.)
- Represent the KGYAA with professionalism; seek to promote KGYAA wherever possible (i.e. recruitment)
- Raise any organizational concerns to the KGYAA; do not provide parents/players negative views

## Communication

- Maintain and employ a team e-mail distribution list
- Do not forget to phone those without e-mail!
- Always keep parents/players informed of weekly schedules, upcoming team events, team updates
- Provide as much advance notice of team events as possible, then follow-up with reminders
- Advise your parents to "like" us on Facebook, which is another way we communicate information

## Parental Interaction

- Keep your parents well-informed of planned/scheduled team events
- Stress importance of being dedicated/committed to the team (i.e., encourage maximum effort to attend all practices/games, etc.)
- Stress importance of contacting you in advance if a practice/game is to be missed
- Maintain an "open-door" policy; be approachable
- Make yourself available to parents before & after practices
- Be receptive to suggestions and respectful to those who may make them
- If you disagree with an offered suggestion, explain the reasons why you disagree (many times you'll simply have to agree to disagree)
- Stand firm in your convictions; perception of uncertainty and susceptibility to influence can reduce credibility
- Make no promises concerning a player's position(s) and playing time (e.g., "starter" vs. "reserve")
- Refer matters (not locally resolvable) to the KGYAA for action, where necessary

## Parental Flashpoints

- Hydration (Be sure to provide timely water breaks for your players at all practices)
- Playing time (Ensure all players make a contribution and see significant action – **8 plays minimum**)
- Information (Always keep parents well-informed in advance of team events)
- Practice OVERRUNS (Try to finish practice as close to the advertised time as possible)

## Player Interaction

- Keep your players well-informed of planned/scheduled team events
- Demand discipline, dedication/commitment, promptness
- Maintain an "open-door" policy; be approachable; make your players comfortable enough to ask questions
- Emphasize team/individual skills progression vice wins/losses
- Emphasize "team"; players should be positioned where they can best help the team, not themselves
- Avoid accepting position "requests", as they can be distracting and place individuals above the team
- Never leave a player feeling worthless by being too negative (he/she still needs to perform for you!)
- Make no promises concerning a player's position(s) and playing time
- Ensure your players respect/maintain their uniform/equipment and wear the proper uniform for games (i.e., be organized)
- Maintain morale, win or lose!

## Staff Interaction

- Develop/maintain a great working relationship with your fellow coach/coaches
- Ensure philosophies/goals are outlined prior to the start of the season
- Resolve any disagreements/issues "off-line", beyond the eyes/ears of parents/players
- Always strive to present a united front