



2410 COACHING CERTIFICATION & ELIGIBILITY POLICY

Policy Type: Educational Programs
Applies To: Coaches
Approved By: LCS Head of Schools
Policy Reviewed: every 2 years
Adopted: 09 2023
Revisions: 05 2024

1. PURPOSE & SCOPE:

- (a) This policy outlines requirements Athletic Directors and administration are expected to fulfill to ensure that all coaches, including non-staff coaches, are mission-aligned and thoroughly scrutinized to ensure the safety and wellbeing of all students enrolled at the school, and to protect the reputation of LCS in the community.
- (b) Applies to all staff, parents, caregivers, volunteers or community members assigned to regular, ongoing coaching of Lightning Athletics teams or individual athletes.
- (c) LCS will maintain the same standards for conduct, safety and professionalism for its volunteers and coaches as it does for its employees.

2. REQUIREMENTS & QUALIFICATIONS:

- (a) Completion of an application submitted to the Athletic Director that outlines the expertise and qualifications of the coach. Athletic Directors will prioritize coaching assignments to individuals who best fit the following criteria:
 - (i) Evidence of Christian character and capacity to guide youth in faith and character development
 - (ii) Communication skills
 - (iii) Expertise and experience in the sport
 - (iv) Certification and coaching training
- (b) For senior and junior teams, a strong preference for LCS employees is considered in the selection and appointment of coaches.
- (c) Upon request from the Athletic Director, a non-staff coach will provide a minimum of 2 character references that have observed the Christian character of the coach or volunteer, and which provide evidence of the individual's capacity to provide Biblical discipleship.
- (d) Any coach of a school team registered in grade 8-12 competitions should be enrolled in, or have completed the appropriate provincial or national certification requirements for that sport.

- (e) Prior to any practice or competition, all coaches assigned to a school team must complete a criminal records check in accordance with 3206 CRIMINAL RECORDS CHECK POLICY.
- (f) The BCSS Supervision Policies does not require that a Teacher-Sponsor be present with adults who have been approved by the School Administrator. It is therefore strongly recommended that periodic observations of the non-staff coach at practice and in competition be conducted by the Athletic Director and/or Administrator.
- (g) As mandated by BCSS, all community coaches must complete their Concussion Awareness Training Tool (CATT) online certification prior to working with student athletes.

3. COACHING ORIENTATION, CONTRACTS & CODE OF CONDUCT

- (a) All non-staff coaches will complete an orientation session delivered by the Athletic Director which outlines the goals and key objectives of the Lightning Athletic Program as outlined in 2400 LIGHTNING ATHLETICS PURPOSE & GOALS.
- (b) All non-staff coaches will sign a Coaching Contract outlining their obligations to uphold standards established by the Athletic Director and enforceable by the school administration. The contract will reference other Athletic Policies and the Athletics Program Handbook.
- (c) All non-staff coaches will review the 2412 COACHING CODE OF CONDUCT.

4. POLICY COMPLIANCE:

- (a) Prior to the first practice, all non-staff coaches will sign off on their agreement to uphold the following LCS policies. Employees who have completed their annual safety orientation do not have to complete any review of these policies but are contractually required to have knowledge of them and follow them.
- (b) The coaching contract will indicate the coach's review and understanding of each policy.
- (c) Non-compliance or disagreement with any of the policies will result in immediate dismissal and replacement, and/or ineligibility to coach any school team.

- 3203 Child Abuse & Reporting Protocol
- 3204 Harassment & Bullying Prevention
- 3205 Violence & Threat Risk Assessment
- 3209 Suicide Prevention Guidelines
- 2400 Lightning Athletics Purpose & Goals
- 2412 Coaching Code of Conduct
- 2420 Athletics Team Travel Policy
- 2430 Student-Athlete Eligibility
- 2203 Student Conduct Policy

- 2204 Student Harassment & Bullying Prevention Policy
- 2205 Substance Use Prevention Policy
- 2206 Student Technology Use

5. DUTY TO REPORT:

As a representative of Langley Christian School, all coaches and volunteers assigned to responsibilities in the Athletics Program have a duty to report all instances of verbal, emotional or physical abuse or disrespect of athletes, participants, spectators, coaches or officials.

RELEVANT POLICIES:

- 2400 Lightning Athletics Purpose & Goals
- 2412 Coaching Code of Conduct

Reviewed: 05 2024