

NJFOA Code of Conduct & Standards of Behavior

1. Members shall bear and accept the responsibility for engendering public confidence in sports and our role in assuring a level playing field for competition.
2. Members shall be free of obligation to any interest other than the impartial and fair judging of sports competitions.
3. Members shall hold and maintain the basic tenets of officiating which include history, integrity, neutrality, respect, sensitivity, professionalism, discretion and tactfulness.
4. Members shall master rules of the game, mechanics necessary to enforce the rules, and our published philosophy that guarantees a proper application of the spirit of the rules. They shall exercise authority in an impartial, firm and controlled manner.
5. Members shall uphold the honor and dignity of the profession in all interactions with student-athletes, coaches, school administrators, colleagues and the public.
6. Members shall display and execute superior communication skills, both verbal and non-verbal.
7. Members shall recognize that anything which may lead to a conflict of interest, either real or perceived, must be avoided. Gifts, favors, special treatment, privileges, employment or a personal relationship with a school or team which can compromise the perceived impartiality of officiating must be avoided.
8. Members shall prepare themselves both physically and mentally, shall dress neatly and appropriately, and shall comport themselves in a manner consistent with the high standards of the profession.
9. Members shall not be party to actions designed to unfairly limit or restrain access to officiating, officiating assignments or to association membership or leadership. This includes selection for positions of leadership based upon economic factors, race, creed, age, gender, physical handicap, sexual orientation, or country of national origin.
10. Members shall be punctual and professional in the fulfillment of all contractual obligations.
11. Members shall work with each other and their governing bodies in a constructive and cooperative manner.
12. Members shall resist every temptation and outside pressure to use one's position as an official to benefit oneself.
13. Members shall never participate in any form of illegal gambling on sports contest, may never gamble on any sporting event in which they have either a direct or indirect involvement and may never gamble on events involving high school athletics.
14. Members shall not make false or misleading statements regarding their qualifications, rating, credentials, experience, training or competence.
15. Members will abide by the tenets of the **NJFOA Social Media Policy**
16. Members shall accept responsibility for all actions taken.