 **Coaches Code of Conduct**

**OLDS LACROSSE ASSOCIATION**

It is the intent of the Olds Lacrosse Association to ensure that games are fair, positive and an enjoyable experience for all children and adults involved. A lacrosse game should be a spirited social and athletic occasion for players, coaches, referees and spectators.

To clarify expectations of coach conduct, it is expected that all coaches conform to the following code of conduct:

* Before, during and after the game, be an example of dignity, patience and positive spirit.
* Before a game, introduce yourself to the opposing coach and to the referee(s).
* During the game, you are responsible for the sportsmanship of your players.
* During the game, you and the team manager are responsible for the conduct of the parents of your players.
* Discourage parents and players from yelling at players and referees.
* During the game, the team captain may address the referee on behalf of the coach
* If you have a major complaint, report your opinion to the President of your club after a 24 hour period. Your reactions will be taken seriously if they are presented objectively and formally.
* **Do not take up major complaints with referees, parents or players and do not be aggressive or disrespectful to any person regarding any issues.**
* After the game, thank the referee and ask our players to do the same.

**Aggressive and/or disrespectful behavior towards any person: whether an official, player or spectator will not be tolerated.**  Failure to observe the terms of this contract may result in disciplinary action being taken against the member in violation. Said disciplinary action may include but is not limited to: suspension or expulsion from OLA.

Referees, especially young and inexperienced ones are like your players and yourself in that they need time to develop. You can play an important role in helping them improve by letting them concentrate on the game. You can help by encouraging them, by accepting their inevitable, occasional mistakes and by offering constructive post-game comments. Discourage and demoralize the young referees by criticizing their decisions, by verbally abusing them and will not be tolerated **\*\*\*Please treat young referees with the same patience and respect you would expect others to show your own child\*\*\***

Your example is powerful, for better or for worse. Uphold the Spirit of the Game!

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Printed Name Signature

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