

This was presented at the mid-year meeting and although there was not a quorum, we endorsed our support of this document during the 2005 season. Let's be good sports and let our sportmanship show through the young men and women wrestling in the state of Montana.

MONTANA U.S.A. WRESTLING COACHES CODE OF CONDUCT

In order to more effectively govern the conduct and responsibilities of coaches participating in Montana U.S.A. wrestling, the following guidelines are adopted for all coaches in Montana U.S.A. wrestling. Many of the rules are taken verbatim from the U.S.A. Wrestling Coaches Guide to Excellence, which every coach should have received as a part of the Bronze Card clinic.

1. The coach shall strive to acquire and implement the most current knowledge of the rules, strategies, and teaching methods of the sport.
2. The coach shall strive to structure a safe environment for the athlete during practices, tournaments, travel and other team functions.
3. The coach shall strive to work closely with parents and community members to promote an understanding of the role athletics in the total educational experience.
4. The coach shall strive to have the welfare of the athlete as the primary concern when making decisions that relate to the care of injuries, rehabilitation, and return to activity.
5. The coach shall strive to promote effective communication with wrestlers, officials, fellow coaches, parents, school administrators, and community members. The coach shall not resort to yelling at the athlete, or physical or other unconstructive discipline of the athlete (this includes a prohibition of grabbing an athlete in anger or disappointment, or pulling the athlete by the clothing or singlet).
6. The coach shall strive to serve as a leader and model in the development of appropriate conduct for the athlete both within and beyond the sport setting. The coach will display respect and a controlled temperament with the athletes, other coaches, and

referees in the practice room and at tournaments. Coaches will treat all referees with respect and fairness, and shall not berate or intimidate the “younger” referees.

7. The coach shall not use any profanity in the practice room or at tournaments or around the athletes at any time.

8. The coach shall strive to use strategies in practice and competition that reflect a standard of fairness to all competitors and that are designed to encourage the wrestles within the letter and spirit of the rules.

9. The coach shall strive to keep the concepts of winning and losing in proper perspective. The coach shall strive to display good sportsmanship, and will require the athletes to learn and engage in good sportsmanship.

10. The coach shall strive to enforce team policies with fairness, consistency, and an appreciation for individual differences.

11. The coach is responsible for ensuring that spectators and parents conduct themselves within the spirit of good sportsmanship and from displaying hostile or demeaning behavior towards the opposing athlete.

12. The coach shall strive to be knowledgeable of the Montana U.S.A. Wrestling policies and rules pertaining to wrestling and shall ensure that the regulations governing eligibility are upheld.

13. Coaches shall strive to display a favorable image of the sport of wrestling, and shall attempt to conduct themselves with the above rules in mind and never condone others who do not conduct themselves accordingly.