



COACHES' COVENANT 2023

I will:

- Continually conduct myself in a manner that honors Christ in all aspects of my service as a coach in the Salem Baptist Church Recreation Ministry.
- Regularly pray for God's guidance as I lead my team and for my players and their families to believe in Jesus Christ and grow in their faith.
- Share Christ's gospel of love and redemption with my team members and their families through my actions, deeds, and regular age-appropriate team devotions.
- Focus my team on improving their sports skills, doing their best, learning to win and lose, respecting their teammates, and having fun by creating an atmosphere where winning is a result of these goals, not the goal itself.
- Promote and provide a safe and encouraging environment to teach the sport.
- Look for opportunities to teach players and their families about how to deal with life's challenges, celebrate life's successes, and honor God in all situations.
- Lead by example in respecting the authority of Salem Baptist Church's leadership, as well as that of game officials who have been placed in a position of authority over the Salem Recreation Ministry.
- Make every reasonable attempt to establish a culture of good sportsmanship through my actions and encouragement to my team's players, their families, and other spectators and take an active role in addressing unsportsmanlike behavior.
- Avoid controversy and use biblical principles of peacemaking to resolve any conflict that arises with another coach, game official, player, or spectator.
- Abstain during practices and games and while involved in any other Salem Recreation Ministry activity from the use of tobacco, alcohol, and other such substances which may be a stumbling block to others.

I understand and accept the following conditions, that I:

- Demonstrate a commitment to Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, walking in a growing relationship with Him.
- Understand and submit to the standards of God's Holy Word and the mission, values, doctrinal statements, and other requirements of Salem Baptist Church.
- Have a passion for sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ.
- Be an active member of Salem Baptist Church or other like-minded church, subject to review and approval by the Salem Recreation Ministry.
- Have a love for children and their families.

- Pass a background check.
- Act at all times in a manner that ensures the integrity of the Salem Recreation Ministry and the safety of all participants.

I acknowledge my team practice and game responsibilities:

- Adequately prepare for practices and games.
- Arrive reasonably in advance of practices and games to allow time for adequate preparation.
- Establish and execute drills that ensure effective practices.
- Lead or have a team chaplain lead a devotion and prayer during or at the end of practice.
- Establish lineups and substitution plans that ensure reasonably equitable and fair opportunities for all players.
- Adhere to guidelines and rules of the league.
- See opposing team and coach as friends, not as adversaries.
- Return all provided Salem Recreation Ministry equipment to its original location after practices and games.
- Remove all team equipment and trash from the player bench area in a timely manner after conclusion of each practice and game.
- Remain at practice and game locations until all players are picked up by their parent(s) or designated individual(s).

I commit to improving my knowledge, skills, and abilities, and that of my players by:

- Having a basic understanding of the sport.
- Being a willing learner and teacher of fundamentals.
- Reviewing all relevant handouts and other information on the salemsports.net website.
- Understanding the desire and expectations of the Salem Recreation Ministry to promote acceptance of Christ and spiritual growth among players and families.
- Being an encourager.
- Creating lasting relationships through interaction with and leadership of players and their families.

By volunteering to serve as a coach in the Salem Recreation Ministry, I certify that:

- I will coach and abide by the rules set forth by the Salem Recreation Ministry.
- I understand that the children on my team have been placed under my guidance and, therefore, commit to set a worthy Christian example for them.
- I commit to treat players, coaches, parents, and game officials with respect and will make every effort to encourage any individual affiliated with my team to avoid open criticism.
- I have read and agree to honor this Coaches' Covenant.
- I recognize and agree that if, at any point, I cannot adhere to the guidelines set forth by the Salem Recreation Ministry, I may come under disciplinary action including but not limited to suspension or dismissal from participation in the Ministry.

Signature: _____

Date: _____