



www.guelphgiants hockey.ca

THE GUELPH GIANTS SPECIAL HOCKEY FOUNDATION (THE “GIANTS”) COACHING GUIDELINES

The following guidelines are intended to clarify the role of Giants coaching staff and are designed to develop a strong, active, working group committed to representing the Giants to their fullest.

- **Attendance** - All coaches are expected to make every effort to attend all practices, games and tournaments in addition to team functions as the players rely on your help to teach and encourage their progress with the game. Furthermore, our experience has been that players tend to recognize and become more comfortable with volunteers based on increased familiarity; inconsistency therefore only detracts from the players' experience. The executive understands that this is a voluntary capacity but because of your commitment it will make the experience that much more enjoyable for our athletes. **Should you have known conflicts (work, family, etc.) please contact the head coach to discuss in advance of these dates to avoid being short staffed without warning.**
- **Voting** - Each coach will be granted one (1) regular membership for annual voting purposes as outlined in the Giants By-Laws
- **Confidentiality** - Each coach of the Giants is expected to maintain strict confidentiality regarding matters discussed at team meetings or at the arena. For example, discussions often involving parent and coach issues, athletes' developmental history or medical conditions may be discussed from time to time in an effort to improve the athlete's experience. For these reasons it is important that the information remain confidential to protect our athletes at all times. If you feel there is a need to share certain information, this should first be approved by our board of directors.
- **Integrity** - All coaches are expected to act with integrity within the community on an ongoing basis. To keep in accordance with this expectation, all coaches and the board are required to submit **annual police checks**. Should a matter arise for a coach or a board member where there could be any reputational risk to the organization, the Giants wish to be notified of this as soon as possible.
- **Behaviour** – All coaches are expected to adhere to the highest moral and ethical behaviour when dealing with our special needs athletes. **Under NO circumstance should a coach use physical force when dealing with our players.** This applies to pushing, physically restraining a player (eg. pulling a kid off the ice when it isn't their turn) or throwing items. The Giants abide by Hockey Canada's policies as they apply to Harassment, Bullying, Abuse (Physical / Emotional / Sexual), & Neglect. All coaches will adhere to these guidelines and should such a situation arise, it will be dealt with by a disciplinary hearing through our Board of Directors. There also must be 2 coaches present in the dressing room at all times to maintain safety for all athletes; this applies to both the female & male locker rooms. ***Please note that we do acknowledge that our athletes tend to be more affectionate than most and we are comfortable with contact (eg. hugs) that is initiated by the athlete primarily.*
- **Community** - It is expected that each coach will actively promote the work of the Giants within the community.



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The Board of Directors reserves the right to remove any coach from our program at its discretion through a personnel review should it be in the organizations best interest.

As a coach of the Giants, I have read, understand and agree to abide by the conditions of this position.

Date

Signature

Witness

Your willingness to serve the community by becoming involved as a Giants coach is greatly appreciated by all the athletes this program endeavors to serve.

Thank you,

The Guelph Giants Special Hockey Foundation Board of Directors