

Ethical Questions in Coaching (and how to handle them)

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#1. Transfers

- A parent comes to talk to you about transferring their athlete to your team. They have not spoken with their current coach.
- How should you handle yourself?

Bad mouthing.....of you.

- You are hearing “rumors” from reliable sources that another specific coach is “bad-mouthing you and your coaching”. The Coach does not work for you.
- What do you do?

Opinions.

- A parent on another team asks you your opinion of the coaching of “their coach” (whom you have professional (or maybe personal) disdain for....)
- How do you respond?

Lies

- Lies are circulating on your team about certain individuals on your team. You know they are lies. You quietly seek to learn the source and discover it's a PARENT of another team member that is the source.....
- What do you do?

Conflict

- You are the head coach on your team. Two of your assistants are having profound personal issues with each other, to the point where it is disrupting team harmony and teamwork.
- What do you do?

Cheats

- You are aware that one of your biggest rival teams/coaches in your area, are cheating on the rule for transfer times of swimmers from one team to another. What do you do?
- You are aware that local teams not your own are cheating on entry times. What do you do?

Intimidation

- At local swim meets, a particular team “always” comes to your warmup lane, sends large swimmers crashing into your small swimmers and generally “drives them from the lane”.
- What do you do about this “full combat warmup” situation?

Honesty

- Is it ever alright to lie to an athlete?
- When ?
- Why?
- In what circumstances?

The Elders

- The Golden Rule.
- Thanks for listening!
- Email questions, comments, thoughts anytime!
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