



New Mexico Academic Decathlon

2009-2010 Coaches' Code of Ethics/Competition Conduct Form

The function of a coach is to educate students through participation in interscholastic competition. The Academic Decathlon is designed to enhance student academic achievement. Each student's welfare should be regarded as uppermost at all times.

- The Coach shall be aware that he or she has a tremendous influence, for either good or ill, on the education of the student decathlete and, thus, shall always place the value of instilling the highest ideals of character and integrity above the value of winning.
- The Coach shall uphold the honor and dignity of the profession in all personal contact with student decathletes, officials, volunteers, school administrators, the State and National Academic Decathlon associations, the media, and the public. The coach shall strive to set an example of the highest ethical and moral conduct.
- The Coach shall master the protocol of communications and grievance procedures and make them known to his/her students. Grievances are to be brought to the NMAD Director in writing. The State Director's decision is final.
- The Coach shall avoid the use of drugs, alcohol and tobacco products when in contact with decathletes and shall take an active role in the prevention of drug, alcohol and tobacco abuse.
- The Coach shall promote the entire interscholastic program of the school and direct his or her program in harmony with the total school program.
- The Coach shall master the contest rules and shall teach them to his or her team members. The coach shall not seek advantage by circumvention of the spirit or letter of the rules.
- The Coach shall exert his or her influence to enhance the spirit of good sportsmanship.
- The Coach shall respect and support competition officials and volunteers. Public criticism of officials, volunteers or team members is unethical.
- A Coach shall not exert pressure on faculty members to give student decathletes special consideration.
- A Coach shall practice ethical conduct with regard to vendors, media, peers, and not participate in any relationship with a vendor, the media, or peers that is a conflict of interest or gives the appearance of a conflict of interest with the independent nature of the Academic Decathlon operations and competitions

Non-compliance will result in disciplinary action at the discretion of NMAD officials.

I understand that NMAD officials' determinations are final and that NMAD officials can take any and all steps that are deemed necessary to enforce or uphold the standards and rules of competition, including disqualification.

School Administrator's Signature

Date

Coach's Signature

Date

Coach's Signature

Date