



Code of Conduct for School Sport

The Code of Conduct has been created for teachers, coaches, match officials, pupils, parents and spectators to refer to when engaged with sport in schools.

Teachers / Coaches

1. Schools have a responsibility to ensure that hired professional coaches, adult volunteers and young leaders use appropriate language and behaviour when working with young people and commit fully to the spirit of this code of practice.
2. Ensure that equal opportunities for participation in school sport are made available to all young people, regardless of ability, size, shape, sex, disability or ethnic origin.
3. Teachers / coaches must be reasonable in their demands on young peoples' time, energy and enthusiasm - they need other interests.
4. Young people play for fun and enjoyment and winning is only part of this. Never ridicule or shout at children for making mistakes or losing a competition.
5. Teachers / coaches should make a personal commitment to keep themselves informed on sound coaching principles and the principles of children's growth and development.
6. Players should be grouped according to age, height, skill and physical maturity where appropriate and in accordance with the relevant Governing Body.
7. Teachers / coaches should try to arrange an appropriate balance between practice and fixtures – giving opportunity to all young people who wish to participate without over playing the most able.
8. Ensure that equipment and facilities are appropriate to the age and ability of the players and meet safety standards.
9. Teach players that the rules/laws of the game are for their own safety and should be respected at all times.
10. Ensure that players respect the ability of their opponents and the judgement of match officials.
11. All teachers / coaches should be fully conversant with school safeguarding procedures and be PVG checked as required.
12. Ensure that adequate supervision is provided by suitably qualified and competent Teachers/Coaches and Officials capable of developing appropriate sports behaviour and skill techniques.
13. Condemn the use of violence in any form, be it by spectators, teachers, coaches, officials or players.

Spectators

1. Young people play school sport for fun. They are not playing for the entertainment of spectators only, nor are they miniature professionals.
2. Applaud good performance and effort by your team and the opponents. Congratulate both teams upon their performance regardless of the game's outcome.
3. Respect the official's decision and teach young people to do likewise. Some officials may be young leaders who are learning to officiate in sport, they need as much support as the players.
4. Never ridicule or criticise young people for making a mistake during a competition. Positive comments are motivational.
5. Condemn the use of violence in any form, be it by spectators, coaches, teachers, officials or players.
6. Show respect for your team's opponents. Without them there would be no game.
7. Encourage players to play according to the rules and the official's decision.
8. Demonstrate appropriate social behaviour by not using foul language or harassing players, coaches, teachers or officials.
9. Recognise the value and importance of teachers, volunteer coaches and officials. They give their time and resources to provide school sport opportunities and deserve support.

Officials

1. Modify rules and regulations to match the skill level of participants. Encourage rule change which will reinforce the principles of participation for fun and enjoyment.
2. Use common sense to ensure that the "spirit of the game" for young people is not lost by overcalling violations.
3. Compliment both teams on their efforts.
4. Be consistent, objective and courteous in calling infractions.
5. Condemn the use of foul language and violence of any form.
6. Promote fair play and appropriate sports behaviour.
7. Ensure that your behaviour is consistent with the principles of good sportsmanship at all times.
8. Make a personal commitment to keep yourself informed of sound officiating principles and rule changes.
9. Treat all people fairly and with respect regardless of race, background, religious beliefs or gender

Pupils

1. Treat all people fairly and with respect regardless of race, background, religious beliefs or gender.
2. Respect the referee, umpire or officials' decisions and the rules of the game.
3. Co-operate with teachers, coaches, volunteers, team mates and opponents. Without them there would be no game!
4. Control your temper both on and off the playing area. The use of bad language, deliberately fouling or provoking an opponent is not permitted in any school sport.
5. Do not criticise others by words or gesture.
6. Work to the best of your ability both individually and as a team.
7. Be committed to your team by showing good attendance at training sessions, being positive and motivating others.
8. Be a good sport. Cheer all good play whether it is from your team or the other team.
9. Respect the facility and equipment being used.
10. Wear appropriate kit and remove jewellery before play.

