



Fencing South Australia Inc.

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ABN: 58 171 567 951

## CODES OF BEHAVIOUR

The Codes of Behavior aims to set out the professional boundaries, ethical behaviour and minimum standards for anyone involved in fencing in South Australia. It applies when training or taking part in the National, State fencing tournaments and other events hosting by AFF, Fencing SA or any other affiliated club.

### 1. General Code of Conduct

As a member of Fencing SA you must meet the following requirements in regard to your conduct during any activity held or sanctioned by Australian Fencing Federation (AFF), Fencing SA or an affiliated club and in any role you hold within AFF, Fencing SA or an affiliated club:

- 1.1. Respect the rights, dignity and worth of others.
- 1.2. Be fair, considerate and honest in all dealing with others.
- 1.3. Be professional in, and accept responsibility for, your actions.
- 1.4. Make a commitment to providing quality service.
- 1.5. Be aware of, and maintain an uncompromising adherence to, Fencing SA standards, rules, regulations and policies.
- 1.6. Operate within the rules of the sport including national and international guidelines, which govern Fencing SA.
- 1.7. Do not use your involvement with AFF and Fencing SA to promote your own beliefs, behaviours or practices where these are inconsistent with those of Fencing SA.
- 1.8. Demonstrate a high degree of individual responsibility especially when dealing with persons under 18 years of age, as your words and actions are an example.
- 1.9. Avoid unaccompanied and unobserved activities with persons under 18 years of age, wherever possible.
- 1.10. Refrain from any form of harassment of others.
- 1.11. Refrain from any behaviour that may bring Fencing SA into disrepute.
- 1.12. Provide a safe environment for the conduct of the activity.
- 1.13. Show concern and caution towards others who may be sick or injured.
- 1.14. Be a positive role model.
- 1.15. Understand the repercussions if you breach, or are aware of any breaches of, this Code of Behaviour.

## **2. Coaches Code of Conduct**

In addition to Fencing SA General Code of Conduct, you must meet the following requirements in regard to your conduct during any activity held or sanctioned by AFF, Fencing SA or an affiliated club and in your role as a coach:

- 2.1. Obtain appropriate qualifications and keep up-to-date with the latest coaching practices and the principles of growth and development of young athletes.
- 2.2. Place the safety and welfare of the athletes above all else.
- 2.3. Do not tolerate acts of aggression.
- 2.4. Help each person (athlete, official, etc.) to reach his/her potential. Respect the talent, developmental stage and goals of each person and encourage them with positive and constructive feedback.
- 2.5. Provide feedback to athletes and other participants in a manner sensitive to their needs. Avoid overly negative feedback.
- 2.6. Recognise athletes' rights to consult with the other coaches and advisers. Cooperate fully with other specialists (for example, sports scientists, doctors and physiotherapists).
- 2.7. Treat all athletes fairly within the context of their sporting activities, regardless of gender, race, place of origin, athletic potential, color, sexual orientation, religion, political beliefs, socioeconomic status and other conditions.
- 2.8. Encourage and facilitate athletes' independence and responsibility for their own behaviour, performance, decisions and actions.
- 2.9. Involve the athletes in decisions that affect them.
- 2.10. Encourage athletes to respect one another and to expect respect for their worth as individuals regardless of their level of fencing.
- 2.11. Ensure that the tasks and/or training set are suitable for age, experience, ability, and physical and psychological conditions of the athletes.
- 2.12. Ensure any physical contact with athletes is appropriate to the situation and necessary for the athlete's skill development.
- 2.13. Be acutely aware of the power that you as a coach develop with your athletes in the coaching relationship and avoid any sexual intimacy with athletes that could develop as a result.
- 2.14. Avoid situations with your athletes that could be construed as compromising.
- 2.15. Actively discourage the use of performance enhancing drugs, and the use of alcohol, tobacco and illegal substances.
- 2.16. Do not exploit any coaching relationship to further personal, political or business interests at the expense of the best interest of your athletes.
- 2.17. Accept and respect the role of officials in ensuring that competitions are conducted fairly and according to established rules.
- 2.18. Know and abide by rules, regulations and standards, and encourage athletes to do likewise. Accept both the letter and the spirit of the rules.
- 2.19. Be honest and ensure that qualifications are not misrepresented.

### **3. Officials Code of Conduct**

In addition to Fencing SA General Code of Behaviour, you must meet the following requirements in regard to your conduct during any activity held or sanctioned by AFF, Fencing SA or an affiliated club and in your role as an official appointed by AFF, Fencing SA or an affiliated club:

- 3.1. Place the safety and welfare of the participants above all else.
- 3.2. Ensure all athletes are included and can participate, regardless of their race, gender, ability, cultural background, sexuality or religion.
- 3.3. Accept responsibility for all actions taken.
- 3.4. Be consistent, impartial and objective when making decisions.
- 3.5. Avoid any situation, which may lead to a conflict of interest.
- 3.6. Be courteous, respectful and open to discussion and interaction.
- 3.7. Value the individual in sport.
- 3.8. Address unsporting behaviour and promote respect for other athletes, coaches and officials.

### **4. Athletes/Participants Code of Conduct**

In addition to Fencing SA General Code of Conduct, you must meet the following requirements in regard to your conduct during any activity held or sanctioned by AFF, Fencing SA or an affiliated club and in your role as an athlete/participant in any activity held by or under the auspices of AFF, Fencing SA or an affiliated club:

- 4.1. Give your best at all times.
- 4.2. Participate for your own enjoyment and benefit.
- 4.3. Respect the rights, dignity and worth of fellow fencers, coaches, officials and spectators.
- 4.4. Do not tolerate acts of aggression.
- 4.5. Respect the talent, potential and development of fellow athletes and competitors.
- 4.6. Care for and respect the equipment provided to you as part of your program.
- 4.7. Be frank and honest with your coach concerning illness and injury and your ability to train fully within the program requirements.
- 4.8. At all times avoid intimate relationships with your coach.
- 4.9. Conduct yourself in a professional manner relating to language, temper and punctuality.
- 4.10. Maintain high personal behaviour standards at all times.
- 4.11. Abide by the rules and respect the decision of the official, making all appeals through the formal process and respecting the final decision.

- 4.12. Be honest in your attitude and preparation to training. Work equally hard for yourself and your team.
- 4.13. Cooperate with coaches and staff in development of programs to adequately prepare you for competition at the highest level.

## **5. Administrators (Volunteers) Code of Conduct**

In addition to Fencing SA General Code of Conduct, you must meet the following requirements in regard to your conduct during any activity held by or under the auspices of AFF, Fencing SA or an affiliated club and in your role as an administrator of Fencing SA or an affiliated club:

- 5.1. Ensure quality supervision and instruction for athletes/participants.
- 5.2. Support coaches and officials to improve their skills and competencies.
- 5.3. Act honestly, in good faith and in the best interest of the sport as a whole and Fencing SA.
- 5.4. Ensure that any information acquired or advantage gained from the position is not used improperly.
- 5.5. Resolve conflicts fairly and promptly through established procedures.
- 5.6. Maintain strict impartiality.
- 5.7. Conduct association responsibilities with due care, competence and diligence.
- 5.8. Be aware of your legal responsibilities.

## **6. Parents/Guardians Code of Conduct**

As a parent/guardian of an athlete/participant in any activity held by or under the auspices of AFF, Fencing SA or an affiliated club, you must meet the following requirements in regard to your conduct during any such activity or event:

- 6.1. Respect the rights, dignity and worth of others.
- 6.2. Encourage your child to participate, do his/her best and have fun.
- 6.3. Focus on your child's efforts and performance rather than winning or losing.
- 6.4. Never ridicule or yell at your child and other children for making a mistake or losing a competition.
- 6.5. Show appreciation for good performance of other athletes (including opposing fencers).
- 6.6. Demonstrate a high degree of individual responsibility especially when dealing with or in the vicinity of persons under 18 years of age, as your words and actions are an example.
- 6.7. Respect officials' decisions and teach children to do likewise.

- 6.8. Do not physically or verbally abuse or harass anyone associated with the sport (athlete, coach, referee and so on).
- 6.9. Respect the rights, dignity and worth of every young person regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background or religion.
- 6.10. Model appropriate behaviour, including respect for other athletes, coaches, officials and volunteers.
- 6.11. Understand the repercussions if you breach, or are aware of any breaches of, this Code of Conduct.
- 6.12. Help out the coach or officials at trainings and competitions, where possible.

## **7. Spectators Code of Conduct**

As a spectator in any activity held by or under the auspices of AFF, Fencing SA or an affiliated club, you must meet the following requirements in regard to your conduct during any such activity or event:

- 7.1. Respect the decisions of officials and teach young people to do the same.
- 7.2. Never ridicule or scold a young player for making a mistake. Positive comments are motivational.
- 7.3. Condemn the use of violence in any form, whether it is by other spectators, coaches, officials or participants.
- 7.4. Show respect for your team's/participant's opponents. Without them there would be no competition.
- 7.5. Do not use violence, harassment or abuse in any form. Do not use foul language, sledge or harass athletes/participants, coaches, officials or other spectators.
- 7.6. Respect the rights, dignity and worth of every person regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background or religion.
- 7.7. Respect the effort and performances of athletes and officials



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## APPENDIX A: CODE OF CONDUCT INDIVIDUAL AGREEMENT FORM

To: Fencing South Australia Incorporated

I, \_\_\_\_\_

Full Name

of \_\_\_\_\_

Address

Address cont.

***I agree to the following terms:***

1. I have read and understood the Codes of Behaviour and will abide by it as a member of Fencing SA.
2. I acknowledge that Fencing SA may take disciplinary action against me if I breach the Code of Conduct. I understand that Fencing SA are required to implement a complaints handling procedure in accordance with the principles of natural justice, in the event of an allegation against me.
3. I acknowledge that disciplinary action against me may include termination of my services as a coach and de-accreditation from the National Coaching Accreditation Scheme.

\_\_\_\_\_

Signature

\_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_  
/ /

Date

If under 18 years of age, parent/guardian:

\_\_\_\_\_

Signature

\_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_  
/ /

Date