

CODE OF CONDUCT POLICY

This Code of Behaviour is intended to be the minimum standard for anyone involved in sport.

ATHLETES CODE OF CONDUCT

1. Compete for the 'fun of it' and not just to please parents and coaches.
2. Work equally as hard for yourself and your club. Your club's performance will benefit, so will you.
3. Play by the rules.
4. Never argue with an official. If you disagree, have a Team Manager or Coach approach the official during the break or after the event.
5. Control your temper. Verbal abuse of officials or other athletes, deliberately provoking an opponent and throwing equipment is not acceptable or permissible in any sport.
6. Be a good sport. Cheer all good performances, whether they be by a club mate, or another club's athlete.
7. Treat all athletes as you would like to be treated. Do not interfere with, bully or take unfair advantage of another athlete.
8. Co-operate with your coach, club members, officials and opponents. Without them there would be no competition.

SPECTATORS CODE OF CONDUCT

1. Athletes participate in organised sports for fun. They are not competing for the entertainment of the spectators only, nor are they 'miniature' professionals.
2. Applaud all good performances and efforts by your club athletes and their opponents. Congratulate all athletes/clubs upon their performance regardless of the competition's outcome. Respect the official's decision. If there is a disagreement, follow the appropriate procedure in order to question the decision and teach children to do likewise.
3. Never ridicule or scold an athlete for making a mistake during a competition. Positive comments are motivational.
4. Condemn the use of violence in any form, be it by spectators, officials or athletes.
5. Show respect for your club's opponents. Without them there would be no competition.
6. Encourage athletes to participate according to the rules and the official's decisions.
7. Demonstrate appropriate social behaviour by not using foul language, harassing participants, coaches or officials.

COACHES CODE OF CONDUCT

1. Coaches will abide by the IAAF Coaches Code of Ethics. Copies of this are available from the Queensland Athletics Office.

OFFICIALS CODE OF CONDUCT

1. Be polite and friendly at all times.
2. Be consistent, objective and courteous in calling all rule infringements.
3. Condemn deliberate misconduct as being un-sportsmanlike, and promote fair play and appropriate sports behaviour.
4. Use common sense to ensure that the 'spirit of competition' for juniors is not lost by overcalling violations.
5. Actions speak louder than words. Ensure that both on and off the track your behaviour is consistent with the principles of good sportsmanship.
6. Make a personal commitment to keep yourself informed of sound officiating principles and up-to-date technical rules.

PARENTS CODE OF CONDUCT

1. If children are interested, encourage them to play sport. However, if children are NOT willing to play, do not force them.
2. Focus upon the child's efforts and performances rather than the overall outcome of the event. This assists the child in setting realistic goals related to his/her ability by reducing the emphasis on winning.
3. Teach children that an honest effort is as important as victory, so that the result of each event is accepted without undue disappointment.
4. Encourage children to always participate according to the rules.
5. Never ridicule or yell at a child for making a mistake or losing an event.
6. Remember children learn best from example. Applaud good performances by all competitors, even if from other clubs.
7. If you disagree with an official, raise the issue through the appropriate channels rather than question the official's judgement and honesty in public. Remember, most officials give their time and effort freely for your child's involvement.
8. Support all efforts to remove verbal and physical abuse from sporting activities.
9. Recognise the value and importance of volunteer coaches. They give their time and resources to provide recreational activities for the athletes and deserve your support.

A full set of the Athletics Australia Code of Conduct Policies can be downloaded from

<http://www.athletics.com.au/Officials/Resources>