



# KEEPING SPORT FUN AND SAFE

## COMPETITORS

- Play by the rules.
- Never argue with an Official. Approach the official during a break or after the competition.
- Be a good sport.
- Show respect to and acknowledge opponents and officials (e.g. shake hands before and after the race and say things like good luck)
- Cooperate with officials. Without them there would be no competition.
- Participate for your own enjoyment and benefit, not just to please parents
- Race fair- No verbal abuse of officials, sledging other competitors (including vilification or deliberately distracting or provoking other competitors)
- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of all participants regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background or religion.

## PARENTS AND SPECTATORS.

- Remember that children participate in sport for their enjoyment, not yours.
- Encourage children always to race according to the rules and to settle disagreements without resorting to hostility or violence.
- Never ridicule or yell at a child for making a mistake or not winning
- Show appreciation for volunteer officials and administrators.
- Respect officials' decisions and encourage children to do likewise.
- Applaud good performances and efforts from all individuals. Congratulate all participants, regardless of the outcome.
- Condemn the use of violence, verbal abuse or vilification in any form, whether it is by spectators, officials or racers.
- Support policy and practices (and lead by example) in relation to responsible use of alcohol, to child protection issues and to issues involving recreational and performance enhancing drugs.
- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of every young person regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background or religion.

## OFFICIALS

- Remember that young people participating for pleasure and winning is only a part of the fun.
- Keep up to date with officials practices and qualifications and the principles of physical growth and development
- Promote a culturally tolerant environment.
- Help young people understand that racing by the rules is their responsibility.
- Encourage young people to participate in administration officiating etc.
- Operate within the rules and spirit of your sport.
- Apply rules and regulations.
- Compliment and encourage all participants- you are a role model and a source of a young persons confidence building.
- Be consistent, objective and courteous when making decisions.
- Condemn unsporting behaviour and promote respect for all opponents.
- Keep up to date with the latest trends in officiating and the principles of growth and development of young people.
- Place the safety and welfare of the participants above all else.
- Be familiar with and know your role in relevant sport safety policies and practices.
- Implement policy and practices (and lead by example) in relation to responsible use of alcohol, to child protection issues and to issues involving recreational and performance enhancing drugs.
- Ensure that equipment and facilities meet safety standards and are appropriate to the age and ability of all competitors.
- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of all participants regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background or religion.

## ADMINISTRATOR

- Make your club environment more user friendly by providing equal opportunities for all to participate.
- Create pathways for young people to participate in sport not just as a player, e.g. as officials, administrator, etc.
- Provide quality supervision and instruction for competitors and ensure volunteers are adequately trained.
- Direct Officials to highlight appropriate behaviour and skill development.
- Ensure that everyone emphasises fair play, not winning at all costs.
- Give a code of behaviour sheet to spectators, officials, parents, coaches, players and the media and encourage them to follow it.
- Remember, you set an example. Your behaviour and comments should be positive and supportive.
- Implement policy and practice (and lead by example) in relation to responsible use of alcohol and in relation to recreational and performance enhancing drugs.
- Adopt and implement relevant sport safety policies and practices.
- Promote a culturally tolerant environment.
- Listen to your members and involve them in decisions, leadership and planning and evaluation related to the club.
- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of all participants regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background and religion.

## MEDIA

- Provide coverage of young people's competitive and non-competitive sport as well as reporting adult sport.
- Be aware of the differences between adult sport, professional sport and modified sports programs for young people.
- Don't overly focus on isolated incidents of inappropriate sporting behaviour.
- Focus upon a young competitors fair play and honest effort.
- Do not place unfair expectations on young people. They are not miniature professionals.
- Describe and report on barriers to young people participating in organised sport.
- Focus on the abilities and not the disabilities of young people.
- Avoid reinforcing stereotypical views on the involvement of boys and girls in particular sports.
- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of every young person regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background or religion.

## KEEPING SPORT FUN AND SAFE

### WHAT IS A FUN AND SAFE SPORTS CLUB?

- **A COMMUNITY** -where juniors can feel connected to friends and family
- **A FUN PLACE** - where the emphasis is on enjoyment, involvement and being physically active (rather than winning);
- **A SAFE PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT** - the right equipment, first aid and safe buildings and playing areas.
- **A SAFE SOCIAL ENVIRONMENT** - where a club has policies and practices in relation to alcohol use, drugs, child protection and harassment.
- **A SAFE CULTURAL ENVIRONMENT** - where a club that has policies and practices that are inclusive, tolerant and welcoming for all juniors (including young people with disabilities, who are indigenous and/or who are from the culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds).

### CODES OF BEHAVIOUR ARE FOR:

- Players • Parents and Spectators • Coaches and Teachers • Administrators • Officials • The Media.

### THE CORE PRINCIPLES OF CODES OF BEHAVIOUR ARE:

- Sport should be fun. • Sport should be safe. • Sport should be fair. • Junior sport should 'belong' to juniors.

### A FUN SAFE SPORTS CLUB PROMOTES AND ENFORCES APPROPRIATE CODES OF BEHAVIOUR.

