



## Code of Conduct 'Coaches, Club Officials and Volunteers'

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
(Please Print using Block Letters)

### As a Club Coach, Official or Volunteer with you will:

1. Respect the rights, dignity and worth of every athlete and treat everyone equally, regardless of background or ability.
2. Place the welfare and safety of the athlete above the development of performance, remembering each individual's needs.
3. Develop appropriate working relationships with athletes (especially under 18's), based on mutual trust and respect.
4. Encourage and guide athletes to accept and take responsibility for their own behaviour and performance and give them as much autonomy as possible.
5. All Coaches must have a current recognised UK Athletics coaching qualification and be in possession of a National Disclosure Certificate.
6. All Coaches should encourage a spirit of fair play and good sportsmanship, avoid critical language or actions, such as sarcasm, that undermine an athlete's self-esteem. Remembering preparation of athletes for success and failure is vital.
7. Coaches must not exert undue influence to obtain personal benefit or reward.
8. All Personnel must maintain confidentiality with information gained about members.
9. Coaches must co-operate fully with other colleagues e.g. other coaches, officials, team managers, health professionals, governing body, in the best interest of the athlete.
10. Coaches are responsible for the general safety of athletes. Training must be suitable for the age and stage of the athlete and any equipment used must be in accordance with usage guidelines.
11. All Personnel must consistently display high standards of behaviour and appearance.

12. Personnel must be aware of correct procedures as laid down by our Governing Body in respect of Child Protection i.e.
  - Do not spend time alone with a young athlete unless in clear view of others
  - Avoid taking a young athlete alone in your car
  - Never invite a young athlete to your home
  - Never engage in physical or sexually provocative games, including horseplay,
  - Never share a bedroom with a child
  - Be fully conversant with guidance on the use of social media as a means of communication with junior athletes
13. Coaches should not offer coaching, or advice, to athletes from other groups or clubs without prior consultation with the athlete's current coach.
14. Coaches must respect the right of athletes to consult with other coaches and professionals.
15. The Club will nominate at least one Club Welfare Officer whose name will be published on the Club website and displayed on the Club notice board together with this code of conduct for members and parents/carers reference.  
The Club will ensure these officers have access to any required training programme.
16. All Coaches and Club Officials must be members of the Club and attend a Child Protection/Welfare Course, and must sign to acknowledge their acceptance of this policy.
17. All Personnel will observe and adhere to Scottish Athletics/UK Athletics Welfare Policy.
18. Visiting Coaches must apply to the Management Committee for permission to Coach on Club training nights.
19. Any allegations concerning misconduct by a member must be reported to the Club Welfare Officer who will invoke the club's disciplinary procedure. The member may, pending investigation be suspended from all club activities without prejudice.

**I have read, understand and agree to abide by the above Code of Conduct.**

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_