



## COACH'S CODE OF CONDUCT

Fencing Fun is fully committed to safeguarding and promoting the wellbeing of all its members. The club believes that it is important that members, coaches, officials, administrators parents and spectators associated with the club should, at all times, show respect and understanding for the safety and welfare of others. Therefore, all those associated with Fencing Fun should comply by this Code of Conduct.

- Be reasonable in your demands on young fencers' time, energy and enthusiasm.
- Teach your fencers that the rules of the game are mutual agreements, which no one should evade or break.
- Whenever possible, group fencers according to age, height, skills and physical maturity.
- The scheduling and length of practice times and competition should take into consideration the maturity level of fencers.
- Avoid over-training the talented fencers. The "just-average" fencers need, and deserve, equal time.
- Remember that children fence for fun and enjoyment and that winning is only part of their motivation. Never ridicule children for making mistakes or losing a game.
- Ensure that equipment and facilities meet safety standards and are appropriate to the age and ability of the fencers.
- Develop team respect for the ability of opponents as well as for the judgement of officials and opposing coaches.
- Actively discourage the use of performance enhancing drugs, and the use of alcohol, tobacco and illegal substances.
- Be aware of the role of the coach as an educator. As well as imparting knowledge and skills, promote desirable personal and social behaviours.
- Seek to keep abreast of changes in your sport; ensure that the information used is up to date, appropriate to the needs of fencers and takes account of the principles of growth and development of children.
- Do not tolerate acts of aggression.
- Provide feedback to fencers and other participants in a manner sensitive to their needs. Avoid overly negative feedback.
- Recognise fencers' rights to consult with other coaches and advisers. Cooperate fully with other specialists (for example, sports scientists, doctors and physiotherapists) and follow the advice of a physician when determining when an injured fencer is ready to recommence fencing.
- Treat all fencers fairly within the context of their sporting activities, regardless of gender, race, place of origin, colour, sexual orientation, religion, political beliefs, socio-economic status and other conditions.

- Encourage and facilitate fencers' independence and responsibility for their own behaviour, performance, decisions and actions.
- Involve the fencers in decisions that affect them.
- Ensure any physical contact with fencers is appropriate to the situation and necessary for the fencer's skill development. Avoid situations with your fencers that could be construed as compromising.
- Do not exploit any coaching relationship to further personal, political or business interests at the expense of the best interest of your fencers.
- Be acutely aware of the power that you as a coach develop with your fencers in the coaching relationship and avoid any sexual intimacy with fencers that could develop as a result.

## Fencing Fun

### SPECTATOR'S CODE OF CONDUCT

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- Remember children fence for fun.
- Applaud good performances from all fencers. Congratulate all fencers regardless of the outcome.
- Accept decisions of all referees as being fair and called to the best of their ability.
- Never ridicule or scold a child for making a mistake during competition. Be positive.
- Condemn the use of violence in any form, be it by spectators, coaches or fencers.
- Show respect for your opponents, without them, there would be no competition.
- Encourage fencers to obey the rules and decisions of officials.
- Demonstrate appropriate social behaviour by not using foul language, harassing fencers, coaches or officials.
- Treat all fencers fairly within the context of their sporting activities, regardless of gender, race, place of origin, colour, sexual orientation, religion, political beliefs, socio-economic status and other conditions.

## Fencing Fun

### PARENT /GUARDIAN 'S CODE OF CONDUCT

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- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of others.
- Encourage children to participate if they are interested. If they are not, don't force them. Remember children are involved in sport for their own enjoyment.
- Focus on good fencing, reducing the emphasis on winning.
- Help your child to recognise good performance, not just results. Applaud good performances by all participants.
- 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.
- Encourage your child to learn the rules and fence within them.
- Never ridicule or yell at your child or other children for making a mistake or losing a match or competition.
- Accept decisions of all referees as being fair and called to the best of their ability.
- Support all efforts to remove verbal and physical abuse from sporting activities and avoid use of derogatory language based on gender, race or impairment.
- Encourage and guide members in your care to accept responsibility for their own performance and behaviour.
- Ensure that your child only attends training and competitions when fully fit and free from injury.
- Be aware of the repercussions if you breach, or are aware of any breaches of, this code of behaviour.
- Encourage children to bring sufficient fluids with them to ensure hydration during exercise.
- Ensure children attend the club appropriately dressed for fencing (if unsure please ask your coach)