



CODE OF CONDUCT FOR PARTICIPANTS

All Club members and volunteers must:

- Fence by the rules as laid down British Fencing
- Never argue with an official. If you disagree, have your coach approach the referee during a break or after the game in an appropriate manner.
- Be a good sport. Acknowledge good hits whether they are from your clubmates or opponents.
- Treat all fencers, as you would like to be treated. Do not interfere with, bully or take unfair advantage of another fencer.
- Co-operate with your coach, clubmates, officials and opponents. Without them there would be no competition.
- Fence for the "fun of it" and not just to please parents and coaches.
- All members must respect the rights, dignity and worth of all participants regardless of gender, ability, cultural background or religion.
- Be prepared to lose sometimes. Everyone wins and loses at some time. Be a fair winner and good loser.
- Look after club equipment and make sure you put equipment borrowed away.
- Help get equipment out and importantly put common equipment away.

The essence of good ethical conduct and practice is summarised below.

SPECTATOR'S and PARENTS CODE OF CONDUCT

- Remember children fence for fun. They are not fencing for the entertainment of spectators. They are not miniature professionals.
- Applaud good performances from all fencers. Congratulate all fencers regardless of the outcome.
- Respect the referee's decision. If there is disagreement, follow the appropriate procedure in order to query the decision.
- 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.
- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of every person regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background or religion.
- 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 enjoyment, not yours.
- Focus on good fencing, reducing the emphasis on winning.
- Help your child to recognize 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 and 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. Do not raise issues of disagreement publicly.
- 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 performers to accept responsibility for their own performance and behaviour.
- Understand the repercussions if you breach, or are aware of any breaches of, this code of behaviour.