

Code of Conduct for Coaches

I agree to uphold the following rights, relationships and responsibilities:

1. Rights

- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of every person.
- Help create an environment where all children and adults at risk have an equal opportunity to participate.
- Help create and maintain an environment free of fear and harassment.
- Recognise the rights of all children and adults at risk to be treated as individuals.
- Recognise the rights of parents/carers and children/adults at risk to confer with other coaches and experts.
- Promote the concept of a balanced attitude, supporting the well-being of the child or adult at risk both in and out of bowls.
- Do not discriminate on the grounds of their age, disability, race, religious beliefs, gender, sexual orientation, social background.
- Do not condone or allow to go unchallenged any form of discrimination or prejudice.
- Do not publicly criticise or engage in demeaning descriptions of others.
- Communicate with children or adults at risk in a manner that reflects respect and care.

2. Relationships

- Develop relationships with parents/carers and children/ adults at risk based on openness, honesty, mutual trust and respect.
- Do not engage in any behaviour that constitutes any form of abuse (physical, sexual, emotional abuse, neglect or bullying).
- Be aware of the physical limits of children/ adults at risk and ensure that training loads and intensities are appropriate.
- Ensure that physical contact is appropriate and necessary and is carried out within recommended guidelines.
- Always try to work in an open environment (e.g. avoid private or unobserved situations).
- Do not engage in any form of sexually-related contact with children/ adults at risk. Sexual innuendo, flirting or inappropriate gestures and terms are also unacceptable.
- Promote the welfare and best interests of all children and adults at risk.

- Explain to parents/carers, as appropriate, the potential impact of the coaching programme on the child/ adult at risk.
- Do not have a sexual relationship with someone under the age of 18 who you are coaching.
- Be familiar with the organisation's Policies and Procedures.
- Report any concerns you may have in relation to a child/ adult at risk or the behaviour of an adult and follow reporting procedures.
- Consider the child's/adults at risk opinions when making decisions about their participation in bowls.
- Inform parents/carers and children/ adults at risk of the etiquette and practical considerations when playing bowls.
- Inform parents/carers of any potential financial implications.

3. Responsibilities and Personal Standings:

- Demonstrate proper personal behaviour and conduct at all times.
- Be fair and honest with all children and adults at risk.
- Develop an appropriate working relationship with children/ adults at risk based on mutual trust and respect.
- Always emphasise that the well-being and safety of the child/adult is more important than the development of performance.
- Do not smoke, or drink alcohol, while actively working with children or adults at risk. Never use recreational or performance-enhancing drugs.
- Promote the positive aspects of bowls (e.g. fair play, honesty and etiquette).
- Attend appropriate training to enable you to keep up-to-date with your role and matters relating to the welfare of children and adults at risk
- Hold relevant qualifications.
- Ensure the necessary insurance cover is in place.