

Solihull School Sports Partnership/South Solihull Schools' Sports' Council

Code of Practice for Coaches, Match Officials, Pupils, Parents and Spectators

Sport is a very important element of life in our schools. It is participated in and enjoyed by large numbers of boys and girls of all ages and abilities. This code of conduct aims to ensure that this enjoyment and participation remain at the heart of all we do.

Coaches/Teachers

- Schools have a responsibility to ensure that teachers, hired professional coaches and any other adult helpers have the appropriate experience and/or qualification necessary to bring teams to competition and are aware of competition guidelines set out by the organiser.
- Children play for fun and enjoyment and winning is only part of this. Never ridicule or shout at children for making mistakes or losing a competition.
- Responsible for ensuring those pupils that participate in tournaments are the correct age/year group according to the rules of the sport.
- Those responsible for entering tournaments/festivals should be aware of the effort that goes into their organisation. The late withdrawal of teams creates major problems and disruptions potentially devaluing the event for those who have made the effort to attend. In future, therefore, late withdrawal will seriously jeopardise a school's chances of participation on future occasions.
- Teach players that the rules of the game are for their own safety and should be respected at all times.
- Do not question publicly the officials' judgement and never their honesty otherwise you may be asked to leave the venue
- Ensure that players respect the ability of their opponents and the judgement of match officials.
- All coaches/teachers should be fully conversant with school child protection procedures and be CRB checked as required.

Match Officials

All match officials should:-

- Do their utmost to ensure that the players enjoy the experience of playing for their school.
- Be a positive role model and lead by example.
- Keep up to date with refereeing/umpiring qualifications and practices in their sport as well as any changes in playing regulations.
- Recognise that the safety of players is paramount.
- Explain their decisions clearly and concisely remembering at all times to be fair and unbiased.
- Refuse to tolerate or condone foul play of any kind.
- Emphasise the spirit and the ethos of the game.
- Take time to speak to players and coaches after the game.

Parents

- Encourage but don't force your child to participate in sport.
- Remember that children develop at different rates and react differently to the same pressures.
- Children are involved in organised sport for their enjoyment and not yours.
- Encourage your child to adhere to the rules of the game.
- Teach your child that effort and teamwork are as important as victory so that the result of each game is accepted without undue disappointment.
- Turn defeat into victory by helping your child realise improvements made in skills and sporting attitude.
- Children learn best by example. Applaud good play by members of all teams, not just your own.
- Do not question, publicly, the officials' judgement and never their honesty. You may be asked to leave the venue as a consequence.
- Remain outside the field of play.
- Support all efforts to remove verbal and physical abuse from children's sport.
- Recognise the value and importance of coaches. Allow them to decide what is best. They give their time, energy and experience to provide guidance for your child.
- Set an example by being friendly to the opposition parents.
- Be aware of the physical demands that sport places on your child. Participation in competitions may be too much for some individuals.

Pupils

All pupils should:-

- Play for the fun and enjoyment of sport.
- Where rules apply, attempt to learn them and stick to them.
- Accept decisions; let their captain or coach ask any necessary questions.
- Control their temper and be a good sport.
- Remember to respect their opponents and the match officials.
- Remember that the aim of the game is to have fun, improve skills and feel good. They should not show off nor attempt to score the most points/goals etc.
- Work equally hard for the team as for themselves. Their team's performance will benefit alongside their own.
- Treat all players as they themselves would wish to be treated. They should not bully nor take unfair advantage of any player either on their own or on the opposition's side. Unacceptable behaviour will not be tolerated and may result in the pupil being removed from the tournament.
- Co-operate with their coach, team-mates and opponents – without them there would be no game.
- Appreciate and respect the adults who make these opportunities possible.
- Thank officials, including referees and teachers for giving their time.

Spectators

Spectators should remember the following:-

- Children play organised sport for their own fun. They are not there solely to entertain you and they are not miniature adults nor professional sportsmen and women.

- Do not harass or swear at players, coaches or officials.
- Applaud good play by both sides and show respect for your team's opponents. Without them there would be no game.
- Never ridicule or scold a child for making a mistake during a competitive match of any kind.
- Condemn the use of violence in all forms.
- Respect the decisions made by officials.
- Encourage players always to play to the rules.
- Relax and enjoy the game whether your team wins or not.

NOTE

- **If, at any event, any of the above regulations have not been adhered to then the head teacher of the school or schools involved will be contacted directly. The Council will expect the matter to be dealt with effectively and immediately.**
- **Failure to deal with the incident or evidence of a second incident by representatives of the same school will result in the school being removed from future events in that academic year.**

School: _____

Signed: _____ Date: _____ (PE Co-ordinator)

Signed: _____ Date: _____ (Headteacher)