



CODE of CONDUCT

PREAMBLE

This Code of Conduct outlines the standard of behavior expected of all members of Surfing South Africa.

It is a formal statement of the values and ethical standards that guide individuals in sport. It is a set of principles, and norms to which sportspeople can be held accountable when representing South Africa at any sporting event as well as in their everyday duties. This should be used as a point of reference when dealing with disciplinary procedures against members

INTRODUCTION:

This Code of Conduct has been drawn up to hold all sports persons, coaches, technical officials and administrators accountable for their actions.

VALUES STATEMENT:

The Purpose of this code is:

To outline incorrect and unacceptable actions/behaviors and to encourage ethical behavior, so that when the code is contravened the appropriate disciplinary action can, with consistency be taken, thus responding to offences and preventing re-occurrence.

The code is aimed at the following:

- To help to resolve conflict.
- To make ethical behavior infringement easy to identify.
- To enhance the ethical reputation of sports persons.
- To promote respect for human dignity, rights and social justice.
- Provide a framework for all sports persons to conduct their sporting activities according to the following ethical principles:
 - Respect the rights, dignity and worth of every human being
 - Be fair, considerate, honest and have respect for the law.
 - Be trustworthy and professional and accept responsibilities for actions.
 - Refrain from any racial, gender, verbal, physical or emotional abuse or harassment.
 - Always make a positive contribution and refrain from destructive criticism.
 - Always act in the best interest of South African sport.

SUCCESS OF THIS CODE OF CONDUCT

This Code of Conduct can only be successful if:

- Athletes, officials, coaches and administrators familiarize themselves with its contents.
- Members of SSA frequently refer to the Code of Conduct for guidance.
- The Code of Conduct is included in Surfing South Africa's rules/constitution and SASC colours regulation and failure to conform to the Code of Conduct results in disciplinary action according to Surfing South Africa's constitution or disciplinary procedures.

BEFORE GOING AGAINST THE CODE OF CONDUCT A PERSON SHOULD ASK THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:

- Is it legal and constitutional?
- What does the Code of Conduct say?
- How would it look in tomorrow's newspaper?
- Does it comply with Surfing South Africa's rules and regulations?
- How does it make me feel?
- Is it against SSA's or professional standards?
- Will it reflect negatively on SSA or me?
- Who else could this affect?
- Would I be embarrassed if others knew I took this course of action?
- Is there an alternative action that does not pose an ethical conflict?
- What would a reasonable person think?
- Can I sleep at night?

ADMINISTRATORS

I pledge to:

- . Do my best to ensure that all athletes are given an equal opportunity to participate, regardless of gender, ability or ethnic background
- . Discourage any sport program from becoming primarily an entertainment for the spectators.
- . Ensure that all programs, equipment and facilities are safe and appropriate to the athletes ages and abilities.
- . Make sure that the age and maturity levels of the children are considered in program development, rule enforcement and scheduling.
- . Remember that participation is for the athletes and ensure that winning is kept in perspective.
- . Ensure that the Code of Conduct is distributed, understood and agreed upon by, coaches, athletes, and officials.
- . Ensure that coaches and officials are capable of promoting fair play as well as the development of good technical skills, and encourage them to become certified.
- . Promote and develop the game by sharing knowledge and experience .
- . Administer all issues relating to the sport in the best interest of the sport and not for my personal gain.
- . Educate and ensure that high standards of risk management are maintained.
- . Educate athletes to respect other cultures and beliefs.
- . Keep athletes and officials updated on protocol of other countries where they may compete.
- . Keep relevant information confidential
- . Not to misuse my position or information for my own benefit

ATHLETES

I will:

- . Respect the rules and play in the spirit of the game.
- . Display high standards of behavior that promote a positive image for the game.
- . Respect my opponents.
- . Respect the officials and their decisions.
- . Be gracious in victory and defeat .
- . Give my teammates positive inputs and feedback.
- . Compete fairly.
- . Refrain from the use of profane, insulting, harassing or otherwise offensive language or behavior on or off the field.
- . Strive to maintain a sense of self-control and dignity at all times.
- . Thank officials and opposing teams after every game/match.
- . Maintain a sense of integrity.
- . Respect the facilities/equipment.
- . Do my best to try to be a true team player.
- . Never advocate or condone the abuse of drugs or other banned substances or methods.
- . Reject corruption, drugs abuse, racism, violence and other dangers to the sport.
- . Help others to resist corrupting pressures.
- . Denounce those who attempt to discredit the sport.
- . Honor those who defend the sport's good reputation.
- . Abstain from the use of tobacco products and alcoholic beverages in public when representing my country.
- . Never provide under age participants with alcohol.
- . Participate in all team testing and satisfy all team program-testing objectives. (Drug and High Performance)
- . Communicate and co-operate with registered medical practitioners/testing center in the diagnoses, treatment and management of medical problems and respect the concerns these medical people have when they are considering my future health and well being and when they are making decisions regarding my ability to continue to play or train.
- . Respect other athletes and official's cultures and beliefs.

TECHNICAL OFFICIALS

I will:

Make sure that every athlete has a reasonable opportunity to perform to the best of their ability, within the limits of the rules.

- Avoid or put an end to any situation that threatens the safety of the athletes.
- Strive to maintain a healthy atmosphere and environment for competition.
- Not condone/tolerate unacceptable conduct toward officials, athletes, spectators or myself.
- Be consistent and objective in calling all infractions, regardless of my personal feelings toward a team or individual athlete and handle all conflicts firmly but with dignity.
- Accept my role as a teacher and role model for fair play
- Be open to discussion and contact with the athletes before and after the event.
- Remain open to constructive criticism and show respect and consideration for different points of view.
- Obtain proper training and continue to upgrade my officiating skills.
- Consistently display high personal standards and project a favorable image of the sport and officiating and uphold the international standards.
- Abstain from the use of tobacco products and alcoholic beverages in public when officiating and working with officials and athletes.
- Refrain from the use of profane, insulting, harassing or otherwise offensive language or behavior in the conduct of my duties.
- Never advocate or condone the use of drugs or other banned substances or methods.

COACHES

I will:

- Treat everyone fairly within the context of their activity, regardless of gender, place of origin, color, sex, religion, political belief or economic status.
- Ensure that confidentiality of players is maintained.
- Teach athletes how to manage conflict and stress and use good judgment in tough situations.
- Be generous with praise and give positive inputs and feedback.
- Encourage a constructive attitude toward competitions.
- Provide an equal opportunity for all to learn skills and further themselves.
- Encourage individuals to continue their participation in sport.
- Be reasonable when scheduling events and training.
- Teach athletes to play fairly and to respect the rules, officials and opponents.
- Ensure that all athletes receive equal instruction, support and playing time
- Not ridicule or yell at my athletes for making mistakes or for performing poorly.
- Within the limits of my control, make sure that equipment and facilities are safe and match the athlete's ages and abilities.
- Remember that athletes need a coach they can respect and set a good example.
- Obtain the proper training and continue to upgrade coaching skills.
- Refrain from public criticism of fellow coaches, athletes, officials and volunteers especially when addressing the media.
- Communicate and co-operate with registered medical practitioners in the diagnoses, treatment and management of the athlete's medical and psychological problems.
- Consider the athletes future health and well being as foremost when making decisions regarding an injured athletes ability to continue playing or training.
- Recognize and accept when to refer athletes to another coach or sport specialist, allow the athletes goals to take precedence over personal goals.
- At no time become intimately and/or sexually involved with any athlete.
- Never advocate or condone the use of drugs or other banned performance enhancing substances or methods
- Never provide under age athletes with alcohol, or encourage its use.
- Abstain from the use of tobacco products and alcoholic beverages in public when officiating and in the presence of the athletes.
- Refrain from the use of profane, insulting, harassing or otherwise offensive language or behavior in the conduct of duties.
- In the case of minors, communicate and co-operate with the athlete's parents or legal guardians, involving them in management decisions pertaining to their child's development.

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