

## **Code of Conduct for Coaches (including Derbyshire Coach Mark)**

As a coach you play a vital role in the development of the sport and the participants you coach. As a high quality coach you will ensure each individual participant has a positive experience, encouraging on-going participation and the opportunity for each participant to reach their full potential.

As a high quality coach, you will need to demonstrate you:-

- Are honest
- Show integrity
- Are highly competent
- Promote a professional image
- Promote the value of sport

### **Rights**

As a high quality coach you must respect and champion the rights of every individual to participate in sport by:-

- Creating an environment for participants to enjoy, participant and/or compete in their chosen sport
- Creating an environment free from harassment and fear
- Treating all participants as individuals, respecting their rights and opinions
- Promoting a healthy lifestyle and the well-being of each participant and allowing them to seek advice and support through other sources

**As a High quality good coach, I agree to:-**

- Treat all participants with respect
- Not discriminate on the grounds of gender, marital status, race, colour, disability, sexuality, age, occupation, religion or political opinion
- Challenge any form of discrimination
- Not publicly criticising other coaches or participants
- Be discreet when engaging in discussions about others
- Communicate and feedback to participants with respect

### **Relationships**

As a high quality coach, you must develop relationships with participants (and others) based on openness, honesty, mutual trust and respect by:-

- Never engaging in any form of abusive behaviour
- Promoting the welfare and best interests of the participants both within your own coaching and with other organisations
- Avoiding sexual intimacy with any participant
- Empowering participants to be responsible for their own decisions

- Taking action if you are concerned about another adult's relationship with a participant
- Being open about the coaching service you can provide

**As a high quality coach I agree to:-**

- Be aware of the physical needs and developments of a participant and tailor my coaching to suit
- Avoid all unnecessary physical contact with a participant
- Avoid all forms of sexual contact and gestures towards an under aged participant
- Discuss with parents/guardians the demands of the sport, costs involved and any concerns around the participant's welfare
- Work within the NGB's guidelines and policies
- Respect the participant's opinions and allow them to engage in the decision making process
- With the consent of the participant, engage in conversations with other coaches/organisations to benefit the participant.

**Responsibilities – Personal Standards**

As a high quality coach, you must demonstrate at all time proper and appropriate personal behaviour and conduct by:-

- Being fair, honest and considerate to the participants you coach
- Projecting a healthy, clean and efficient image
- Being a positive role model for your participants

**As a high quality coach I agree to:-**

- Operate within the rules and spirit of the sport I coach
- Educate participants, where appropriate, on the issues of performance enhancing drugs and the guidelines of the sport
- Maintain an interest in participants when injured or sick
- Display high levels of personal behaviour including the use of appropriate language, manner, punctuality, preparation, presentation, dignity, respect and professionalism
- Never smoke, drink alcohol or use recreational drugs before or during a coaching session

**Responsibilities – Professional Standards**

As a high quality coach, you must attain a high level of competence through qualifications, a commitment to on going training and experience to ensure minimum risk and maximum outputs for the participants you coach by:-

- Ensuring the environment is safe and risks are minimised
- Promoting the execution of safe and correct practice
- Being professional and accepting responsibility for your actions
- Promoting the benefits of sport
- Exchanging knowledge and experiences with other coaches
- Gaining correct and appropriate coaching qualifications

**As a high quality coach, I agree to:-**

- Follow the guidelines of my NGB, Employer *and Derbyshire Coach Mark\**
- Plan, progress and evaluate all sessions to suit the needs of my participants

- Keep appropriate records of my participants
- Refer participants where appropriate
- Commit to Continuous Professional Development
- Actively contribute to local, regional, and national initiatives promoting the social benefits of sport, developing standards of coaching, and increasing participation and performance
- Self analyse my performance as a coach
- Only coach to the level that I am qualified
- Manage my time effectively
- \* *Work through the Derbyshire Coach Mark and keep my file up-to-date\**.

By signing below you agree to coach by the above statements (*and agree to be observed and assessed against them to gain the Derbyshire Coach Mark*)

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Print Name \_\_\_\_\_

**Failure to comply with the codes may result in further action being taken by Derbyshire Sport including exclusion from the event or activity.**

**A breach of the codes can result in disciplinary measures being invoked or ultimately in legal action.**

*\*Items in italic apply to coaches working towards Derbyshire Coach Mark*