



## **Members Code of Conduct**

ALL MEMBERS OF THE OFA ARE EXPECTED TO:

1. Act as ambassadors for their clubs and the OFA
2. Participate in the spirit of fair play, cooperation and respect for others at all times
3. Respect the rules of fencing
4. Perform to their best ability in every competition and accept with pride the result their effort brings
5. Respect their opponents and the directions and decisions of coaches, managers and other officials
6. Be gracious in victory and defeat
7. Respect the rights of the residents in the host communities
8. Conduct themselves in a manner that ensures a safe and harassment-free environment for all participants

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### **INAPPROPRIATE BEHAVIOUR AND ACTIVITIES**

Behaviour and activity that obstructs or hinders the rights of others to enjoy the event is unacceptable and prohibited. Activities that are unacceptable and prohibited include:

#### **LEVEL I (BEHAVIOURS OF EASILY RESOLVABLE NATURE)**

- Creating a disturbance
- Using profanity/obscene language directed at/or disturbing to others
- Engaging in horseplay, causing unsafe condition
- Causing unsanitary conditions
- Wearing attire or displaying material intolerant of human rights
- Blocking thoroughfares/corridors/stairways/exits
- Use of tobacco on club or competition sites or property

#### **LEVEL II (ANY UNRESOLVED PROBLEMS FROM LEVEL 1 AND THOSE BEHAVIOURS THAT MAY CAUSE HARM TO MEMBERS AND/OR THE COMMUNITY):**

- Failing to abide by assigned curfews
- Use of tobacco on club or competition sites or property
- Harassment of other athletes, coaches, officials or spectator

- Consumption of alcohol by a minor at any time while traveling or participating as part of the Provincial or Canadian Team
- Failing to report or attempting to cover up the actions of others who contravene this Code of Conduct.
- Fighting/harassing
- Any activity intimidating/threatening others, or disrupting a program or event
- Cheating
- Participating in or promoting any initiation practices that involve behaviors that are offensive, unsafe, humiliating or in poor taste, with or without the agreement of participants

### **LEVEL III (BEHAVIOURS OF A CLEARLY CRIMINAL NATURE)**

- Vandalising property
- Use of prohibited substances by minors including alcohol, drugs, and tobacco are prohibited
- Possession or use of such substances will result in the immediate suspension from participation
- Harassment or interference of a sexual nature
- Possession or use of illegal substances of any kind by any participant
- Physical violence of an extreme nature
- Stealing
- Possession of a weapon other than fencing equipment

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## **CONSEQUENCES OF BREACHING CODE OF CONDUCT**

### **LEVEL I**

First Occurrence: A verbal warning will be given by the Club Coach, competition organizer, or OFA Board Member.

Second Occurrence:

- Dismissal from practice/competition/event
- Parents informed in the case of a minor

Third Occurrence: Becomes a Level Two offence

### **LEVEL II**

A Discipline Committee, consisting of at least three members pre-selected for this purpose, will determine the seriousness of the offence, and through an approved procedure, will impose consequences including but not limited to:



- Letter of apology and/or other written document (essay etc.)
- Suspension from part or all fencing activities for a specified amount of time (may include suspension or expulsion from specific programs such as Ontario and Canada Games)
- Suspension of OFA/CFF membership for a specified period

All Level 2 and Level 3 offences will be recorded and retained in a disciplinary file at the Ontario Fencing Association for a period of two years.

### **LEVEL III**

Any offences of a criminal or illegal nature are considered extremely serious and will be treated as such by OFA officials. Consequences will be severe and will include:

- Immediate three month suspension from all fencing membership privileges (OFA/CFF)
- Involvement of authorities and parents or legal guardians
- Disciplinary hearing

*For Disciplinary Hearings and Appeals see Constitution and By-Laws*

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## **COACHES CODE OF ETHICS**

Adopted from the Coaches Association of Canada

### **I. RESPECT FOR PARTICIPANTS**

The principle of respect for participants challenges coaches to act in a manner respectful of the dignity of all participants in sport. Fundamental to this principle is the basic assumption that each person has value and is worthy of respect.

### **II. RESPONSIBLE COACHING**

The principle of responsible coaching carries the basic ethical expectation that the activities of coaches will benefit society in general and participants in particular, and will do no harm. Fundamental to the implementation of this principle is the notion of competence - responsible coaching (maximizing benefits and minimizing risks to participants) is performed by coaches who are "well prepared and current" in their discipline.

### **III. INTEGRITY IN RELATIONSHIPS**

Integrity means that coaches are expected to be honest, sincere and honourable in their relationships with others. Acting on these values is most possible when coaches possess a

high degree of self-awareness and the ability to reflect critically on how their perspectives influence their interactions with others.

#### **IV. HONOURING SPORT**

The principle of honouring sport challenges coaches to recognize, act on and promote the value of sport for individuals and teams as well as for society in general.

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#### **FENCING OFFICIALS CODE OF ETHICS**

##### **ARTICLE I**

Fencing officials:

- Have an obligation to act as impartial judges with accuracy, fairness and objectivity through an overriding sense of integrity.
- Must approach each assignment in a professional manner. Because of their authority and autonomy, officials must have a high degree of commitment and expertise.
- Who are “professionals”, voluntarily observe a high level of conduct, not because of fear of penalty, but rather out of personal character. They accept responsibility for their actions. This conduct has as its foundation a deep sense of moral values and use of reason which substantiates the belief that a given conduct is proper simply because it is.
- Must be free of obligation to any interest other than the impartial and fair judging of sports competitions. Without equivocation, decisions which are slanted by personal bias are dishonest and unacceptable.

##### **ARTICLE II**

Sports officials recognize that anything which may lead to a conflict of interest, either real or apparent, must be avoided.

##### **ARTICLE III**

Sports officials have an obligation to treat other officials with professional dignity and courtesy and recognize that it is inappropriate to criticize other officials publicly.

##### **ARTICLE IV**

Sports officials have a responsibility to continuously seek self-improvement through study of the game, rules, mechanics and the techniques of game management. They have a responsibility to accurately represent their qualifications and abilities when requesting or accepting officiating assignments.



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## **ARTICLE V**

Sports officials shall protect the public (fans, administrators, coaches, players, et al.) from inappropriate conduct and shall attempt to eliminate from the officiating avocation/profession all practices which bring discredit to it.

## **ARTICLE VI**

Sports officials shall not be party to actions designed to unfairly limit or restrain access to officiating, officiating assignments or association membership. This includes selection for positions of leadership based upon economic factors, race, creed, color, age, sex, physical handicap, country or national origin.