

## **Athletics Yukon Code of Conduct for Coaches, Officials, Volunteers, and Athletes**

### **COACHES**

The athlete/coach relationship is a privileged one. Coaches play a critical role in the personal as well as athletic development of the athletes they coach. They must understand and respect the inherent power imbalance that exists in this relationship and must be extremely careful not to abuse it.

Coaches must also recognize that they are conduits through which the values and goals of a sport organization are channeled. How an athlete regards his/her sport is often dependent on the behavior of the coach. The following Code of Conduct, established by the Coaching Association of British Columbia and adopted by Athletics Yukon, has been developed to aid coaches in achieving a level of behavior which will allow them to assist their athletes in becoming well-rounded, self confident and productive human beings.

### **COACHES HAVE A RESPONSIBILITY TO:**

1. Treat everyone fairly within the context of Athletics, regardless of gender, place of origin, color, sexual orientation, religion, political belief or economic status.
2. Direct comments or criticism at the performance rather than the athlete.
3. Consistently display high personal standards and project a favorable image of Athletics and of Coaching:
  - a. Refrain from public criticism of fellow coaches, especially when speaking to the media or recruiting athletes.
  - b. Abstain from the use of tobacco products while in the presence of athletes and discourage their use.
  - c. Abstain from drinking alcoholic beverages when working with athletes.
  - d. Discourage the use of alcohol at athletic events (Athletics and other sport activities) or in victory celebrations at the competition site.
  - e. Refrain from the use of profane, insulting, harassing or otherwise offensive language in the conduct of your coaching duties.
4. Ensure that the activity being undertaken is suitable for the age, experience, ability and fitness level of the athletes and educate athletes as to their responsibilities in contributing to a safe environment.
5. Communicate and cooperate with registered medical practitioners in the diagnosis, treatment and management of their athletes' 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.

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6. Recognize and accept when to refer athletes to other coaches and sport specialists. Allow athletes' goals to take precedence over those of the coach.
7. Regularly seek ways of increasing professional development and self-awareness.
8. Treat fellow coaches, athletes you do not coach and officials with due respect, both in victory and defeat and encourage athletes to act accordingly. Actively encourage athletes to uphold the rules of Athletics and the spirit of such rules.
9. In the case of minors, communicate and cooperate with the athlete's parents or legal guardians, involving them in management decisions pertaining to their child's development.
10. Be aware of the academic pressures placed on student-athletes and conduct practices and participation in competitions in a manner so as to allow academic success.

### **COACHES MUST:**

1. Ensure the safety of the athletes with whom they work.
2. At no time become intimately and/or sexually involved with the athletes they coach as per the Laws of Canada as stated below. This includes requests for sexual favours or threats of reprisal for the rejection or such requests. Coaches should refer to Canada's Law on Child Sexual Abuse: A Handbook, published by the Department of Justice in 1990. The following is an extract from this handbook dealing with the issue of CONSENT.
  - Sexual activity without consent is always a crime regardless of the age of the individuals.
  - Children under 12 are never considered able to consent to sexual activity.
  - Children 12 or more, but under 14, are deemed unable to consent to sexual acts except under specific circumstances involving sexual activity with their peers.
  - Young persons 14 or more but under 18 are protected from sexual exploitation and their consent is not valid if the person touching them for a sexual purpose is in a position of trust or authority over them or if they are in a relationship of dependency with that person.
3. Respect the athletes' dignity; verbal or physical behaviors that constitute harassment or abuse are unacceptable. (Please refer to the Athletics Yukon Harassment Policy)
4. Never advocate or condone the use of drugs or other banned performance enhancing substances, classes or methods.
5. Never provide under age athletes with alcohol.

Individuals coaching for Athletics Yukon are advised that by joining Athletics Yukon they are agreeing to adhere to this and other policies, rules, regulations, by-laws and constitution of Yukon Athletics, Athletics Canada and the IAAF.

### **YUKON TEAM - COACHES and MANAGERS**

In addition to those listed above, coaches and managers selected to Yukon Teams are as a result of accepting selection and in the context of the Coaches Code of Conduct, expected to:

1. Conduct themselves in a positive and supportive manner.
2. Follow the rules of the Organizing Committee of the competition/activity.
3. Meet at the Team assembly points on time and attend all team meetings.
4. Abide by the laws of the city, province and those of Canada or the country in which the competition is taking place.
5. Join the Team, ready, able and willing to take on the responsibilities and duties relative to the position selected to.
6. Wear, if provided, the Yukon Team Staff uniform/clothing whenever carrying out the duties of a team staff position.
7. Travel in the Yukon Team Travel Uniform if such is provided, or otherwise shall be comfortably and respectably attired for traveling.
8. That during a Yukon Team event, respect quiet hours between 22:00 and 10:00 hrs.
9. Avoid the misuse of alcohol.
10. Avoid the use of alcohol if under age.
11. Avoid the use of illegal drugs.
12. To be responsible for all their personal items such as identification, passports (if required) and equipment.
13. Work, when necessary, through the Head Coach of the Yukon Team or keep the Head Coach and if appropriate all the Team Staff informed on any matters that do not allow you to carry out your responsibilities.
14. Work cooperatively with all members of the Athletics Yukon Team (athletes and staff) and the personal coaches of the athletes.
15. Follow up with the reports on the Yukon Team, your responsibilities and the competition/results to Yukon Athletics.

### **OFFICIALS**

In participating as an official of Athletics Yukon and/or accepting the responsibility of a position at an Athletics Competition (all disciplines and types) shall, from the time of reporting in until the completion of the schedule, including completion of all the required paper work is expected to:

1. Wear the accepted uniform as outlined by the Officials Committee.
2. Refrain from using tobacco products within the competition arena and/or competition area and only in designated areas if such are provided.
3. Refrain from entering the competition area and/or arena under the influence of alcohol.

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4. Be fully prepared to do the job assigned to you.
5. Arrive in good time for the competition and report immediately to the official in charge.
6. Draw all the necessary equipment for the running of the event and ensure that it is returned upon completion of the competition.
7. Conduct the event according to the rules with the welfare of the athlete in mind and do the job in an efficient and non-abrasive manner.
8. Work in a spirit of cooperation with other officials and do not interfere in any way with their duties and responsibilities.
9. Extend the benefit of your experience to the less experienced officials whenever the opportunity arises.
10. Criticize only in a constructive manner and only at an appropriate time and directly to the official concerned.
11. Give evaluations, when requested, in an objective way and without friendships in mind.
12. Act in a manner that will bring credit to the Athletics Community and yourself, both within and outside the competition arena and/or area.
13. Refrain from the use of profane, insulting, harassing or otherwise offensive language in the conduct of his/her duties.
14. Respect the athletes' dignity; verbal or physical behaviors that constitute harassment or abuse are unacceptable. (Please refer to the Athletics Yukon Harassment Policy)
15. Never advocate or condone the use of drugs or other banned performance enhancing substances, classes or methods.
16. Never provide under age athletes with alcohol.

Individuals participating as Official members of Athletics Yukon and/or Officiating in a Athletics Yukon sanctioned/approved activity/competition are advised that by doing so they are agreeing to adhere to this and other policies, rules, regulations, by-laws and constitution of Athletics Yukon, Athletics Canada and the IAAF.

#### **VOLUNTEER CODE OF CONDUCT**

An individual who accepts the position of VOLUNTEER within the context of the activities of Athletics, agrees to accept the responsibilities as outlined to them and will complete the duties for the agreed to period. As a volunteer in Athletics your role is critical to the success of any activity and in carrying out the assigned responsibilities you are expected to:

1. Refrain from using tobacco products within the arena and/or competition area and only in designated areas if such are provided.
2. Refrain from entering the competition area and/or arena under the influence of alcohol.
3. Be prepared to do the jobs assigned to you by the coach or coaches.
4. Work in a spirit of cooperation with other volunteers/officials and do not interfere in any way with their duties and responsibilities.
5. Act in a manner that will bring credit to the Athletics Community and yourself, both inside and outside the competition arena and/or area.

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6. Volunteers are not to encourage athletes to consume drugs, alcohol or intoxicants.
7. Be courteous to fellow volunteers, officials, athletes, coaches and the general public.
8. Refrain from the use of threatening, obscene, abusive or vulgar language to fellow volunteers, officials, athletes, coaches and the general public.
9. Treat everyone fairly within the context of their activity regardless of a person's culture, color, ancestry, nationality, age, political beliefs, religion, family status, physical or mental disability, gender or sexual orientation.
10. Refrain from public criticism of fellow volunteers, coaches, officials or athletes.
11. Refrain from harassing any individual or engaging in any unwelcome visual, verbal or physical conduct.
12. Project a positive and enthusiastic attitude towards the event, the sponsors, supporters and the job assigned, approaching these duties with a professional attitude.
13. Be courteous, cooperative and discreet.
14. Carry out your duties willingly, fairly and impartially.
15. Report for the assigned duty on time, be well groomed.
16. Respect the athlete's dignity; verbal or physical behaviors that constitute harassment or abuse are unacceptable. (Please refer to the Yukon Athletics Harassment Policy)

Individuals Volunteering for position in Athletics Yukon sanctioned/approved activity/competition are advised that by doing so they are agreeing to adhere to this and other policies, rules, regulations, by-laws and constitution of Athletics Yukon, Athletics Canada and the IAAF.

## **ATHLETES**

In registering as an Athlete member (all types) of Athletics Yukon and within the context of the activities of Athletics an individual agrees to take part in a spirit of fair play, honesty and with the rules and regulations of Athletics Yukon, Athletics Canada and the IAAF. As such the Athlete member is expected to:

1. Compete/participate in a spirit of fair play and honesty.
2. Compete/participate within the rules of Athletics.
3. Do not use, advocate for, condone, promote or distribute banned substances.
4. Do not use tobacco products within the competition arena and/or competition area.
5. Refrain from using alcohol at athletic events (Athletics and other sport activities) or in victory celebrations at the competition site.
6. Do not use profane, insulting, harassing or otherwise offensive language in the context of the activities of Athletics.

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7. Address fellow athletes, coaches, officials, volunteers, event organizers, spectators and others associated with Athletics in a courteous and respectful manner.
8. Do not provide alcohol to under age individuals.
9. Act in a manner that will bring credit to the Athletics Community and yourself, both within and outside the competition arena and/or competition area.
10. Respect the dignity of others; verbal or physical behaviors that constitute harassment or abuse are unacceptable, including comments that are racist or sexist.
11. Ensure the safety of others when taking part in your Athletics activity.

Individuals registered as Athlete members of Athletics Yukon are advised that by registering they are agreeing to adhere to this and other policies, rules, regulations, by-laws and constitution of Athletics Yukon, Athletics Canada and the IAAF.

### **ATHLETICS YUKON TEAM MEMBERS**

In addition to those listed above, athletes selected to Athletics Yukon Teams are as a result of accepting selection and in the context of the Athletes Code of Conduct, expected to:

1. Conduct yourself in a positive and supportive manner.
2. Be prepared to achieve the best results possible.
3. Join the Athletics Yukon Team fit, ready, able and willing to compete in the events selected to unless otherwise agreed to by the Athletics Yukon Team staff and the athlete concerned.
4. Follow the rules of the organizing committee of the competition/activity.
5. Meet at the Athletics Yukon Team assembly points on time and attend all team practices, meetings and activities except those from which you are excused by the staff.
6. Abide by the laws of the city, province/territory and Canada or the country in which the competition is taking place.
7. Respect the rights of others and do not engage in any activity or behavior interfering with a competition, with another athlete's preparation for a competition, or which endangers the safety of others.
8. Compete in the designated Athletics Yukon Team uniform provided.
9. Travel in the Athletics Yukon Team travel uniform if such is provided, or be otherwise comfortably and respectably attired for traveling.
10. All Athletics Yukon Team members shall reside in the designated accommodations and adhere to the curfew set by the Athletics Yukon Team staff. No athlete can leave the accommodation facilities following curfew without being accompanied by a chaperone.
11. Use of alcohol, tobacco or illicit drugs is strictly prohibited by all athletes competing, travelling with or representing the Athletics Yukon Team.

12. You are not permitted to leave the supervision of the Athletics Yukon Team staff without the permission of your parent or guardian having been communicated in advance to the Athletics Yukon Team staff.
13. The coaching staff, and where necessary, parents, shall have responsibility for discipline during events (note that for time periods pre- and post-events, the athlete will be subject to the Athletics Yukon Discipline Policy). Depending on the severity of the offence, sanctions may include any one or a combination of the following:
  - a. Earlier curfew
  - b. Verbal or written reprimand
  - c. Verbal or written apology
  - d. Suspension from certain Team Yukon activities, including suspension from the next scheduled competition
  - e. Removal of Team Yukon privileges
  - f. Removal from a portion of, or the remainder of the competition
  - g. Expulsion from the competition
  - h. Removal from the competition and being sent home at the expense of the athlete
  - i. Other sanctions as may be appropriate for the offence.
14. Adhere to the True Sport Principles, as follows:
  - **Go for It:** rise to the challenge – always strive for excellence. Discover how good you can be.
  - **Play Fair:** play honestly – obey both the letter and the spirit of the rules. Winning is only meaningful when competition is fair.
  - **Respect Others:** show respect for everyone involved in creating your sporting experience, both on and off the field. Win with dignity and lose with grace.
  - **Keep it Fun:** find the joy in sport. Keep a positive attitude both on and off the field.
  - **Stay Healthy:** place physical and mental health above all other considerations – avoid unsafe activities. Respect your body and keep in shape.
  - **Include Everyone:** share sport with others. Ensure everyone has a place to play.
  - **Give Back:** Find ways to show your appreciation for the community that supports your sport and helps make it possible.