Kilbarchan aac

Version 0.1

Season 2019-20

**Code of Conduct Coaches and Volunteers**

**All our Coaches and volunteers abide with the following code of conduct:**

* Place the welfare and safety of the athlete above the development of performance
* Be appropriately qualified including obtaining PVG Disclosure check, update your licence and education as and when required by UKA and adhere to the terms of the coaching licence
* Respect the rights of every athlete and others involved in athletics. Treat everyone equally
* Ensure that activities you direct or guide are appropriate for the age, maturity, experience and ability of the individual athlete
* At the outset clarify with athletes exactly what it is that is expected of them and what athletes are entitled to expect from you
* Consistently promote positive aspects of the sport and never condone rule violations of the use of prohibited substances
* Never try to recruit, either overtly or covertly, athletes who are already receiving coaching. If approached by an athlete to provide coaching, liaise immediately with their existing coach to ensure a managed transition
* Observe the recommended national guidelines on coach/athlete ratios
* Encourage and guide athletes to accept responsibility for their own performance and behaviour
* Develop appropriate working relationships with athletes based on mutual trust and respect, especially with those athletes under 18 years or vulnerable adults
* Do not exert undue influence to obtain personal benefit or reward
* Strictly maintain a clear boundary between friendship and intimacy with athletes and do not conduct inappropriate relationships with athletes
* Challenge inappropriate behaviour and language by others
* Avoid swearing, abusive language and inappropriate or violent behaviour
* Avoid critical language or actions, such as sarcasm which could undermine an athlete’s self esteem.
* Avoid spending time alone with young athletes unless clearly in the view of others to protect both yourself and the young athlete.
* Ensure that parents/carers know and have given consent before taking a young athlete away from the usual training venue
* Follow the guidance on transporting children
* Respect the right of young athletes to an independent life outside of athletics
* Report any accidental injury, distress, misunderstanding or misinterpretation to the parents/carers and to the club welfare officer if appropriate
* Avoid carrying any items that could be dangerous to yourself or others, excluding athletics equipment used in the course of your athletics activity
* Treat all sports equipment and venues with respect and keep them in good condition
* If demonstration of a technique is required through physical contact, always provide and explanation and seek consent before touching the athlete
* Cooperate with technical officials, team managers, other coaches, physiotherapists etc., and representatives of the governing body in the best interests of the athlete
* Not conduct an inappropriate relationship with an athlete under 18 years of age
* Not engage in the massage of an athlete under the age of 18 years. For an athlete over 18, massage is only recommended by the holder of a suitable qualification in sports massage
* Report any suspected abuse, misconduct or breach of the codes of conduct
* Not consume alcohol or prohibited substances prior to or during training or events
* Follow Scottish Athletics guidance for coaches and volunteers on social media use
* Any breach of the Code of Conduct may result in sanctions as outlined in the Club Grievance Procedure