



Boxing Scotland Limited (BSL) Code of Ethics and Expected Behaviours Policy

This Code of Ethics was written and has been endorsed by the BSL Board of Directors. It is applicable and should be adhered to by all Directors, Staff and individuals (members of members) involved in the sport.

The essential elements of character-building and ethics in sports are embodied in the concept of sportsmanship and six core principles:

- Trustworthiness;
- Respect;
- Responsibility;
- Fairness;
- Caring;
- Good Citizenship.

The highest potential of sport is achieved when competition reflects these "six pillars of character.

A Code of Ethics has a number of important functions. It:

- Sets out what behaviours are acceptable and unacceptable;
- Defines standards of practice expected from those to whom it applies;
- Forms the basis for challenging and improving practice;
- Helps to safeguard staff/volunteers by encouraging them to adhere to agreed standards of practice;
- Sets out for children and parents/carers/coaches the standards of practice which they and the organisation should expect from those who work/volunteer with children.

BSL will:

- Promote and encourage fair play at all times through its individual members;
- Ensure that its rules are fair, clearly understood by boxers, coaches, officials and administrators, and properly enforced;
- Make every effort to ensure that its rules are applied consistently and with absolute impartiality;
- Treat all members equally, irrespective of race, creed, colour, sex gender identity, sexual orientation or ability;
- Impress upon boxers, coaches, officials and administrators the need to maintain the highest standards of sportsmanship in running and playing their sport.

Boxers must:

- Abide by the rules and the spirit of the competition;
- Accept the decisions of BSL officials without question or complaint;
- Never consider cheating and, in particular, must not attempt to improve their individual performance by the use of drugs;
- Exercise reasonable self-control at all times;
- Learn to accept success and failure, victory and defeat, with good grace and magnanimity, without excessive emotional display;
- Treat their opponents and team-mates with respect, both in and out of the boxing ring.

Coaches must:

- Insist that boxers understand and abide by the principles of fair play at all times;
- Accept the decisions of BSL officials without question or complaint;
- Never countenance the use of drugs by performers;
- Never employ methods or practices that could involve risks, however slight, to the long-term health or physical development of their boxers;
- Not attempt to manipulate the rules in order to take advantage of their boxers or their opponents.
- Set an example of good conduct and "sportsmanship" through their own demeanour and behaviour

Club Officials must:

- Respect the regulations and authority of BSL as their governing body, and not attempt to avoid or circumvent these regulations;
- Recognise the special role that they have to play in the establishment of standards by setting a good example of sportsmanship at all times;
- Respect the rights of other clubs and not deliberately act in a manner intended to be to the detriment of any other club;
- Respect the rights of boxers, coaches and other officials, and not exploit or deliberately act in a manner intended to be detrimental to them;
- Not endeavour to influence the result of a competition by any action not strictly within the rules and regulations of the sport, or within the fundamental precepts of fair play.

Set an example of good conduct and "sportsmanship" through their own demeanour and behaviour

Parents

BSL will encourage all parents (and as spectators) to:

- Remember that children participate to have fun – not to win at all costs;
- Inform the coach of any physical disability or ailment that may affect the safety of their child or the safety of others;
- Learn the rules of competitive Olympic style boxing;
- Understand the selection procedures for any representative team that their child may be selected for;
- Be a positive role model for their child and encourage sportsmanship by showing respect and courtesy, and by demonstrating positive support for all boxers, coaches, officials and spectators at every club show, district and national championship event;

- Not engage in any kind of unsportsmanlike conduct with any official, coach, Boxer, or parent such as booing and taunting; refusing to shake hands; or using profane language or gestures;
- Not encourage any behaviours or practices that would endanger the health and well-being of the boxers;
- Teach their child to play by the rules and to resolve conflicts without resorting to hostility or violence;
- Demand that their child treat other boxers, coaches, officials and spectators with respect regardless of race, creed, colour, ~~sex~~ gender identity, sexual orientation or ability;
- Teach their child that doing one's best is more important than winning, so that their child will never feel defeated by the outcome of a game or his/her performance;
- Praise their child for competing fairly and trying hard, and make their child feel like a winner every time;
- Never ridicule or yell at their child or any other participant for making a mistake or losing a competition;
- Promote the emotional and physical well-being of the boxers ahead of any personal desire they may have for their child to win;
- Respect officials and their authority during bouts and never question, discuss, or confront coaches, and will take time to speak with coaches at an agreed upon time and place;
- Demand a sports environment for their child that is free from drugs, tobacco, and alcohol;
- Refrain from coaching their child or other boxers during training and competition, unless an official club coach.

EXPECTED BEHAVIOURS – EXAMPLES OF GOOD PRACTICE

The following are examples of good practice which BSL actively encourages:

- Make sport fun, enjoyable and promote fair play;
- Treat all children equally, with respect, dignity and fairness;
- Involve parents/carers wherever possible;
- Build balanced relationships based on mutual trust;
- Include children in the decision-making process wherever possible;
- Always work in an open environment, wherever possible. Avoid private or unobserved situations;
- Put the welfare of each child first before winning or achieving performance goals;
- Be an excellent role model including not smoking or drinking alcohol in the company of children;
- Give enthusiastic and constructive feedback rather than negative criticism;
- Recognise the developmental needs and capacity of children;
- Avoid excessive training and competition, pushing children against their will and putting undue pressure on them;

EXPECTED BEHAVIOURS – PRACTICES TO BE AVOIDED

BSL recommends that following should be avoided whenever possible:

- Having 'favourites' – this could lead to resentment and jealousy by other boxers and could be misinterpreted by others;
- Spending excessive amounts of time alone with boxers away from others;
- Entering boxer's bedrooms on trips away from home, unless in an emergency situation or in the interest of health and safety. If it is necessary to enter rooms, knock and explain the need to come in. The door should remain open, if appropriate;
- Where possible, doing things of a personal nature for boxers that they can do for themselves.
- Engaging in intimate relationships of a sexual nature with boxers or team members for which coaches are responsible for training – this could lead to resentment or jealousy from other boxers and create a perception of favouritism when considering selection of boxers for competition.

EXPECTED BEHAVIOURS - UNACCEPTABLE PRACTICES

The following practices are unacceptable to BSL:

- Engaging in sexually provocative games, including horseplay;
- Engaging in rough or physical contact unless it is permitted at any time;
- Forming intimate emotional, physical or sexual relationships with children;
- Allowing or engaging in touching a child in a sexually suggestive manner;
- Allowing children to swear or use sexualised language unchallenged;
- Engaging in racist or homophobic language, even in fun
- Allowing bullying behaviour, whatever the form, to go unchallenged.
- Making sexually suggestive comments to a child, even in fun;
- Reducing a child to tears as a form of control;
- Allowing allegations made by a child to go unchallenged, unrecorded or not acted upon;
- Inviting or allowing children to stay with you at your home;
- A Coach and/or other leader sharing a room alone with a child;

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