

CODE OF CONDUCT

AoC Sport, its member colleges and other participants will encourage the development of high standards of performance and behaviour. Both staff and competitors should always seek to set a good example by the way in which they carry out their duties and responsibilities both on and off the field. AoC Sport may refuse the entry of any team that does not follow this charter.

AoC SPORT

1. Will ensure that the rules are fair. They need to be thoroughly understood by competitors and officials, and properly enforced.
2. Will make every effort to ensure that the rules are applied consistently and with absolute impartiality.
3. Will make every effort to impress upon participants and officials the absolute need to maintain the highest standards of sporting behaviour in the organisation and the practice of their sport.

STAFF/COACHES

1. Must ensure that all competitors satisfy the eligibility requirements of AoC Sport competitions and

that they are registered before playing.

2. Insist that competitors understand and abide by the principles of good sporting behaviour.
3. Must not countenance the use of illegal or performance-enhancing drugs by competitors.
4. Must never employ methods or practices that might involve risks to long-term health or physical development of their students.
5. Must not attempt to manipulate the rules to their own advantage.
6. Must show respect to all officials and their decisions.
7. Will demonstrate proper professional behaviour at all times, providing a positive role model for the competitors. In particular foul, abusive or offensive language/actions must not be used in the presence of competitors.
8. Must not use social networking sites to:
 - i) criticise or make derogatory comments, whether actual or inferred, about AoC Sport or any AoC Sport member of staff.

- ii) make defamatory comments, whether actual or inferred, about any match official, opponent, or competing institution.
 - iii) post images that are inappropriate or links to inappropriate content.
9. Must monitor their students to ensure that they are not in breach item 7 of the competitors' code of conduct.
 10. Must agree to delete any social media content that is deemed inappropriate by AoC Sport.
 11. Must prioritise AoC Sport matches to ensure that they are played on the dates specified.
 12. When playing as the home team, must communicate relevant information to the opponents at least seven days before the match.
 13. Must ensure the criteria of the competition are met in full.
 14. Must take the competition rules, playing under protest form and completed team sheet to every match.
 15. Must follow all administration requirements related to the collation of team sheets and the updating of results.

COMPETITORS

1. Must abide by both the laws and the spirit of their sport.
2. Must accept the decisions of the umpires and referees without question or protestation.
3. Must not cheat and in particular must not possess, consume or supply illegal or performance-enhancing drugs.
4. Must exercise self-control at all times.
5. Must accept success and failure, victory and defeat with good grace and without excessive display of emotion.
6. Must treat their opponents and team members with due respect and fairness at all times.
7. Must not use social networking sites to: -
 - i) criticise or make derogatory comments, whether actual or inferred, about AoC Sport or any AoC Sport member of staff.
 - ii) make defamatory comments, whether actual or inferred, about any match official, opponent, or competing institution.

iii) post images that are inappropriate or links to inappropriate content.

8. Must respect everyone participating in AoC Sport competitions in terms of age, gender (including transgender), ethnicity, religious beliefs, sexual orientation or disability.

SPECTATORS

1. Must support their team in a friendly, positive way, without abusing officials or other competitors, and without trying to influence the decisions of referees or organisers.

It is recommended that a copy of the Rule Book of all sports be to hand, and that the member college/organisation be affiliated to the Governing Bodies of all the sports in which it is taking part.