

## APPENDIX 12b:

# Code of Conduct (Parents/carers/guardians)

Parents/carers/guardians have a very important role to play in the involvement of their charges with sport. Whilst this involvement is recognised and highly appreciated, it is also important that the Parent/carer/guardian conducts themselves in a manner which supports the commitment and effort of their charges and the Club. The following Code of Conduct must therefore be adhered to:

### **PART 1: PERSONAL STANDARDS**

- Parents/carers/guardians should avoid using any inappropriate profanities during sessions or whilst their charge is competing, whether directed towards his/her charge, their team-mates, officials, other parents/carers/guardians, or the opposition.

### **PART 2: PERSONAL EXPECTATIONS**

- Parents/carers/guardians should work with the coach in order to ensure that their charges have the best possible experience of sport. This may include things like: letting the coach know if their charge will be missing a session; updating the coach about their charges physical status (e.g. are they injured?); telling their coach of any other miscellaneous factors which may have an impact on their charge's physical, psychological, or social well-being within the session.
- Parents/carers/guardians should uphold the spirit of sport, and reinforce fair play, respect for opponents and accepting defeat and victory in an appropriately sporting manner.

### **PART 3: RELATIONSHIPS**

- Parents/carers/guardians should respect the work coaches and volunteers do within their charge's Club, and treat them with appropriate respect. Complaints about coaching or Club-based practice should be identified and dealt with through the appropriate channels (as identified in the Club's complaints procedure).

#### **PART 4: SAFETY**

- Parents/carers/guardians should not get involved with elements of the training session or competitions that they are not qualified to do, and they should let their charges coach (or the competition organiser) know if they are asked to do something for which they are not qualified.
- Parents/carers/guardians should not provide uninvited, unqualified input into the session which is being led by a qualified coach. This may serve to distract their charge from the task they are performing, or distract his/her peers from their tasks.

#### **PART 5: EQUITY**

- All parents/carers/guardians should respect the rights of every other performer and coach, and treat all as equals within the context of their activity and ability. This must be regardless of age, ethnic origin, gender, religion, sexual orientation, cultural background or political affiliation.

#### **PART 6: USE OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AS A MEANS OF CONTACT**

- Parents / guardians / carers should be aware that coaches are not permitted (within their code of conduct) to contact athletes via text message, email, social networking sites, websites, chat rooms, or web messenger service.

Contact may only be allowed via email if there is express permission from you, made in writing to DSW. It will therefore be your responsibility to monitor these emails, and ensure the content is appropriate.