



Child/Young Athlete Code of Conduct (March 2025)

Athletics should be safe, fun and conducted in a spirit of fair play. Children and young athletes are entitled to the best possible environment to participate in sport. Children and young athletes deserve to be given enjoyable, safe sporting opportunities, free from abuse of any kind. Children and young athletes have rights, which must be respected, and responsibilities to other children, coaches and officials that they must accept.

Children/Young People in athletics are entitled to:

- Be listened to
- Be believed
- Be safe and to feel safe
- Participate in activities on an equal and non-discriminatory basis, appropriate to their ability and stage of development
- Be treated with dignity, sensitivity and respect
- Have fun and enjoy athletics
- Get help against those who bully
- Say No when appropriate
- Protect their bodies
- Experience competition at a level at which they feel comfortable and the desire to win as a positive and healthy outcome for striving for best performance
- Comment and make suggestions in a constructive manner
- Make a complaint in the appropriate way and have it dealt with through the Club's complaint handling procedure
- Be afforded privacy and appropriate confidentiality
- Have your voice heard in your sport and be represented at meetings within DSD
- Approach the Club Children's Officer with any questions or concerns they may have

Children/Young People in athletics should undertake to

- Act fairly and responsibly at all times, do their best and have fun
- Respect coaches and officials and accept their decisions with grace, not a grudge
- Listen closely to direction from coaches and officials
- Respect fellow club members; give them full support both when they do well and when things go wrong
- Abide by the rules as set out by the Group/Coaches/DSD AC
- Respect opponents, they are not enemies, they are partners in a sporting event

- Give opponents a hand if they are injured or have problems with equipment
- Accept apologies from opponents when they are offered
- Exercise self-control and tolerance for others, even if others do not
- Support and assist where appropriate with the running of your group
- Be modest in victory and be gracious in defeat
- Show appropriate loyalty to athletics and all its participants
- Make high standards of fair play the example others want to follow
- Be familiar with and respect the DSD Track and Trails Etiquette

Children/ Young People in athletics should not:

- Cheat or seek an unfair advantage
- Intimidate, use violence or physical contact that is not welcome or acceptable
- Shout at, or argue with, coaches, officials, club mates or opponents
- Take banned substances to improve performance
- Bully or use bullying tactics to isolate another child or other children in person or online
- Use unfair or bullying tactics to gain advantage
- Harm club mates, opponents or their property
- Cause harm to or damage Club property
- Tell lies about adults or other members
- Spread rumours online or offline about another person

Parents please note: The club is at all times concerned for the welfare of your children. In return athletes are expected to obey instructions from their coaches and refrain from behaviour that is either unsociable or likely to cause injury to themselves or others.