

BF Coaches Code of Conduct

1. Purpose of Document

This Code does not supersede the Person Code of Conduct but is in addition to it.

- All fencing coaches must ensure that every individual particularly all young/vulnerable people in their care are respected as individuals and treated equitably and with dignity at all times. They should ensure that all training complies with the current guidance issued by British Fencing and does not form any sort of abuse (emotional, physical, sexual, bullying, neglect etc.)
- All relationships should be based on respect, honesty and openness.
- All fencing coaches should recognise the personal development of young fencers takes priority even over the development of their performance.
- All fencing coaches should encourage young/vulnerable fencers to be responsible for their own behaviour and performance.
- All fencing coaches should have an ongoing commitment to their own training and work with others (i.e. referees, medical advisors, sports scientists, parents and other coaches) to ensure the safety and enjoyment of all fencers in order that they can develop both within fencing as well as outside.
- All fencing coaches should respect a fencer's need for confidentiality.
- All fencing coaches should work within their own competency and qualifications.
- All fencing coaches should strive to be positive role models, working within British Fencing guidance displaying high standards of personal behaviour.
- All fencing coaches have a responsibility to develop in partnership with all fencers particularly parents and young/vulnerable fencers clear expectations both on and off the piste and what the young/vulnerable fencer is entitled in return to expect of the coach.
- All fencing coaches should promote good behaviour within the rules of Fencing.

British Fencing coaches should never:

- Invite a child to your home or secluded place when they will be alone with you.
- Share a bedroom with a child
- Engage in a sexual relationship with a young person for whom they are responsible
- Neglect their responsibility for any child under their care at any time
- Bully a child either physically or verbally, nor reduce a child to tears as a form of control.
- Engage in rough, physical or sexually provocative games.
- Make sexually suggestive remarks to a young/vulnerable fencer – even in fun.
- Allow or engage in any form of inappropriate touching

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- Allow the use of inappropriate language to go unchallenged
- Do things of a personal nature for a fencer that they can do for themselves unless specifically requested to do so and then with the utmost discretion
- Vacate the venue until the supervision of the safe dispersal of all the fencers is complete (NB delegation of this duty may be allocated to another official)
- Spend excessive amounts of time with individual fencers away from others
- Abuse the coaches position of power or trust in any way
- Allow allegations made by a child to go unchallenged, unrecorded or not acted upon
- Embarrass, humiliate or undermine any individual or cause them to lose self esteem
- Make remarks about another individual that are in any way offensive or in any way can be construed as such.
- Fail to record any incident in line with British Fencing guidelines

At a Board meeting of 11.12.14 the Board of BF has delegated authority to the CEO to administer such matters which have not expressly been reserved to be dealt with under the Disciplinary Code by this Code of Conduct. Notwithstanding such authority, the CEO may, in his or her absolute discretion, determine that an allegation of a breach of Code of Conduct is of a nature that it should properly be dealt with under the Disciplinary Code. In such circumstances, the CEO may refer such a matter to be dealt with under the Disciplinary Code.