

BF CODE OF ETHICS

Last Updated: 22nd September 2017

Last Approved by Board: 25th June 2026

1. OVERVIEW

The British Fencing Code of Ethics is a document, approved by the British Fencing Board that outlines a set of principles that affect behaviour and decision-making within British Fencing. The Code of Ethics underpins the behaviour guidelines set out within the Membership Code of Conduct(s).

2. INTRODUCTION

As the National Governing Body (NGB) of the Olympic Sport of Fencing, because we operate in the public spotlight, and because we receive Public Funding, we are expected to conduct our affairs on a basis consistent with the responsibility that has been placed in us.

This requires our behaviour to conform to the highest ethical principles. For these reasons British Fencing requires its volunteers, coaches, officials, staff and members to conduct their fencing related activities with integrity to maintain a standard of ethical conduct consistent with

- The values of British Fencing – honesty, respect and excellence
- The regulations of Home Countries in which we operate
- The Olympic values, spirit and ideals that are embodied in our sport.

Because the appearance of impropriety can be just as damaging as actual impropriety, any conduct reported and deemed to be improper will not be tolerated.

3. CODE OF ETHICS

Accordingly volunteers, coaches, officials, staff, Directors, members and member organisations are required to comply with the following BF Code of Ethics when representing BF or participating in BF activities or events.

- Conduct oneself with honesty, dignity and fairness.
- Respect the rights of all employees, staff, volunteers and members of British Fencing to fair treatment and equal opportunity, free from slander, discrimination or harassment of any type.
- Know, understand and comply with the laws, regulations, policies and Codes of Conduct established by British Fencing.
- Uphold BF's commitment to Safeguarding young people and vulnerable adults.
- Keep our sport safe (for participants and spectators alike) and free of doping.
- Protect all information that belongs to BF, its members, our partners, sponsors, suppliers, key volunteers and staff.
- Avoid conflicts of interest – both actual and perceived
- Never use BF assets for personal gain
- Recognise that even the appearance of misconduct or impropriety can be very damaging to the reputation of BF.

4. BREACHES

Any person or member organisation that violates or condones the violation of the Code of Ethics will be subject to Disciplinary measures, which may include termination of membership and expulsion from any official position within BF (eg Board, Committee member).

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