



Code of Conduct for Coaches

The Bowls Development Alliance has formally adopted the sports coach UK Coaches Code of Conduct as part of the Qualifications offered through Coach Bowls. Coaches agree to uphold the following rights, relationships and responsibilities:

1. Rights

- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of every person.
- Help create an environment where all children have an equal opportunity to participate.
- Help create and maintain an environment free of fear and harassment.
- Recognise the rights of all children to be treated as individuals.
- Recognise the rights of parents and children to confer with other coaches and experts.
- Promote the concept of a balanced attitude, supporting the well-being of the child both in and out of bowls.
- Do not discriminate on the grounds of sex, marital status, race, colour, disability, sexuality, age, religion or political opinion.
- Do not condone or allow to go unchallenged any form of discrimination or prejudice.
- Do not publicly criticise or engage in demeaning descriptions of others.
- Communicate with children in a manner that reflects respect and care.

2. Relationships

- Develop relationships with parents and children based on openness, honesty, mutual trust and respect.
- Do not engage in any behaviour that constitutes any form of abuse (physical, sexual, emotional abuse, neglect or bullying).
- Be aware of the physical limits of children and ensure that training loads and intensities are appropriate.
- Ensure that physical contact is appropriate and necessary and is carried out within recommended guidelines.
- Always try to work in an open environment (e.g. avoid private or unobserved situations).
- Do not engage in any form of sexually-related contact with children. Sexual innuendo, flirting or inappropriate gestures and terms are also unacceptable.
- Promote the welfare and best interests of children.
- Explain to parents, as appropriate, the potential impact of the coaching programme on the child.
- Do not have a sexual relationship with someone under the age of 18 who you are coaching.
- Be familiar with the organisation's Child Protection Policy and Procedures.
- Report any concerns you may have in relation to a child or the behaviour of an adult, and follow reporting procedures.
- Consider the child's opinions when making decisions about their participation in bowls.
- Inform parents and children of the etiquette and practical considerations when playing Bowls.
- Inform parents of any potential financial implications.

3. Responsibilities and Personal Standings

- Demonstrate proper personal behaviour and conduct at all times.

- Be fair and honest with all children.
- Develop an appropriate working relationship with children based on mutual trust and respect.
- Always emphasise that the well-being and safety of the child is more important than the development of performance.
- Do not smoke, or drink alcohol, while actively working with children. Never use recreational or performance-enhancing drugs.
- Promote the positive aspects of bowls (e.g. fair play, honesty and etiquette).
- Attend appropriate training to enable you to keep up-to-date with your role and matters relating to the welfare of children.
- Hold relevant qualifications.
- Ensure the necessary insurance cover is in place.

DRAFT