



TAEKWONDO COUNCIL UK

Code of Conduct for Officials

Officials play an essential role in ensuring the preparation and execution of safe and high-quality athletics events. The following code of conduct for officials outlines the required standards of personal and professional behaviour in this role.

Responsibilities – Professional Standards

To enhance benefits and minimize risks for participants, officials must attain the appropriate level of competence through qualifications and a commitment to continuous training, ensuring the practice is both safe and accurate.

Responsibilities – Personal Standards

Officials must consistently exhibit proper personal behaviour and conduct at all times.

Rights

Officials are obligated to uphold and advocate for the rights of every individual to participate safely in sports and physical activities.

Relationships

Officials must cultivate positive relationships with participants and others, characterized by transparency, honesty, mutual trust, and respect.

RESPONSIBILITIES – PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS

As a responsible technical official, I will:

- Adhere to the Tae Kwon Do Council UK Child Safeguarding Policy and Child Safeguarding Procedures.
- Comply with the Tae Kwon Do Council UK Adult Safeguarding Policy and Adult Safeguarding Procedures.
- Maintain up-to-date professional knowledge and skills, possess the necessary qualifications, and renew my license as required by Tae Kwon Do Council UK.
- Collaborate with fellow officials in a cooperative manner, refraining from interference in their responsibilities.
- Provide guidance and support to less experienced officials when appropriate.
- Promptly report accidental injuries, distress, misunderstandings, or misinterpretations to parents/caregivers and the club/ Tae Kwon Do Council UK Safeguarding Officer.
- Report and address any inappropriate behaviour or suspected misconduct by other officials, coaches, or individuals involved in athletics to the relevant parties without delay.

RESPONSIBILITIES – PERSONAL STANDARDS

- As a responsible official, I will:
- Refrain from smoking or consuming alcohol while on officiating duties.
- Be adequately prepared for the assigned officiating task.

- Dress appropriately in accordance with the nature and standards of the competition, as directed by the relevant officials' committee.
- Arrive punctually for the competition and report to the designated official in charge.
- Promote positive aspects of the sport, such as fair play, while avoiding condoning rule violations or the use of prohibited or age-inappropriate substances.
- Avoid using profanity, critical language, abusive behaviour, or actions that could endanger myself or others, including violence, bullying, harassment, and physical or sexual abuse.
- Avoid destructive behaviour and leave athletics venues as I found them.
- Refrain from carrying items that could pose a danger to me or others, excluding athletics equipment utilised during my athletic activities.
- Always seek consent and provide reasons before touching an athlete.
- Work in same-sex pairs when supervising changing areas.

RIGHTS

As a responsible technical official, I will:

- Respect the rights, dignity, and worth of every athlete and other individuals involved in athletics, treating everyone with equality.
- Officiate without discrimination based on age, gender, sexual orientation, cultural background, disability, or religious preference.
- Demonstrate dignity, courtesy, and good manners toward others.
- Avoid undermining, belittling, or demeaning other officials, athletes, coaches, or practitioners.
- Ensure the welfare and safety of the athletes under my supervision.
- Avoid using my position to exert undue influence for personal benefit or reward.
- Conduct events in accordance with the rules, respecting the rights and well-being of the athletes.

RELATIONSHIPS

As a responsible technical official, I will:

- Clearly communicate with athletes (and when relevant, parents or caregivers) regarding expectations and entitlements.
- Encourage and guide athletes to take responsibility for their performance and behaviour.
- Collaborate fully with others involved in the sport, including fellow technical officials, competition organizers, team managers, coaches, and representatives of the governing body, ensuring equitable conditions for athletics events in compliance with relevant competition rules.
- Interact decisively, objectively, and amiably with other officials, athletes, coaches, and spectators, fulfilling my duties efficiently and respectfully.
- Develop appropriate working relationships with athletes, founded on mutual trust and respect, especially with those under 18 or adults at risk.
- Never engage in or incite sexual activity, inappropriate touching, or communication (in person, through social media, or other forms) with athletes under 18 years of age. Violation of this code may lead to a permanent withdrawal of the technical official's license.
- Never engage in or incite sexual activity, inappropriate touching, or communication (in person, through social media, or other forms) with athletes who are adults at risk. A violation of this code may result in a permanent withdrawal of the technical official's license.

- Avoid spending alone time with young athletes under 18, unless clearly visible to other adults.
- Never transport young athletes under 18 alone in my vehicle.
- Never invite young athletes under 18 into my home alone.
- Never share a bedroom with young athletes under 18. (The nature of the official-child relationship will be a consideration in any referral.)

BREACH OF THE CODE OF CONDUCT

I understand that failure to comply with the code may lead to the following actions taken by the Tae Kwon Do Council UK:

- Verbal warning
- Written warning
- Mandatory attendance at additional safeguarding training
- Suspension by the Tae Kwon Do Council UK.
- Mandatory exit or dismissal by the Tae Kwon Do Council UK.
- Revocation of my Tae Kwon Do Council UK. official's license.
- Referral to DBS/Disclosure United Kingdom.