

## **Herefordshire Fencing Club: Code of Conduct for Coaches**

- 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 that 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.

### **Herefordshire Fencing Club coaches should never:**

- Invite a child to their home or secluded place when they will be alone with them.
- Share a bedroom with a child.
- 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.
- 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.
- The last official must never vacate the venue until the supervision of the safe dispersal of all the fencers is complete.
- 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 BF guidelines to the Club Managers.

*(NB this list is not exhaustive)*

### **Declaration**

I confirm that I have read and fully understood the above Coaches' Code of Conduct.

I agree to abide at all times whilst working for Herefordshire Fencing Club to the above policy, and will report any concerns to the Club Committee, Club Welfare Officer or to British Fencing as appropriate.

**Name:**

**Position:**

**Signature:**

**Date:**