

viaSport SAFE SPORT CONDUCT SUMMARY

A Summary of the BC Universal Code of Conduct

Introduction

For sport experiences to be positive they need to be safe.

British Columbia's sport sector and organizations are committed to create sport environments that are free from all forms of harm including sexual, physical, mental, emotional and psychological.

This Safe Sport Conduct Summary will help you learn about the Responsibilities and Prohibited Behaviours found in the British Columbia Universal Code of Conduct, so you can be an active contributor to a safer sport culture in B.C.

The B.C. Universal Code of Conduct has been designed to supplement sport organization's current policies, it does not replace them. The purpose of the code is to set standards for the culture of sport in B.C. Any violations of the Code are subject to review and disciplinary procedures according to the respective sport organization's policy.

Responsibilities

Every participant has a responsibility to:

- Make sure their intentions, actions and efforts put priority on the safety of all Participants.
- Treat others with respect and dignity.
- Promote sportsmanship, leadership, and ethical conduct.
- Respect the diversity of Participants and reject discrimination.
- Treat individuals fairly and reasonably.
- Follow the rules of the sport, and the spirit of the rules.
- Report any acts or suspicions of inappropriate behaviours or other Maltreatment.
- Make sure all individuals feel included.
- Accept feedback about their own behaviours, and work to correct problems.
- Establish, respect, and maintain appropriate boundaries with Participants.
- Make sure that interactions respect the role of every Participant in the

sport.

- Make sure that individual accountability is promoted during interactions.
- Make sure that interactions are transparent and easily understood by both Participants and outside observers.
- Monitor their own behaviours, and the behaviours of others.
- Take seriously all reports, allegations, and suspicions of Maltreatment.
- Identify and participate in conversations that lead to positive behaviour change.
- Do not take part in any Prohibited Behaviours

All participants in a position of trust or authority have a responsibility to:

- Protect the health and well-being of all other Participants.
- Prevent or reduce opportunities for Maltreatment and other Prohibited Behaviours.

- Respond to any Maltreatment involving Minors and other Vulnerable Participants.
- Learn to recognize systemic bias, unconscious bias, and to respond quickly and effectively to Discriminatory practices.
- Recognize when you are in a position of Power Imbalance

Prohibited Behaviours

It is a violation of the B.C. Universal Code of Conduct to engage in:

- Psychological Maltreatment including Verbal Conduct such as yelling; Non-assaultive physical conduct such as throwing items; or behaviours restricting attention or support, such as abandoning an athlete as punishment for poor performance.
- Physical Maltreatment including Contact behaviours such as deliberately hitting someone; or Non-contact behaviours such as the use of exercise for the purposes of punishment.
- Sexual Maltreatment of Minors or Adult participants, including Criminal Code offenses; and any comment or conduct of a sexual nature that is unwelcome or that would be objectively perceived as

unwelcome by an outside observer.

- Grooming which can include one or several acts that, viewed objectively, make it easier to either engage in Sexual Maltreatment or reduce the chance that Sexual Maltreatment will be reported.
- Boundary Transgressions which include a wide range of activities such as communicating privately with a Minor through social media or text; or one-on-one meetings that are not held in an open and observable environment.
- Neglect such as not providing an athlete recovery time and/or treatment for a sport injury
- Discrimination such as denying someone access to participating in sport or treating them unfairly.
- Subjecting a Participant to the Risk of Maltreatment such as putting Participants in situations that could obviously make them vulnerable to Maltreatment.
- Aiding and Abetting which includes any action intended to result in Maltreatment by or against a Participant.
- Failure to Report possible Maltreatment, Prohibited Behaviour, or Boundary Transgressions toward a Minor or an Adult Participant.

- Intentionally Filing a False Allegation or influencing someone else to file one. Making a False Allegation is different from an Unsubstantiated Allegation, which is where an allegation is made honestly but there's not enough evidence to prove it. Honestly made Unsubstantiated Allegations are not prohibited actions.
- Interference with or Manipulation of Process such as knowingly falsifying, distorting, misrepresenting, concealing, or destroying information with the intent to influence the proceedings or outcome of the resolution process.
- Retaliation including threats, intimidation, harassment, coercion, or any other behaviour that would discourage a reasonable person from participating in an investigation or disciplinary review processes at any point in the process, and regardless of outcome.

To learn more and find other useful resources visit the BC Safe Sport website at www.viasport.ca/quality-sport/safe-sport.