

The Australian Professional Skaters' Association Coaches Code of Behaviour & Ethics is a positive document for all coaches. By agreeing to the Code of Behaviour and Ethics you are affirming your support for the concepts of responsibility, trust, competence, respect, safety, honesty, professionalism and sportsmanship. As coaches we play an important part in ensuring the integrity of our sport and our profession. This document also provides a reference point for other key participants within our sport to expect that a coach will demonstrate appropriate standards of behaviour.

1. I will respect the rights, dignity and worth of every human being within the context of my involvement in figure skating, by refraining from any discriminatory practices including, but not limited to, discrimination on the basis of race, religion, gender ethnic background, special ability / disability or sexual orientation, preference or identity.
2. I will ensure the athlete's time spent with me is a positive experience.
3. I will treat each athlete as an individual and be reasonable in the demands I make on the time commitments of the athletes in my care and place the safety and welfare of my athletes above all else.
4. I will be fair, considerate and honest with athletes.
5. I will be professional and accept responsibility for my actions.
6. I will make a commitment to providing a quality service to my athletes.
7. I will operate within the rules and spirit of our sport. I will abide by and teach the rules and regulations of figure skating and promote fair play over winning at any cost.
8. I will ensure that any physical contact with another person is appropriate to the situation and necessary for the individual's skill development.
9. I will not tolerate abusive, bullying or threatening behaviour and ensure my decisions and actions contribute to a harassment-free environment. *
10. I will have due consideration for the varying maturity and ability levels of my athletes when designing training schedules, programs and involvement in competition.
11. I will provide a safe environment for training and competition.
12. I will be aware of and support accepted injury and illness management strategies and follow the physician's guidelines regarding the return of injured or ill athletes to training and competition.
13. I will be a positive role model for the sport and athletes.
14. I will support opportunities for participation in all aspects of our sport and help each athlete to reach their potential whilst respecting the talent, development stage and goals of each athlete and encourage them with positive and constructive feedback.
15. I will ensure that athletes are involved in a positive environment where skill-learning and development are priorities and not overshadowed by a desire to win and encourage and support opportunities for people to learn appropriate behaviours and skills.
16. I will display and foster respect for all officials, volunteers, athletes, coaches, administrators, parents and spectators.

17. I will at all times display and teach appropriate sporting behaviour, ensuring that athletes understand and practice fair play.

18. Where I am responsible for athletes in the 5-18 year old age group, I will aim to maximise participation, learning and enjoyment for all athletes regardless of ability.

19. I will, wherever practicable, avoid unaccompanied and unobserved one-on-one activity (when in a supervisory capacity or where a power imbalance exists) with people under the age of 18.

20. I will never advocate or condone the use of illicit drugs or other banned performance enhancing substances or methods and will display responsible behaviour in relation to alcohol and other drugs.

21. I will obtain appropriate qualifications and keep up-to-date with sound principles of coaching, skill development and factors related to growth and development of my athletes.

22. I will be honest and not allow my coaching qualifications or coaching experience to be misrepresented.

- Please refer to the Harassment - Free Sport Guidelines available from the Australian Sports Commission, for more information on harassment issues.

Behaviour:

Coaches should.....

- be treated with respect and openness
- be matched with a level of coaching appropriate to their level of competence
- respect the rights of skaters to seek instruction or take lessons from the coach of their choice
- out of courtesy, check with any previous coach to ensure that all previous lesson fees have been paid prior to accepting a student that is changing from another coach
- not solicit students of another coach, directly or indirectly or through third parties for lessons or instruction.
- dress neatly in a clean, professional and appropriate manner as becoming a member of the coaching profession.