



Code of Ethics

Contents

1. Preamble
2. Generic Code of Behaviour
3. Athletes
4. Nations & Continents
5. Coaches/Managers/Teachers/Adult Helpers
6. Spectators & Parents
7. Referees & Officials
8. Medical Practitioners & Allied Health Professionals

1. Preamble

The World Dodgeball Association (WDA) Code of Ethics document has been created to protect the integrity and reputation of the sport and all persons who represent the sport from continental ambassadors to community coaching staff. The content of this code is set in compliance with the International Olympic Committee's (IOC) principles and rules of the IOC Code of Ethics.

2. Generic Code of Behaviour

Who does this apply to?

The content of this Code of Behaviour applies to all involved with the sport of Dodgeball across the World.

Expected minimum standards of behaviour and conduct

All individuals involved in Dodgeball will, at all times:

- Respect the spirit of fair play in Dodgeball. This is more than playing within the rules. It also incorporates the concepts of friendship, respect for others and always participating with the right spirit.
- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of others.
- Conduct themselves in a manner that takes all reasonable measures to protect their own safety and the safety of others.
- Promote the reputation of the sport and take all possible steps to prevent it from being brought into disrepute.
- Protect themselves and others involved in the game from verbal or physical abuse and threatening or intimidating behaviour.
- Never use inappropriate language or gestures.
- Abide by the WDA Safeguarding and Protecting Young People in Dodgeball Policy and Procedures and Good Practice Guidelines.
- Abide by the WDA Equality Policy.
- Abide by the WDA Anti-doping Rules.
- Take personal responsibility to ensure that they are suitably insured for their activities.

3. Athletes

Who does this apply to?

The content of this Code of Behaviour is an extension of the Generic Code of Behaviour and it applies to all athletes involved in Dodgeball across the World. The parts in ***bold italics*** highlight the specific elements which apply to this particular group.

Expected minimum standards of behaviour and conduct

All such individuals involved in Dodgeball will, at all times:

- Respect the spirit of fair play in Dodgeball. This is more than playing within the rules. It also incorporates the concepts of friendship, respect for others and always participating with the right spirit.
- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of others.
Respect referees, officials, coaches, players and spectators.
- Conduct themselves in a manner that takes all reasonable measures to protect their own safety and the safety of others.
Never participate when under the influence of alcohol or drugs.
- Promote the reputation of the sport and take all possible steps to prevent it from being brought into disrepute.
Accept success and failure, victory and defeat, with dignity.
Set a positive example for others, particularly young participants and spectators.
- Protect others involved in the game from verbal or physical abuse and threatening or intimidating behaviour.
- Never use inappropriate language or gestures.
Never use foul, sexist, abusive, racist or any prejudicial language or tolerate it from players and/or team officials.
- Abide by the WDA Safeguarding and Protecting Young People in Dodgeball Policy and Procedures and Good Practice Guidelines.
- Abide by the WDA Equality Policy.
- Abide by WDA Anti-doping Rules.
- Take personal responsibility to ensure that they are suitably insured for their activities.

4. Nations & Continents

All National and Continental Governing Bodies have an essential role in upholding and implementing the WDA Code of Ethics and Behaviour. These individuals and organisations should aim to be:

- Advocates of equality, fair play and safety in the practice and the administration of Dodgeball.
- Supporters of the WDA's Code of Ethics and Behaviour and communicators of the Code to their members.
- Influential in driving Dodgeball forward as a sport.
- Open in the recruitment of individuals to work within their organisations (either paid or unpaid).

Who does this code apply to?

The content of this Code of Behaviour is an extension of the Generic Code of Behaviour and it applies to all National and Continental Governing Bodies across the World. The parts in ***bold italics*** highlight the specific elements which apply to this particular group.

All such individuals and bodies involved in Dodgeball will, at all times:

- Respect the spirit of fair play in Dodgeball. This is more than playing within the rules. It also incorporates the concepts of friendship, respect for others and always participating with the right spirit.
- ***Participate within the rules and regulations of the game.***
- ***Be honest, consistent, objective, impartial and courteous when applying the rules of the game.***
- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of others.
Show patience and understanding towards players who may be learning the game.
Never publicly express any criticism of umpires or officials such as match officials, technical officers or reserve referees.
Show an appreciation for volunteer coaches and administrators – their efforts contribute hugely to people being able to participate.
Relationships: Ensure a sensible balance between performance and the emotional, physical, social and developmental needs of the performers.

5. Coaches/Managers/Teachers/Adult Helpers

Who does this apply to?

The content of this Code of Behaviour is an extension of the Generic Code of Behaviour and it applies to all Coaches, Managers, Teachers, Leaders and Adult Helpers involved in Dodgeball across the World. This includes mentors, coaches and official educators, referees' coaches and managers. The parts in **bold italics** highlight the specific elements which apply to this particular group

Expected Minimum Standards of Behaviour and Conduct

All such individuals involved in Dodgeball will, at all times:

- Respect the spirit of fair play in Dodgeball. This is more than playing within the rules. It also incorporates the concepts of friendship, respect for others and always participating with the right spirit.
- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of others.
Respect referees, officials, coaches, players and spectators.
Relationships: Ensure a sensible balance between performance and the emotional, physical, social and developmental needs of the performers.
Relationships: Respect confidentiality of participants and any related data at all times.
Personal Standards: Have the participants' best interests at heart at all times and recognise when it is in the participants' best interests to be passed to other organisations.
- Conduct themselves in a manner that takes all reasonable measures to protect their own safety and the safety of others.
Never participate when under the influence of alcohol or drugs.
Competency: Have an WDA or NF qualification / award / accreditation appropriate to the nature of the activity and the role being undertaken.
Competency: Have a valid First Aid – Emergency Aid Certificate or equivalent, or ensure that appropriate first aid provision is available.
Personal Standards: Ensure that activities carried out by participants are suitable for their age, strength, maturity and the ability of each individual participant.

6. Spectators & Parents

Who does this apply to?

The content of this Code of Behaviour is an extension of the Generic Code of Behaviour and it applies to all Spectators and Parents involved in Dodgeball across the World. The parts in ***bold italics*** highlight the specific elements which apply to this particular group. Although the emphasis of this element of the code is on young people, this is not exclusive to young people's activity and it is recognised that parents and spectators will also be present at senior matches.

Expected minimum standards of behaviour and conduct

All such individuals involved in hockey will, at all times:

- Respect the spirit of fair play in Dodgeball. This is more than playing within the rules. It also incorporates the concepts of friendship, respect for others and always participating with the right spirit.
Focus on the young people's efforts and enjoyment rather than winning or losing. Teach young people that honest effort and teamwork are as important as victory, so the result of each game is accepted without undue disappointment. Remember that people learn best by example. Appreciate good performances and skilful play by all participants. Encourage people always to settle disagreements amicably without resorting to hostility or violence.
- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of others.
Respect referees, officials, coaches, players and spectators. Respect the decisions of officials and teach young people to do the same. Leave the coach to communicate with individual players on the field of play. Show an appreciation for volunteer coaches and administrators – their efforts contribute hugely to young people being able to participate.
- Conduct themselves in a manner that takes all reasonable measures to protect their own safety and the safety of others.
Have regard to protecting the athletes through the application of the Rules of the game. Never participate when under the influence of alcohol or drugs. Competency: Have a current EH accreditation or registration appropriate to the nature of the activity. Under 18 year olds: Should only work with or under the guidance of a suitably qualified and insured adult.

- Promote the reputation of the sport and take all possible steps to prevent it from being brought into disrepute.
Ensure that all participants are aware of their responsibilities under the Code of Ethics and Behaviour.
- Protect others involved in the game from verbal or physical abuse and threatening or intimidating behaviour.
- Never use inappropriate language or gestures.
Never use foul, sexist, abusive, racist or any prejudicial language or tolerate it from players, team officials, spectators or parents.
- Abide by the WDA Safeguarding and Protecting Young People in Dodgeball Policy, Procedures and Good Practice Guidelines.
- Abide by the WDA Equality Policy.
- Abide by the WDA Anti-doping Rules.
- Take personal responsibility to ensure that they are suitably insured for their activities.

7. Referees & Officials

Who does this apply to?

The content of this Code of Behaviour is an extension of the Generic Code of Behaviour and it applies to all Referees and Officials involved in Dodgeball across the World. The parts in ***bold italics*** highlight the specific elements which apply to this particular group.

Expected minimum standards of behaviour and conduct

All such individuals involved in hockey will, at all times:

- Respect the spirit of fair play in Dodgeball. This is more than playing within the rules. It also incorporates the concepts of friendship, respect for others and always participating with the right spirit.
Encourage both teams to play within the Rules and the spirit of the game.
Be honest, consistent, objective, impartial and courteous when applying the Rules of the game.
Never request inappropriate hospitality of any kind, or accept any hospitality offered that could be considered to be excessive.
In completing reports, set out the true facts and not attempt to justify or embellish any decisions.
- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of others.
Respect referees, officials, coaches, athletes and spectators.
Show patience and understanding towards those who may be learning the game.
Never publicly express any criticism of umpires or officials such as match officials and technical officers.

- Conduct themselves in a manner that takes all reasonable measures to protect their own safety and the safety of others.
Have regard to protecting the players through the application of the Rules of the sport.
Never participate when under the influence of alcohol or drugs.
Competency: Have a current WDA accreditation or registration appropriate to the nature of the activity.
Under 18 year olds: Should only work with or under the guidance of a suitably qualified and insured adult.
- Promote the reputation of the sport and take all possible steps to prevent it from being brought into disrepute.
Ensure that all participants are aware of their responsibilities under the Code of Ethics.
- Protect others involved in the game from verbal or physical abuse and threatening or intimidating behaviour.
- Never use inappropriate language or gestures.
Never use foul, sexist, abusive, racist or any prejudicial language or tolerate it from players, team officials, spectators or parents.
- Abide by the WDA Safeguarding and Protecting Young People in Dodgeball Policy, Procedures and Good Practice Guidelines.
- Abide by the WDA Equality Policy.
- Abide by the WDA Anti-doping Rules.
- Take personal responsibility to ensure that they are suitably insured for their activities.

8. Medical Practitioners & Allied Health Professionals

Who does this apply to?

The content of this Code of Behaviour is an extension of the Generic Code of Behaviour and it applies to Medical Practitioners and Allied Health Professionals involved in Dodgeball across the World. All Medical Practitioners and Allied Health Professionals are expected to have all necessary professional qualifications relevant to their roles and to abide by their respective Professional Codes of Conduct or Practice in addition to this Code of Behaviour. The parts in ***bold italics*** highlight the specific elements which apply to this particular group.

Expected minimum standards of behaviour and conduct

All such individuals involved in Dodgeball will, at all times:

- Respect the spirit of fair play in Dodgeball. This is more than playing within the rules. It also incorporates the concepts of friendship, respect for others and always participating with the right spirit.
- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of others.
Respect referees, officials, coaches, athletes and spectators.
Leave the coach to communicate with individual players on the field of play unless treating an injury.
Never publicly express any criticism of referees or officials such as match officials or technical officers.
Relationships: Ensure a sensible balance between performance and the emotional, physical, social and developmental needs of the performers.
Relationships: Respect confidentiality of participants and any related data at all times.
- Conduct themselves in a manner that takes all reasonable measures to protect their own safety and the safety of others.
Inform the team coach or manager of any injury, health or welfare issue which it is appropriate for them to know, within established confidentiality boundaries.
- Promote the reputation of the sport and take all possible steps to prevent it from being brought into disrepute.
Set a positive example for others, particularly young participants and spectators.
Personal Standards: Project an image of health, cleanliness and functional efficiency.
Relationships: Set and uphold the boundaries between a working relationship and friendship between themselves, when in a position of trust, and participants. This is particularly essential when the participant is a young person.
Relationships: Ensure that no action could be regarded as inappropriate particularly where physical contact with participants is required.
Relationships: Never engage in any form of inappropriate personal or sexual relationship with a participant ('inappropriate' – as defined as in a position of trust within Sexual Offences Act).
- Protect others involved in the game from verbal or physical abuse and threatening or intimidating behaviour.
- Never use inappropriate language or gestures.
- Abide by the WDA Safeguarding and Protecting Young People in Dodgeball Policy and Procedures and Good Practice Guidelines.
- Abide by the WDA Equality Policy.
- Abide by the WDA Anti-doping Rules
- Take personal responsibility to ensure that they are suitably insured for their activities.