



Code of Conduct

Introduction

The World Dodgeball Association (WDA) is committed to promoting a culture of respect, integrity, and fairness across all levels of the sport of dodgeball. This Code of Conduct outlines the expected standards for all individuals involved in dodgeball activities, including board members, staff, volunteers, national and continental federation leaders, athletes, coaches, officials, and spectators worldwide. All individuals associated with WDA are expected to uphold the principles of this Code to ensure the sport thrives in a safe and respectful environment.

1. General Principles

- **Respect:** All individuals must treat others with respect, kindness, and fairness at all times, fostering an environment where discrimination, harassment, or any form of abuse is unacceptable.
- **Integrity:** Participants, officials, and other stakeholders should act with honesty and integrity, ensuring transparency and fairness in all interactions.
- **Safety:** Ensure that the physical and emotional safety of all participants is a top priority in all activities, competitions, and events.
- **Equality:** The WDA promotes diversity, inclusion, and equal opportunities for all participants, regardless of race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, disability, age, or religion.
- **Excellence:** Strive to maintain high standards of performance, conduct, and sportsmanship, both on and off the court.

2. Board Members, Staff, and Volunteers of the World Dodgeball Association

As leaders and key figures in the sport, board members, staff, and volunteers are expected to uphold the highest standards of behaviour:

Board Members

- **Leadership:** Provide strategic vision and direction for the growth and development of dodgeball worldwide, promoting the values of the WDA.
- **Accountability:** Ensure transparency and accountability in all decisions and actions taken by the WDA board.
- **Conflict of Interest:** Act with integrity and avoid any actions or situations that could create a conflict of interest or undermine the credibility of the WDA.

Staff and Volunteers

- **Support:** Provide excellent and reliable support to the WDA and the global dodgeball community, ensuring all members and participants are treated fairly.
 - **Professionalism:** Maintain a professional approach, representing the WDA positively in all public and private dealings.
 - **Communication:** Foster clear and respectful communication across all stakeholders involved in dodgeball activities.
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3. National and Continental Federation Leaders

Leaders of national and continental federations are vital in the governance and management of dodgeball at their respective levels. They are expected to:

- **Promote Growth:** Advocate for the growth and development of dodgeball in their respective regions and ensure equal access to all participants.
 - **Compliance:** Adhere to WDA's policies and procedures and ensure that the federations under their leadership comply with the WDA Code of Conduct and international rules.
 - **Leadership by Example:** Lead with professionalism, fairness, and a commitment to fostering a positive, respectful environment for all athletes, coaches, officials, and spectators.
 - **Collaboration:** Work collaboratively with other federations and the WDA to achieve shared goals and objectives.
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4. Participants (Athletes, Coaches, Officials, Volunteers)

Athletes

- **Sportsmanship:** Compete with respect, integrity, and sportsmanship. Display humility in victory and grace in defeat.
- **Doping and Anti-Corruption:** Abide by anti-doping rules and ethical standards. Never engage in cheating, match-fixing, or any form of corruption.
- **Respect for Officials:** Show respect for officials and their decisions, understanding that they play a vital role in maintaining fairness.
- **Teamwork:** Foster a positive team environment where all teammates are supported, encouraged, and valued.

Coaches

- **Respect for Athletes:** Treat all athletes with respect, fairness, and dignity, focusing on their physical and emotional well-being.
- **Development:** Strive to develop athletes holistically, not just athletically, supporting their growth as individuals, in line with the values of the WDA.
- **Integrity:** Uphold the principles of fair play, avoiding any pressure or influence that could compromise the integrity of the sport or athlete's development.

Officials

- **Fairness and Impartiality:** Be objective, fair, and consistent in the application of the rules, ensuring that all teams and players are treated equally.
- **Knowledge and Education:** Continuously develop knowledge of the rules, ensuring they are applied accurately and effectively.
- **Respect for All Participants:** Treat all players, coaches, and volunteers with respect, even when enforcing rules or making difficult decisions.

Volunteers

- **Assistance:** Provide valuable assistance to all areas of dodgeball events, from logistics to team support, ensuring the smooth running of activities.
- **Respect and Support:** Ensure a supportive and respectful environment for all participants by maintaining a helpful and understanding attitude.
- **Commitment:** Dedicate time and effort to ensuring that their tasks are completed to the best of their ability, contributing to the success of dodgeball events.

5. Spectators

Spectators play a crucial role in creating an exciting and vibrant atmosphere at dodgeball events. They are expected to:

- **Respect for Players and Officials:** Show respect for all athletes, coaches, officials, and volunteers, understanding that everyone is there to contribute positively to the sport.
 - **Support Sportsmanship:** Cheer for your team in a way that encourages positive behavior and fair play. Avoid derogatory or offensive language, gestures, or comments.
 - **Safety and Well-being:** Behave in a manner that ensures the safety and well-being of all participants and attendees. Disruptive or aggressive behavior will not be tolerated.
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6. Enforcement and Consequences

Failure to adhere to the WDA Code of Conduct may result in disciplinary actions, which could include warnings, suspensions, or expulsion from competitions or activities. Violations will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis by the relevant governing bodies, ensuring that appropriate measures are taken to address any breaches of conduct.

By participating in the World Dodgeball Association's activities, all individuals agree to uphold the principles outlined in this Code of Conduct. Together, we can maintain an environment that promotes the growth of dodgeball globally while ensuring the safety, respect, and well-being of all involved.