

Code of Conduct Of Netball Ontario

Purpose

The purpose of this Code of Conduct is to ensure a safe and positive environment by instituting a Zero Tolerance Policy. Netball Ontario (the Association or NOA) is committed to providing a sport environment in which all individuals are treated with respect and dignity. All Individuals will be aware that there is an expectation of appropriate behavior consistent with the values of NOA. Conduct that violates this Code may be subject to disciplinary action enforced by NOA's Disciplinary Committee.

Application of this Code

This Code of Conduct applies to conduct that may arise during NOA business, activities, and events. This includes but is not limited to its competitions, practices, training camps, tryouts, travel, and any meetings of NOA.

Responsibilities

All Individuals have a responsibility to:

- A. Maintain and enhance the dignity and self-esteem of NOA members and other Individuals by:
 1. Demonstrating respect to individuals regardless of body type, physical characteristics, athletic ability, gender, ancestry, colour, ethnic or racial origin, nationality, national origin, sexual orientation, age, marital status, religion, political belief, disability, or economic status.
 2. Focusing comments or criticism appropriately and avoiding public criticism of athletes, coaches, officials, organizers, volunteers, employees, and members.
 3. Consistently demonstrating the spirit of fair play, sport leadership and ethical conduct.
 4. Consistently treating individuals fairly and respectfully.
- B. Refrain from any behavior that constitutes harassment, where harassment is defined as comment or conduct directed towards an individual or group, which is offensive, abusive, racist, sexist, degrading, or malicious.
- C. Refrain from any behavior that constitutes sexual harassment, where sexual harassment is defined as unwelcome sexual comments and sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, or conduct of a sexual nature.
- D. Always comply with the bylaws, policies, procedures, rules, and regulations of Netball Ontario.

Conduct Policy for Member Clubs

Definition

A member club is a registered netball club with NOA who is running netball programming for youth or adults. It is a requirement of all member clubs of NOA to assume responsibility for the conduct of all athletes, coaches, and spectators under their authority.

Goal Statement

Any member club participating in NOA sanctioned programs will adhere to NOA principles based on the rules of netball, and the core values of equal opportunity, fair play and respect for an opponent's skill and safety and this Code of Conduct Policy.

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Actions

In addition to the responsibilities of NOA Code of Conduct, member clubs of NOA will:

- Conduct themselves as an ambassador of Netball Ontario.
- Follow all Netball Ontario policies and procedures.
- Refrain from negative communications with or against any other member club.
- Support the game of netball.
- Ensure that all athletes and coaches participating in sanctioned competitions are registered members in good standing with Netball Ontario.
- Avoid spectator-imposed pressures to win.
- Be supportive of the athlete, team, coach, opponents, and officials.
- Maintain a supportive, constructive environment for all participants.
- Be a Leader, a positive influence and role model.

Individuals who are witness to any actions contrary to the Conduct Policy for Member Clubs should contact Netball Ontario's Disciplinary Chair/Committee.

Conduct Policy for Coaches

Definition

Anyone who participates as a teacher, leader, or instructor to train, educate or motivate athletes to compete in an athletic activity.

Goal Statement

Any coach participating in Netball Ontario's sanctioned events will be expected to adhere to Netball Ontario's principles of netball's core values of equal opportunity, fair play and respect for an opponent's skill and safety and the Conduct Policy for Coaches.

Actions

In addition to the responsibilities of NOA Code of Conduct, Coaches have added accountability. The coach-athlete relationship is a privileged one and plays a critical role in the personal, sport, and athletic development of the athlete and must not abuse this relationship. Coaches of Netball Ontario will:

- Be a Leader, a positive influence, and a role model.
- Meet all requirements set out by NOA to be a certified coach.
- Reward effort, fair play, and commitment.
- Recognize and respect the differences in all athletes.
- Demonstrate respect for all individuals involved in the game.
- Always consider the physical and emotional wellbeing of the athletes.
- Communicate in a positive and rational manner and use inoffensive language.
- Respect and coach within the spirit of the game.
- Always attempt to contribute to the betterment of the game of netball.

Individuals who are witness to any actions contrary to the Conduct Policy for Coaches should contact Netball Ontario's Disciplinary Chair/Committee.

Conduct Policy for Athletes

Definition

Anyone who participates in the following activities, but not limited to practices, games, and tournaments, is considered an athlete.

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Goal Statement

Any athlete participating in Netball Ontario sanctioned events, athletes will be expected to adhere to Netball Ontario principles of netball's core values of equal opportunity, fair play and respect for an opponent's skill and safety and the Conduct Policy for Athletes.

Actions

Athletes will always model mature behaviour consistent with that of Netball Ontario's guidelines. In addition to the responsibilities of the Code of Conduct, athletes of NOA will:

- Adhere to all fair play principles.
- Participate to one's best abilities in all competitions, practices, training sessions, events, or activities.
- Accurately represent oneself and not attempt to enter a competition for which one is not eligible, by reason of age, eligibility, or other reason.
- Participate for the love and enjoyment of the game.
- Respect the efforts and accomplishments of teammates and opponents.
- Respect umpires, officials, coaches, spectators, and event organizers.
- Respect the facility where the competition is held.
- Respect the rules of the game.

Individuals who are witness to any actions contrary to the Conduct Policy for Athletes should contact Netball Ontario's Disciplinary Chair/Committee.

Conduct Policy for Spectators

Definition

Anyone watching a particular athletic activity or event whether sitting or standing is considered a spectator. A spectator may be a parent, a relative, friend, teammate, athlete from the opposing team, administrator or coach not directly involved in the game. Spectators are an important part of any athletic activity; however, they are not essential. Spectators should never influence the outcome of an event and must never pose a distraction to athletes, other spectators, timekeepers, scorekeepers and umpires.

Goal Statement

Any spectator watching an NOA sanctioned event will be expected to respect and adhere to the Conduct Policy for Spectators.

Actions

In addition to the responsibilities of this NOA Code of Conduct, spectators of athletes and spectators at events will:

- Support the game of netball.
- Encourage athletes to play by the rules and resolve conflicts without resorting to hostility or violence
- Stress the importance of participation.
- Avoid spectator-imposed pressures to win.
- Be supportive of the athlete, team, coach, opponents, and officials.
- Respect the decisions and judgments of umpires and officials and encourage athletes to do the same.
- Maintain a supportive, constructive atmosphere conducive to the athletes' personal development.

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- Refrain from negative communications with athletes, coaches, the scorekeepers' table, or umpires.
- At no time should spectators go on to the netball court or approach the team bench area. This includes the time when teams enter for warm up until the time when teams leave the court at the end of the game.

Individuals who are witness to any actions contrary to the Conduct Policy for Spectators should contact Netball Ontario's Disciplinary Chair/Committee.

Conduct Policy for Umpires & Officials

Definition

Umpires and Officials of Netball Ontario events are participants in enriching the experience of athletes and coaches competing in the game. As such, it is expected they shall exercise an elevated level of self-discipline, independence, and responsibility.

Goal Statement

The purpose of this Code of Conduct is to establish guidelines for standards of conduct for umpires and officials who are officiating NOA events.

Actions

In addition to the responsibilities of this Netball Ontario Code of Conduct, umpires and officials will:

- Be fully aware of both the rules of the game and the procedures necessary to enforce the rules, and shall exercise authority in an impartial, firm, and controlled manner.
- Work with the other umpire and other officials in a constructive and cooperative manner.
- Uphold the dignity of the profession in all interactions with athletes, coaches, team managers, scorekeepers, timekeepers, conveners, tournament personnel and spectators.
- Be punctual and professional.
- Conduct all events according to the rules of Netball Ontario.

Individuals who are witness to any actions contrary to the Conduct Policy for Umpires and Officials should contact Netball Ontario's Disciplinary Chair/Committee.

Note. Please visit Netball Ontario's website for all policies and procedures including World Netball's website for the Rules of Netball.

LAST AMENDMENTS TO: Code of Conduct: Clubs, Coaches, Athletes, Spectators, Umpires and Officials

June 2023