



BADMINTON SCOTLAND - MEMBERS' CODE OF CONDUCT

1. Purpose

Badminton Scotland is committed to providing a safe, welcoming, inclusive and positive environment in which everyone can enjoy badminton, develop their skills and achieve their potential.

This Code of Conduct sets out the standards of behaviour expected of everyone involved in badminton in Scotland.

It applies to all Badminton Scotland members and, where relevant, to anyone representing or participating in activities organised, sanctioned or supported by Badminton Scotland.

This Code compliments, but does not replace, Badminton Scotland's policies, procedures, regulations and competition rules, all of which can be accessed on the [Badminton Scotland website](#).

2. Our principles

Everyone involved in badminton should:

- Put safety, wellbeing and enjoyment at the heart of participation.
- Treat everyone with respect, dignity, fairness and courtesy.
- Promote an environment that is inclusive and free from discrimination, bullying, harassment and abuse.
- Demonstrate good sporting spirit and respect the rules of badminton.
- Take responsibility for their own behaviour and its impact on others.
- Act honestly, fairly and with integrity.

- Respect the rights, views and individuality of others.
- Raise concerns when behaviour is unsafe, inappropriate or inconsistent with this Code.
- Be a positive role model.

3. Expected standards of behaviour

As a member of Badminton Scotland, I will:

Respect others

- Treat players, parents/guardians, staff, coaches, officials, volunteers, opponents, spectators and other members respectfully.
- Respect differences in age, gender, disability, race, culture, background, sexual orientation, identity or ability.
- Listen to others and communicate appropriately.
- Accept that people may have different views, abilities and experiences.

Demonstrate good sporting spirit

- Play fairly and honestly.
- Follow the rules of Badminton, particularly during competitions and events.
- Respect the decisions of officials and accept decisions appropriately.
- Congratulate opponents and acknowledge good performance.
- Be gracious in both victory and defeat.
- Never deliberately seek to gain an unfair advantage.
- Never encourage or tolerate cheating, intimidation or sporting spirit that undermines the integrity of the sport.

Behave appropriately

- Use appropriate language and behaviour at all times.
- Never threaten, intimidate, humiliate or deliberately provoke another person.
- Never engage in violence or aggressive behaviour.
- Never engage in bullying, harassment, discrimination or victimisation.
- Never tolerate inappropriate behaviour simply because it is described as “banter”, part of competition or part of sporting culture.

Take responsibility

- Arrive on time and be prepared for training, competition and other activities.
- Take reasonable care of facilities, equipment and property.
- Follow reasonable instructions from coaches, staff, officials, club officials and event organisers.
- Cooperate with those responsible for delivering badminton activities.
- Take responsibility for maintaining appropriate personal standards of behaviour, including away from the court when representing Badminton Scotland or attending badminton-related activities.

4. Safeguarding children and young people

Badminton Scotland is committed to safeguarding the welfare of children and young people and recognises that everyone involved in badminton has a responsibility to help keep children safe.

When working or playing with, or around, children and young people, I will:

- Put the child's wellbeing, safety and enjoyment first.
- Treat children and young people with dignity and respect.
- Listen to children and young people and take their views seriously.
- Maintain appropriate professional boundaries.
- Never engage in behaviour that could harm, exploit, intimidate, manipulate or distress a child or young person.
- Never engage in inappropriate physical, emotional or sexual contact.
- Never engage in an inappropriate relationship with a child or young person.
- Follow Badminton Scotland's Policies and Procedures with regards to Child Wellbeing and Protection, all of which are documented on the [Badminton Scotland website](#).
- Report concerns about the wellbeing or protection of a child or young person in accordance with Badminton Scotland's safeguarding procedures.

I understand that a concern should never be ignored simply because the behaviour did not occur during badminton or because the person involved is not directly responsible for the child.

5. Safeguarding adults

Everyone involved in badminton has a responsibility to promote the safety, dignity and wellbeing of vulnerable adults or those who may be at risk of harm.

I will:

- Treat adults with dignity, respect and fairness.
- Avoid inappropriate or exploitative relationships.
- Maintain appropriate boundaries where a position of trust exists.
- Follow Badminton Scotland's safeguarding and wellbeing procedures as documented on the [Badminton Scotland website](#).
- Report concerns about abuse, neglect, exploitation or inappropriate conduct in accordance with Badminton Scotland's Safeguarding Procedures.

6. Bullying, harassment and discrimination

Badminton Scotland will not tolerate bullying, harassment, discrimination or victimisation.

I will not bully, harass, discriminate against or victimise any person.

I understand that this includes behaviour:

- In person or online.
- During training or competitions.
- At clubs, tournaments, camps or events.
- While travelling or staying away with teams.
- Through social media, messaging services or other digital platforms.

Examples include:

- Offensive, insulting, threatening or abusive language.

OFFICIAL SENSITIVE (WHEN COMPLETE)

- Repeated criticism or humiliation.
- Deliberate exclusion or isolation.
- Sexual harassment or inappropriate sexual comments.
- Discriminatory comments or behaviour.
- Racist, homophobic, sexist or disability-related abuse.
- Cyberbullying.
- Sharing offensive, humiliating or inappropriate images or information about another person.

I understand the fact that conduct is intended as a joke or “banter” does not make it acceptable if it causes, or could reasonably cause, harm, distress, humiliation or intimidation.

7. Communication and social media

Members are responsible for what they communicate, publish or share.

I will:

- Communicate respectfully and appropriately.
- Consider the potential impact of comments before posting or sharing them.
- Respect the privacy and confidentiality of others.
- Never use social media to threaten, bully, harass, humiliate or discriminate against another person.
- Never publish or share inappropriate photographs, videos or information about children or other participants.
- Follow Badminton Scotland's Policies and Procedures as documented on the [Badminton Scotland website](#).

8. Anti-doping, integrity and prohibited substances

I will:

- Comply with applicable anti-doping rules and requirements.
- Never use, possess, supply or encourage the use of prohibited substances or methods in breach of applicable rules.
- Never assist another person to breach anti-doping rules.
- Cooperate honestly with legitimate anti-doping processes.

- Comply with Badminton Scotland, Badminton Europe, Badminton World Federation and other applicable competition regulations.

9. Confidentiality and personal information

Members must respect confidential information obtained through their involvement in badminton.

I will not:

- Shared confidential information unnecessarily.
- Use confidential information for personal advantage.
- Publish confidential information on social media.
- Discuss confidential information inappropriately with others.

I understand that safeguarding concerns must, however, be reported through the appropriate channels.

I understand that confidentiality must never be used as a reason for failing to report a concern about someone's safety or wellbeing.

10. Raising concerns

Everyone involved in badminton has a responsibility to speak up when they see or experience behaviour that may place someone at risk or breaches this Code.

Concerns should be raised through the appropriate Badminton Scotland or Club procedure which can be viewed on the [Badminton Scotland website](#).

I will:

- Act promptly.
- Take concerns seriously.
- Avoid investigating matters myself unless specifically authorised to do so.
- Record and report relevant information appropriately.
- Cooperate with any subsequent investigation.

If someone is at immediate risk of harm, I understand that the appropriate emergency or statutory services should be contacted without delay.

11. Breaches of the Code

A breach of this Code may result in action under the relevant Badminton Scotland or Club disciplinary, complaints or safeguarding procedures which can be accessed on the [Badminton Scotland website](#).

Depending on the circumstances, I understand that action may include:

- Informal advice or a verbal warning.
- A formal warning.
- Required education, training or behaviour improvement.
- Mediation where appropriate.
- Restrictions on participation or particular activities.
- Suspension.
- Removal from a role.
- Termination of membership or affiliation.
- Referral to another organisation or statutory authority.
- Referral in accordance with applicable PVG or safeguarding procedures.
- Any other action permitted under Badminton Scotland's rules and procedures.

I understand that serious concerns may be dealt with immediately under safeguarding, disciplinary or other appropriate procedures.

12. Fair and proportionate process

Any action taken under this Code should be:

- Fair.
- Proportionate.
- Consistent.
- Evidence-based.
- Appropriate to the seriousness and circumstances of the matter.

I understand that safeguarding concerns will always be dealt with in accordance with Badminton Scotland's safeguarding procedures and applicable law.

13. Relationship with other Badminton Scotland policies

This Code compliments, but does not replace, Badminton Scotland's policies, regulations or procedures, all of which can be accessed on the [Badminton Scotland website](#).

Members must ensure they are fully conversant, and comply with all relevant Badminton Scotland policies and procedures, all of which can be accessed on the [Badminton Scotland website](#).

Where a specific policy, procedure or regulation imposes a higher or more detailed standard than those stipulated in this Code of Conduct, I understand that that requirement will apply.

14. Member commitment

By becoming or remaining a member of Badminton Scotland, I agree to:

- Play fair.
- Show respect.
- Keep people safe.
- Include others.
- Take responsibility for my behaviour.
- Speak up when something is not right.
- Represent badminton positively.
- Familiarise myself, and comply with, all relevant Badminton Scotland's policies and procedures as detailed on the [Badminton Scotland website](#).

I understand that failure to comply with this Code may result in further action.

MEMBER DECLARATION

I confirm that I have read and understood the Badminton Scotland Members' Code of Conduct and associated policies and procedures and agree to abide by them.

Name: _____

Signature: _____

Club / Organisation: _____

Date: _____

Membership number (if applicable): _____