



Australian Fencing Federation CODE OF CONDUCT

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1. Introduction

- 1.1. The AFF is committed to making Fencing a safe and fair place for all participants. To achieve this, the AFF has adopted the National Integrity Framework.
- 1.2. The National Integrity Framework is designed to assist with creating a safe and fair sporting environment for all by setting out the rules about the types of behaviour that are unacceptable in Fencing. This Code of Conduct is a policy that supplements the National Integrity Framework.
- 1.3. This Code of Conduct aims to ensure that everyone involved in Fencing is aware of the standards of behaviour expected of them and the mechanism for dealing with any conduct that is alleged to breach the Code of Conduct.
- 1.4. This Code of Conduct:
 - (a) prescribes Prohibited Conduct; and
 - (b) seeks to guide Relevant Persons and Relevant Organisations on what to do if they experience or witness breaches of the Code of Conduct.

2. Definitions

In this Policy the following words have the corresponding meaning:

Activity means a sporting contest, match, competition, event, meeting, discussion whether in person or online, or activity (including training, camp, lesson, whether online or in-person, tour where it is endorsed by a Relevant Organisation, accreditation process, high performance activity, or any such activity), whether on a one-off basis or as part of a session, series, league, or competition, which is either sanctioned, organised, co-ordinated by, or connected-with a Relevant Organisation.

AFF means the Australian Fencing Federation Limited.

Athlete means a person who is registered, or entitled to participate, in an Activity.

Authorised Provider means any non-Sport Organisation authorised to conduct an Activity.

Club means any club that enters an Athlete or a Team to participate in an Activity.

Code of Conduct means this Code of Conduct.

Contractor means any person or organisation engaged to provide services for or on behalf of a Relevant Organisation, and includes:

- (a) agents, advisers, and subcontractors of a Relevant Organisation; and
- (b) employees, officers, volunteers and agents of a contractor or subcontractor.

Employee means a person employed by a Relevant Organisation.

Fencing means the sport of fencing as governed by AFF and International Fencing Federation from time to time

Member means a member of a Relevant Organisation, including:

- (a) **Member Organisations**, which means each company or incorporated association that is a member of AFF, including each:
 - i. state and territory association (Member State, as defined I the AFF Constitution); and
 - ii. affiliate that is a member of a state and territory Member (Affiliated Member, as defined in the AFF Constitution).;

iii. **Individual Members**, which means individuals who are individuals registered with a Relevant Organisation; and

(b) any other category of membership as recognised by AFF.

National Integrity Framework means the AFF “National Integrity Framework” adopted by a Relevant Organisation from time to time, as developed by Sport Integrity Australia and consisting of the following five policies:

- (a) Safeguarding Children and Young People Policy;
- (b) Competition Manipulation and Sport Gambling Policy;
- (c) Improper Use of Drugs and Medicine Policy;
- (d) Member Protection Policy; and
- (e) Complaints, Disputes and Discipline Policy (the CDDP).

Participant means:

- (a) Athletes;
- (b) coaches appointed to train an Athlete or Team in an Activity;
- (c) administrators who have a role in the administration, operation or Activity of a Relevant Organisation, including owners, directors, committee members or other persons;
- (d) officials including referees, umpires, technical officials, or other officials appointed by a Relevant Organisation or any league, competition, series, club or team sanctioned by a Relevant Organisation;
- (e) support personnel who are appointed in a professional or voluntary capacity by a Relevant Organisation or any league, competition, series, Club or Team sanctioned by a Relevant Organisation including sports science sport medicine personnel, team managers, agents, selectors, and team staff members; and
- (f) spectators and observers at an Activity and/or who are subject to registration conditions or venue conditions of entry that requires compliance with this Code of Conduct; and
- (g) Parents of Athletes.

Prohibited Conduct means the conduct proscribed at clause 5.1 of this Code of Conduct.

Relevant Organisation means any of the following organisations:

- (a) AFF;
- (b) Member Organisations; or
- (c) any other organisation that has agreed to be bound by this Code of Conduct.

Relevant Person means any of the following persons:

- (a) Individual Member;
- (b) Participant;
- (c) Employee;

- (d) Contractor;
- (e) Volunteer; or
- (f) any other person who has agreed to be bound by this Code of Conduct.

Team means a collection or squad of Athletes, registered with a Relevant Organisation or entitled to participate in an Activity.

Volunteer means any person engaged by a Relevant Organisation in any capacity who is not otherwise an Employee or Contractor, including directors and office holders, coaches, officials, administrators and team and support personnel.

3. Jurisdiction

3.1. To whom the Code of Conduct applies

The Code of Conduct applies to:

- (a) Relevant Persons; and
- (b) Relevant Organisations.

3.2. When the Code of Conduct applies

- (a) All Relevant Persons and Relevant Organisations to which this Code of Conduct applies must comply with this Code of Conduct (while they are a Relevant Person or Relevant Organisation):
 - (i) in relation to any dealings they have with Relevant Organisations or their staff, contractors and representatives;
 - (ii) wherever there is a recognised Fencing or Relevant Organisation connection, including participation in Activities and on social media where there is such a connection;
 - (iii) when dealing with other Relevant Persons or Relevant Organisations in their capacity as a Relevant Person or Relevant Organisation; and
 - (iv) in relation to their membership or standing as a Relevant Person or Relevant Organisation in general.
- (b) Where there is no direct or indirect link other than the fact that one or more parties are Relevant Persons or Relevant Organisations, interactions (including social media interactions) involving one or more Relevant Persons or Relevant Organisations are not within the scope of this Code of Conduct.
- (c) Where the Relevant Organisation determines, in its absolute discretion, that the alleged Prohibited Conduct would be more appropriately dealt with under a different policy, it may refer the alleged Prohibited Conduct for determination under that other policy.

4. Expected Behaviours

Relevant Persons and Relevant Organisations must:

- (a) act and operate within the rules and spirit of Fencing;
- (b) be ethical, considerate, fair and honest in all dealings with other people and organisations;

- (c) act with honesty, integrity and objectivity and be accountable for their own behaviour and actions;
- (d) maintain appropriate, professional relationships with other Relevant Persons at all times;
- (e) accept and respect the authority of officials and not use offensive language or behaviour, show unnecessary dissension, displeasure or disapproval towards an official, whether on or off the field of play;
- (f) treat all Relevant Organisation representatives and other stakeholders with courtesy, respect, dignity and have proper regard for their rights and obligations;
- (g) act with care and diligence to safeguard the health and safety of themselves, Relevant Organisation representatives and ensure their decisions and actions contribute to a safe environment and provide a safe environment for the conduct of Activities; and
- (h) not engage in conduct that is defined as Prohibited Conduct under a policy of the AFF National Integrity Framework.

Prohibited Conduct under the National Integrity Framework includes, without limitation:

- *abuse, bullying, harassment, sexual misconduct, unlawful discrimination, victimisation or vilification;*
- *child abuse, grooming, misconduct with a child, failure to comply with child safe practices or with relevant obligations under child protection legislation including obligations relating to reporting, recruitment/screening and working with children checks;*
- *improper manipulation of the result or course of a Sport activity or betting on a Sport activity;*
- *inappropriate disclosure of inside information for the purposes of competition manipulation;*
- *use, possession or trafficking of illegal drugs; and*
- *non-compliance with certain requirements relating to medications, injections and supplements.*

Relevant Persons and Relevant Organisations should refer to the National Integrity Framework policies for a full list of Prohibited Conduct captured by the National Integrity Framework and detailed descriptions of such Prohibited Conduct.

- (i) respect and protect confidential information obtained through Activities, whether regarding personal or organisational information;
- (j) not engage in behaviour that is:
 - (i) drunk and disorderly;
 - (ii) public or domestic violence;
 - (iii) continued or unreasonable disruption of Relevant Organisation representatives performing their duties;
 - (iv) brings the sport of Fencing, or the AFF, or its activities into disrepute, or diminishes the AFF's standing in the community, or
 - (v) unlawful or unsafe;
- (k) not undertake any behaviour prohibited by a venue's entry conditions, at, in or around that venue at which an Activity is taking place;
- (l) not behave in a manner that creates a public nuisance and/or disturbance within or around a venue at which an Activity is taking place;

- (m) comply with all reasonable directions of, and accept all decisions of, representatives of Relevant Organisations whilst they are undertaking their duties; and
- (n) not be in the possession or under the influence of an illegal drug, at, in or around a venue at which an Activity is taking place.

5. Prohibited Conduct

5.1. A Relevant Person commits a breach of this Code of Conduct when they:

- (a) do not comply with any of the clauses 4(a) through 4(n) inclusive;
- (b) conduct themselves in any manner, or engage in any activity whether before, during or after an Activity that would impair public confidence in the safe and orderly conduct of the Activity;
- (c) engage in any conduct or activity including, without limitation, making public comment (including verbally, on social media, or any other medium) which:
 - (i) brings a Relevant Organisation, a Relevant Person or Fencing into disrepute; or
 - (ii) is or could be harmful to the interests of a Relevant Organisation or Fencing; or
- (d) make improper use of information acquired by virtue of their position in a Relevant Organisation or in any Team or Athlete selected by a Relevant Organisation or their relationship with a Relevant Organisation to gain, directly or indirectly, an advantage for themselves or for any other person or to cause detriment to a Relevant Organisation.

6. Complaints, Disputes and Discipline Policy

The AFF Complaints, Disputes and Discipline Policy applies to any alleged Prohibited Conduct under this Code of Conduct.