



Athletics Ontario Policy

Section	N/A	Policy No.	O-01
Subject	Ethics and Morality in Sport	Effective	Existing
Authorized by	Board of Directors	Revised	Sept 2016
Related Policies	• •		

1. Purpose/ Definition:

Athletics Ontario (AO) looks to build character and to encourage the development of the virtues of dedication, perseverance, commitment, and self-discipline.

AO recognizes that in athletic competition we must learn from defeat as well as from victory.

Athletics Ontario defines ethical sport as sport in which the conduct of everyone involved fosters a positive, quality sport experience for all participants and that maximizes sport's potential to provide role models and mentors, to teach positive values and life skills, and to foster positive youth development.

Athletics Ontario Values:

1. Fair play and abiding by the rules of the sport is valued; cheating is not valued
2. Sportsmanship and being a positive ambassador for the sport is valued; unruly behaviour is not valued (cheating, swearing, disrespecting officials, coach, athletes, parents, etc.)
3. Following the code of conduct and abstaining from illegal drugs/ substances is valued

2. Policy:

1. **PROGRAMMING** - Through our many programs, we provide the opportunity to impart to our members the moral and social values that we contribute to a healthy and well-integrated society (i.e. Volunteer Program, AO Connect, Coaching Courses, Championships, Provincial Teams, Ambassador Program, etc.).
2. **BEHAVIOUR** - Unethical behaviour in sport will not be condoned by AO. Behaviors that are antithetical to the practice of ethical sport include: cheating, doping, violence, abuse, harassment, racism or other forms of discrimination, and all other disrespectful, injurious behaviors by or towards participants, coaches, officials, trainers and other support personnel, administrators, parents, spectators, and any others who may be involved in the sporting activity.

3. Non Compliance:

Engaging in prohibited conduct will result in significant sanctions being imposed, that may include suspensions and possible expulsion from membership.

4. Procedures (if applicable):

The following outlines the action that Athletics Ontario will take if the abovementioned values are violated:

1. Warning is issued to the member and their affiliate club/ coach
2. If repeated, case will be presented in front of the AO Disciplinary Committee with the following possible outcomes:
 - a. Temporary suspension from sport (i.e. competing, coaching, officiating, etc.)
 - b. Permanent suspension from the sport
 - c. A fine could be issued