



CODE OF CONDUCT – PARENTS AND FAMILY MEMBERS			
Reviewed:	March 21, 2018	Effective:	
Next Review:	March 21, 2021	Approval:	Board of Directors

1. Purpose/ Definition

Purpose

The purpose of this Code of Conduct is to ensure all individuals are aware of the appropriate and expected behaviour at all Athletics Ontario activities, events and programs. Athletics Ontario’s goal is to foster a positive and thriving environment for individuals at all times.

Definitions

The following terms have these meanings in this Policy:

- a. “AO” – Athletics Ontario, the provincial governing body of athletes within Ontario.
- b. “Individual” – Any person that is, and not limited to, an athlete, coach, official, member, participant, or spectator.

2. Policy

All parents and family members have a responsibility to enhance the self-esteem and dignity of AO members and other individuals by the following:

- a) Maintain and model good sportsmanship, a positive environment and attitude.
- b) Promote respect, fair treatment, and good sportsmanship with any coach, athlete, or spectator regardless of gender, ancestry, colour, nationality, age, disability, sexual orientation, religion, or economic status.
- c) Utilize the correct processes for protests or disagreements.
- d) Ensure that the rules of the sport are adhered to.
- e) Promote and encourage the sport and participation of all athletes and coaches.
- f) Volunteer your time at AO events when there is a need for it.

All parents and family members shall refrain from any form of harassment which is not limited to physical, mental, or sexual. These types of behavior can include:

- g) Using verbal or physical abuse of any nature towards an individual.
- h) Use of visual material that is degrading, demeaning or offensive to any person or group.
- i) Use of unwelcoming innuendos, comments, taunts, or jokes.
- j) Any unwanted requests, sexual flirtations, advances or invitations.
- k) Participation in the illegal use of drugs or unlicensed alcohol at AO events.
- l) Encroachment into the competition area.
- m) Threats or retaliation towards a group or individual who reports harassment.

3. Compliance

As a family member of a registered Athletics Ontario member, you are expected to abide by all AO’s rules, policies, and procedures.

4. Non-Compliance

Any complaints, disputes and appeals under this policy will be dealt with using one (or a combination) of AO Policies. Any abuse involving a minor will be forwarded immediately to the Police or appropriate authorities.