

Aberaeron Sports Club

Codes of Conduct

1. Committee
2. Coaches
3. Players
4. Parents
5. Supporters
6. Staff and volunteers

Committee and sub-committee members Code of Conduct

Committee members are expected to;

- Act at all times within the Constitution of the club
- Act fairly and honestly in all matters and consider what is best for the club and all members, not just for themselves
- Not seek personal gain or favour when acting as an agent for the club, nor seek benefit of any kind
- Disclose to the Committee members before or during any matter being discussed where they may have personal, professional, institutional or family interests or loyalties which may rise to a conflict of interest
- Maintain confidentiality on any matter discussed at Committee meetings or at Committee level considered by the Chairperson to be of a sensitive or delicate nature and not to be disseminated
- Involve or seek members support in the planning, leadership, evaluation and decision making regarding all major issues relating to the club and its activities
- Ensure that equal opportunities for participation in tennis are made available to all members regardless of ability, size, shape, gender, age, disability or ethnic origin
- Ensure that club facilities and all equipment are/is safe and appropriate
- Ensure that adequate supervision is provided to young players by qualified and competent coaches capable of developing appropriate sports behaviour and skills
- Assist in the creation of an environment where every individual member has the opportunity to participate in and enjoy playing tennis
- Recognise the right of all members to be treated as individuals

Coaches Code of Conduct

Coaches are expected to;

- Maintain association with their governing body through annual registration and licensing
- Continue personal and professional growth, remaining current on new developments in the field through continuing education
- Use their knowledge and professional expertise for the benefit of the people they serve
- Respect the integrity, rights to confidentiality and protect the welfare of people they are working with
- Avoid discrimination in all its forms
- Read and implement good practice as laid down in the club's Child Protection Policy. All persons working with or in contact with children and/or vulnerable adults will be subject to this policy

- Create an environment free of fear and harassment
- Recognise the right of all players to be treated as individuals
- Be aware of academic pressures placed on students and be flexible in conduct of training sessions and matches
- Demonstrate proper personal behaviour and conduct at all times
- Be fair, honest and considerate to players and others in the sports
- Make a commitment to provide a quality service
- Provide a safe environment that maximises benefits and minimises risks to players in achieving their goals
- Ensure that all activities are suitable for the age, experience and ability of the players
- Not tolerate the use of performance-enhancing drugs
- Educate players as to their responsibilities in contributing to a safe environment, and to do their best to ensure that all facilities and equipment meet safety standards
- Consider the player's future health and well being
- Plan to be present at all practices and competitions and, when unable to attend, organize knowledgeable and safe supervision
- Contribute to the development of coaching as a profession by exchanging knowledge and ideas with others
- Regularly seek ways of increasing professional development and self-awareness
- Develop a relationship with players based on openness, honesty, mutual trust and respect
- Maintain all relationships within the club on a professional and confidential basis
- Not engage in behaviour that constitutes any form of abuse or harassment
- Take action if there is a concern about another's behaviour towards a child or vulnerable adult by reporting any suspected cases of abuse according to the club's safeguarding policy
- Direct comments or criticism relative to the performance, not the player
- Strive to develop in their students a respect for the ability of opponents
- Encourage players to accept responsibility for their own behaviour and performance in training, participation and competition
- Observe the rules of the game and encourage athletes to adhere to the spirit of the rules

Players Code of Conduct

Players are expected to;

- Be a good sport and acknowledge all good play by their partner or opponent/s
- Play by the rules and be fair in all decisions
- Never argue with a partner or opponent
- Treat all players as they would like to be treated themselves. They must not ridicule, interfere with, bully or take unfair advantage of another player
- Never deliberately manipulate a situation or draw to avoid playing with players they consider inferior
- Accept whoever they are paired with or against in games, be tolerant and understanding and never show aversion to playing with someone considered inferior
- Never display bad sportsmanship or act in a petulant manner when losing
- Control their temper. Verbal abuse, offensive language or deliberately distracting or provoking an opponent is not acceptable behaviour
- Co-operate with coaches, partners and opponents
- Not use derogatory language based on gender, race or impairment
- Be a fair winner and good loser

Club Team Member's Code of Conduct

The code advises players on the correct conduct expected of them when they are representing the club at matches or tournaments. It includes general behaviour guidelines, specific advice to players and any accompanying staff/supporters. It must be remembered that representing the club at matches or at tournaments is a privilege. Any member so entrusted, in whatever capacity, is seen as an ambassador for the club and their behaviour must be beyond reproach at all times.

Playing for and representing the club in matches or at tournaments can place a certain amount of stress on players anxious about their impending performance or the match result. However, this should not be an excuse for bad manners or an unfriendly attitude towards their opponents.

Players are expected to;

- Dress appropriately both on and off court respecting any dress rules laid down in the league rules, their own club, or by the club they are visiting
- Always be punctual for matches
- Remain polite, cheerful and tolerant towards their opponents
- Contribute productively to the club's image.
- Behave in a reasonable and sensible manner, on and off court
- Act in a sporting manner and show respect for their opponents
- Take pride in their appearance
- Show respect and care for the equipment and facilities
- Know the rules of the game and apply them fairly

Players must not;

- Behave aggressively towards anyone e.g. opponents or officials
- Over-react in self-congratulation
- Applaud mistakes by opponents
- Query decisions by opponents in an antagonistic or hostile manner
- Display bad sportsmanship or act in a surly or petulant manner if things are not going their way

In addition to fulfilling the normal responsibilities of a player, the captain is expected to set a higher standard and act as an example for other team members to follow.

Parents Code of Conduct

Junior Programme Parents/supporters should;

- Encourage children to participate if they are interested. If they are not, don't force them
- Focus on playing the game, reducing the emphasis on winning
- Teach children that an honest effort is as important as success or victory, so that the result of each coaching session or game is accepted without undue disappointment
- Encourage children to always play by the rules
- Do not criticise children in front of others, but reserve constructive criticism for more private moments
- Remember children are involved in sport for their enjoyment, not yours.
- Remember a child learns best by example
- Applaud good play by all players
- Accept decisions of all officials or players as being fair and called to the best of their ability
- Do not raise issues of disagreement publicly.

- Do not criticise coaches, players or other parents/supporters by word or gesture
- Set a good example by their own conduct, behaviour and appearance
- Support all efforts to remove verbal and physical abuse from sporting activities
- Never use of derogatory language based on gender, race or impairment

Spectators Code of Conduct

Spectators should;

- Never ridicule or scold a player for making a mistake during matches
- Applaud good performances from each player
- Congratulate all players regardless of the outcome
- Condemn the use of bad language or violence in any form, be it by spectators, coaches or players
- Show respect for all players and their opponents
- Encourage players to obey the rules and make fair decisions
- Demonstrate appropriate social behaviour by not using foul language, harassing players, coaches or club officials
- Not use derogatory language based on gender, race or impairment

Staff and volunteers Code of Conduct

- Understand and abide by club policies
- Use the other codes above if acting in any capacity such as coaching assistant or spectator
- Use appropriate forms of dress
- Avoid the use of any language or action that could be considered offensive or discriminatory
- Conduct themselves in their role with integrity