

HUNTINGDONSHIRE ATHLETICS CLUB

Code of conduct for athletes and parents

As a responsible athlete you will:

1. Treat others with the same respect and fairness that you wish to receive. Show patience with, and respect diversity in others
2. Anticipate your own needs, be organised and on time.
3. Thank those who help you participate in athletics (team managers, match officials, coaches, etc). They give up their own time, for you, free of charge.
4. Inform your coach of any other coaching you are receiving.
5. In training sessions, be prepared to do the whole session to the best of your ability. Pay attention to the coach and the advice they give.
6. Act with dignity at all times. Avoid destructive behaviour and leave athletics venues as you find them. Never engage in any illegal or irresponsible behaviour.
7. If you are a young athlete, notify a responsible adult if you have to go somewhere and say why and where you are going and when you will be back.
8. Not respond if someone seeks personal information that is unrelated to athletics e.g. home life.
9. Strictly maintain a clear boundary between friendship and intimacy with a coach, official or other person with whom you work in athletics.
10. If you are a young athlete, never accept lifts in cars or invitations into homes on your own or without the prior knowledge and consent of your parent/carer. Always use safe transport or travel arrangements.
11. Do not leave the training area until your parent/carer collects you – do not go to the car-park or outside the venue to wait for your lift.
12. Speak out immediately if anything makes you concerned or uncomfortable or if you suspect a club mate has suffered from misconduct by someone else (telling your parents/carers and or the Club Welfare Officer).

As a responsible parent/person with parental responsibility you will:

1. Check out the people who are coaching or managing your child, but show them respect for the voluntary work that they do.
2. Not place your child under undue pressure to perform, participate or compete.
3. Assume responsibility for the safe transport of your children to and from events and training activities. This may involve the use of club transport, but ensure that your child is accompanied by an adult who has agreed to take responsibility for their safety and welfare.
4. Take an active interest in your child's participation. Attend training sessions and competitions whenever possible.
5. Ensure that your child does not take unnecessary valuable items to training or competition.
6. Know exactly where your child will be at all times and who they are with. Never make assumptions about your child's safety.
7. Ensure that the club has details of any health and medical requirements for your child, and that their coach and team managers are aware of any illness or disability that needs to be taken into consideration for athletic performance. Provide any necessary medication that your child needs for the duration of any trips.
8. Report any concerns you have about your child's welfare/treatment to the club welfare officer (this does not affect your rights to notify the social services department or police if you feel a crime has been committed).
9. Arrive on time at any agreed pick-up point, to collect your child from training or competition. Collect your child in person from the track or competition – for reasons of safety children are not allowed into the car park alone – please don't just wait in your car. If you are late to collect your child it means that the coach or team manager has to wait with them, and may then be late for a personal appointment.