

Codes of Conduct – Players & Parents



Players Code of Conduct

The Players Code of Conduct applies to all individuals participating in badminton as a player at every level. If the code is breached and reported, all complaints and allegations will be acted upon according to the Badminton England Disciplinary Regulations and/or Child Protection Disciplinary Procedures (or relevant regulations for non-residents).

Players will

- Show respect for and treat everyone equally regardless of age, ability, gender, race, religion, ethnic origin, social status or sexual orientation. Everyone has the right to be protected from abuse
- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of every person within the context of badminton
- Play within the laws of the game and respect all officials and their decisions
- Accept the referees decision without question or complaint (let your captain or coach ask the necessary questions)
- Help injured players and opponents
- Take personal responsibility to ensure that you are suitably insured for their activities
- Wear appropriate clothing for playing badminton during training and competition
- Applaud good performance and efforts from all individuals and teams
- Congratulate all participants on their performance regardless of the game's outcome
- Keep to agreed times for training and competitions, and inform the appropriate person if you need to withdraw or cannot avoid being late

Players will NOT

- Smoke
- Consume alcohol or illegal substances
- Use any language /gestures that may cause offence to anyone on the grounds of their age, ability, sex, disability, race, background, gender status or sexual orientation, or otherwise contravene the Badminton England Equality Policy
- Condone behaviour that contravenes the Badminton England Codes of Conduct, Safeguarding Policy or other prohibited practice
- Use illegal or dangerous tactics
- Ridicule or shout at other players for making a mistake or losing a game
- Use social or any other electronic media to publicly criticise any other player or official involved in the game of badminton or otherwise bring the sport into disrepute through inappropriate communications

Parents/Carers Code of Conduct

The Parents Code of Conduct applies to all parents/carers at any badminton match/tournament or training session at every level of the game. If the code is breached and reported, all complaints and allegations will be acted upon according to the Badminton England Disciplinary Regulations or Child Protection Disciplinary Procedures

Parents will:

- Focus on the child's efforts and enjoyment rather than winning or losing
- Provide positive verbal feedback in both training and matches
- Encourage players to participate within the rules and regulations of the game
- Applaud good performance and efforts from all individuals and teams
- Congratulate all participants on their performance regardless of the game's outcome
- Leave the coach to communicate with individual players on court
- Respect the decisions of officials and teach children to do the same
- Respect umpires, officials, coaches, players and spectators
- Inform the team coach or manager of any injury, health or welfare issue that you feel it is appropriate for them to know
- Ensure that your child/children arrive and are collected promptly for training and competitions
- Remember that children participate in sport for their enjoyment, not yours
- Treat everyone equally and fairly regardless of age, ability, gender, race, religion, ethnic origin, social status or sexual orientation. Everyone has the right to be protected from abuse
- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of every person within the context of badminton
- Report any concerns you may have in relation to a young person, follow reporting procedures laid down by Badminton England
- Challenge and/or report discriminatory behaviour, or behaviour that contravenes Badminton England Codes of Conduct

Parents will NOT

- Force your child/children to participate in badminton
- Ridicule or shout at your child/children or other players for making a mistake or losing a game
- Question publicly the referee, coach, official or players' decisions within a game, match or training situation
- Use any language /gestures that may cause offence to anyone on the grounds of their age, ability, sex, disability, race, background, gender status or sexual orientation or otherwise contravene the Badminton England Equality Policy
- Condone behaviour that contravenes the Badminton England codes of conduct/prohibited practice
- Give young people alcohol, cigarettes or drugs when they are under the care of the Region/County or Club
- Use social or any other electronic media to publicly criticise any other player or official involved in the game of badminton or otherwise bring the sport into disrepute through inappropriate communications.

Parental Effect on Players

Positive parental involvement can increase your child's enjoyment of sport. Most children want you to watch and support them and some say it can improve their performance. They want you to be there but not distracting when competing.

Getting the balance right in supporting your child can be difficult. You want to give them every chance, but this can put additional pressure on a young person and you can all become over concerned with winning. Research below from the Child Protection in Sport Unit and the Chance to Shine Sports Charity demonstrates how this happens, some effects and examples of how to better support your child:

- Children as young as eight are being put off sport by the behaviour of their parents.
- Coaching from the sidelines place additional pressure on your child.
 - You may be the coach when they are younger, but let this go once they have a sports specific coach. This allows them to be more focused on working towards set goals.
 - You may be giving conflicting messages to what they are receiving from their coach.
 - Players need to develop skills to adapt themselves. Encourage your child to develop their own self-awareness of skills they have gained. This enhances self-confidence and teaches the transfer of skills.
- Putting too much pressure on and emphasis on the importance of winning and success:
 - 67 percent of parents think their children feel under pressure to win when playing sport whilst a higher proportion of children (77 percent) admitted to feeling under pressure to win.
 - 90% of children admit their teammates feel under pressure to win whilst playing sport. 75% believe that their teammates would cheat if they could get away with it.
 - If you become more frustrated with them for losing a badminton match than you would for failing a math or English test, they will get the message that you're more interested in success on the badminton court than in the classroom. Importance of Academics.
 - Perfectionism. Assure your child that you love them in spite of the outcome of their game.
 - According to the research, when children were asked about the importance of winning: *'Well winning, it makes you feel good but if you lose you just try better next time. It's not like you're really, really disappointed or anything.'*
 - Focus recognition on the effort and not just the achievement
 - Provide emotional and tangible support. Make sure you listen to your child, and how they want you to support them.
 - Do not get over involved: Be aware not to over-inflate their ego, or mollycoddle.
- Worryingly, almost half of parents and players have seen parents abusing the coach or referee. Twenty-one per cent of children also said that they have seen parents abusing another child or children to benefit their own child.

Please follow the Parents/Code of Conduct to help you walk this tightrope and ensure that your child's badminton experience is a positive one.

If you see anything at this event that you feel contravenes this Code of Conduct and advice then please bring it to the attention of the tournament organiser immediately.

NB: Research and advice is taken from the Child Protection in Sport Unit and the Chance to Shine Sports Charity. For further advice on this and other ways to positively support your children in sport, please see <https://the cpsu.org.uk> or www.chancetoshine.org.