

VALE ROYAL ATHLETIC CLUB

Code of Conduct for Coaches, Club Officials and Volunteers

1. All personnel working with members must at all times respect basic human rights and operate without discrimination on grounds of gender, race, colour, language, religion, political or any other option.
2. All personnel working with members must ensure there is a balance between the development of performance and the social, emotional, intellectual and physical needs of the individual.
3. All personnel working with members must be responsible for the setting of boundaries between working relationships and friendships with their athletes. This is particularly important when working with young athletes.
4. All coaches must have or be working towards a recognised uk:athletics coaching qualification.
5. All coaches should encourage a spirit of fair play and good sportsmanship. Preparation of athletes for success and failure is vital.
6. All personnel working with members must recognise that they may have access to confidential information about their athletes and members and that confidentiality must be maintained at all times.
7. Coaches must not exert undue influence over their athletes in order to gain personal benefit or reward.
8. Coaches are responsible for the general safety of all athletes in their care. Equipment and conditions within the working environment should be checked in accordance with usage guidelines.
9. All personnel working with members must consistently display high standards of behaviour and appearance.
10. Personnel working with members must not leave themselves open to question especially when working with younger athletes by:
 - Staying in a room with an athlete
 - Excessive handling or touching beyond the needs of good coaching of the athlete within their care
 - Regularly transporting athletes on his/her own
 - Taking an athlete to your home or other premisesUnsupervised

11. The Club will nominate at least one Club Welfare Officer whose name will be published on the Club website together with this code of conduct for members and parents reference. The Club will ensure these officers have access to any required training programme.
12. All coaches and club officials must be members of the club and sign to acknowledge their acceptance of this policy.
13. All coaches and club officials who work with young athletes must submit their names for a police check. All coaches working with young athletes must attend a recognised `child protection/welfare course`.
14. Visitor coaches must apply to the Management Committee for permission to coach on club training nights.
15. All allegations concerning misconduct by a member must be reported to the Club Welfare Officer who will invoke the club`s disciplinary procedure. The member may pending investigation be suspended from all club activities without prejudice.