

North West Essex School Games - Fair Play Code

We ask all schools and event staff that participate in any school sports festival, competition, meeting or league to abide with this code

We would expect schools to share this with any teacher, pupil, parent and coach connected with their school. Please ensure all parents are aware of the code and that all event staff will apply the code at all future events.

This Fair Play Code has been produced by the Partnership, taking advice from major National Governing Bodies of Sport including the RFU and The FA.

The Good Players Code:

- Play for the fun of it, not to please your parents, teacher or coach
- Be attentive at all training sessions
- Be a good sportsman, applaud good play by all players including your opponents
- Play to the laws and accept, without question, all referee's decisions
- Be a sportsman, win or lose
- Work equally hard for yourself and the team, both will benefit
- Remember that skills development, fun and enjoyment are the most important parts of the game
- Control your emotions. Verbal or physical abuse of team-mates, opponents or match officials is not acceptable
- Treat all players as you would like to be treated. Do not interfere with, bully or take advantage of any player

The Good Parents & Spectators Code:

- Remember young people play for their own enjoyment not that of their parents
- Encourage young people to play – do not force them
- Focus on young players' efforts – not winning or losing
- Be realistic about young players' abilities – do not push them towards a level they are not capable of achieving
- Provide positive verbal feedback in training and during a game
- Always support the school in their efforts to eradicate loud, coarse and abusive behaviour from all sport
- Remember that young people learn much by example
- Always show appreciation of good play by all players from your own school and the opposition
- Respect decisions made by the match officials and encourage young players to do likewise
- Respect the event organisers and treat them as you would like to be treated
- Be a positive role model.

The Good Coaches & Teachers Code:

- Recognise the importance of fun and achievement when coaching young players
- Understand that most learning is achieved through doing
- Appreciate the needs of the players before the needs of the sport
- Be a positive role model
- Keep winning and losing in perspective – encourage young players to behave with dignity in all circumstances
- Respect referees and the decisions they make and ensure that the young players recognise that they must do the same
- Provide positive verbal feedback in a constructive and encouraging manner, to all young players, both during coaching sessions and games.
- Understand the rules of the events and ensure your team abides by them at all times

The Good Student Leader/Officials Code

- Recognise the importance of fun and enjoyment when officiating young players.
- Appreciate the needs of the young players before the needs of the sport.
- Be a positive role model. This includes correct kit, no mobile phones, no chewing gum and being punctual. You set an example, and as such, comments that you receive should be positive and supportive.
- Be consistent and objective.
- Provide positive verbal feedback in a constructive and encouraging manner whenever you 'have charge' of young people.

Student Leaders/Officials must:

- Recognise that safety of young players is paramount.
- Explain decisions - all young players are still learning – this may be during or after a match
- Always penalise foul play.
- Show empathy for the age and ability of the young players.
- Ensure that verbal abuse from players, coaches, or spectators is not tolerated and is dealt with by the school staff immediately.
- Be aware of, and abide by, the Child Protection Guidelines policies and procedures

The North West Essex School Games area is introducing this Code of Practice to ensure that all events are well respected, in every way, by all involved and to ensure that the participants (at every level e.g. players, teachers, etc.) positively benefit from the experiences.

As School Games Organiser's we recognise that feedback is important to everyone's development and would ask that evaluation sheets include positive and constructive criticism of not only the event but of the event staff including leaders.

Communication chain – disputes

It is expected that nominated individuals (the team manager) should initially approach the event organiser to resolve issues.

If the dispute relates to a student then the resident PE College staff will be asked to attend and the student taken out of the event for a time.

If the incident cannot be resolved statements should be taken (an incident report sheet is available from the event organiser) and a meeting between the parties will be organised.

To that extent, whilst there is a code of conduct for all involved, we also need to agree on the potential consequences of regularly failing to follow the code.

Potential Consequences of failing to follow the Code of Conduct:

1. The event organiser can remind the person(s)/school(s) involved to follow the code.
2. The event organiser is entitled to warn the person(s)/school(s) that their school can be deducted points for on-going non-following of the code.
3. The event organiser should discuss the behaviour with relevant person(s) from the school and parents if applicable to attempt to reach a solution.
4. The event organiser can warn the person(s)/school(s) for a final time, deduct points and warn that the team(s) may be withdrawn from the event.
5. The event organiser may withdraw a team/school from an event.

If this non-following of the code continues in more than one event, the Partnership has the option to withdraw a school for all of its competitions.

North West Essex School Games will ensure that all staff are aware of the code and to apply common sense in its application, although if necessary, the above will be acted upon.