

# Template for Coaches Code of Conduct.

This template is for use by clubs and coaches and can be adapted.

Ensure coaches read, understand and sign the code.

Items in **Red** are things that the coach must not do.

Items in **Green** are the things the coach must do.

For guidance on how to ensure that any breaches of the code are appropriately and fairly addressed click on the document on the main codes of conduct page “Guidance on how to deal with breaches of codes of conduct.”

## Integrity

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graph TD; Integrity[Integrity] --- C1[Coaches who become aware of a conflict between their obligation to their performers and the organisation must discuss with all parties concerned the nature of the conflict and the loyalties and responsibilities involved so that it can be resolved.]; Integrity --- C2[Coaches must act as a positive role model at all times. The coach has an obligation to project an appropriate image and ensure high standards of personal appearance.]; Integrity --- C3[Coaches must treat performers, parents and officials with due respect and encourage performers to act in a similar manner, including ensuring dignified behaviour in victory and defeat. Respect NGB rules/standards.]; Integrity --- C4[Coaches through the education of their performers must promote a drug free lifestyle. This includes recreational and performance enhancing substances.]; C3 --- C3a[Display high standards in the use of language-manner punctuality and preparation.];
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Display high standards in the use of language-manner punctuality and preparation.

## Abuse of Privilege

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graph TD; A[Abuse of Privilege] --- B[A Coach is privileged to have regular contact with a performer. A coach must not attempt to exert undue influence over the performer in order to obtain personal benefit or reward.]; A --- C[Coaches should never smoke or drink while coaching. Also not drinking alcohol so soon before coaching that it would affect their competence.]; A --- D[Bullying. The damage caused by bullying is frequently underestimated and can and does cause considerable distress and harm. It is important in all settings to promote a policy which is not tolerant of bullying.]; A --- E[Coaches must not engage in behaviour that constitutes any form of abuse (including bullying). Coaches need to be aware of bullying regarding the performance of athletes, either in training or competition.];
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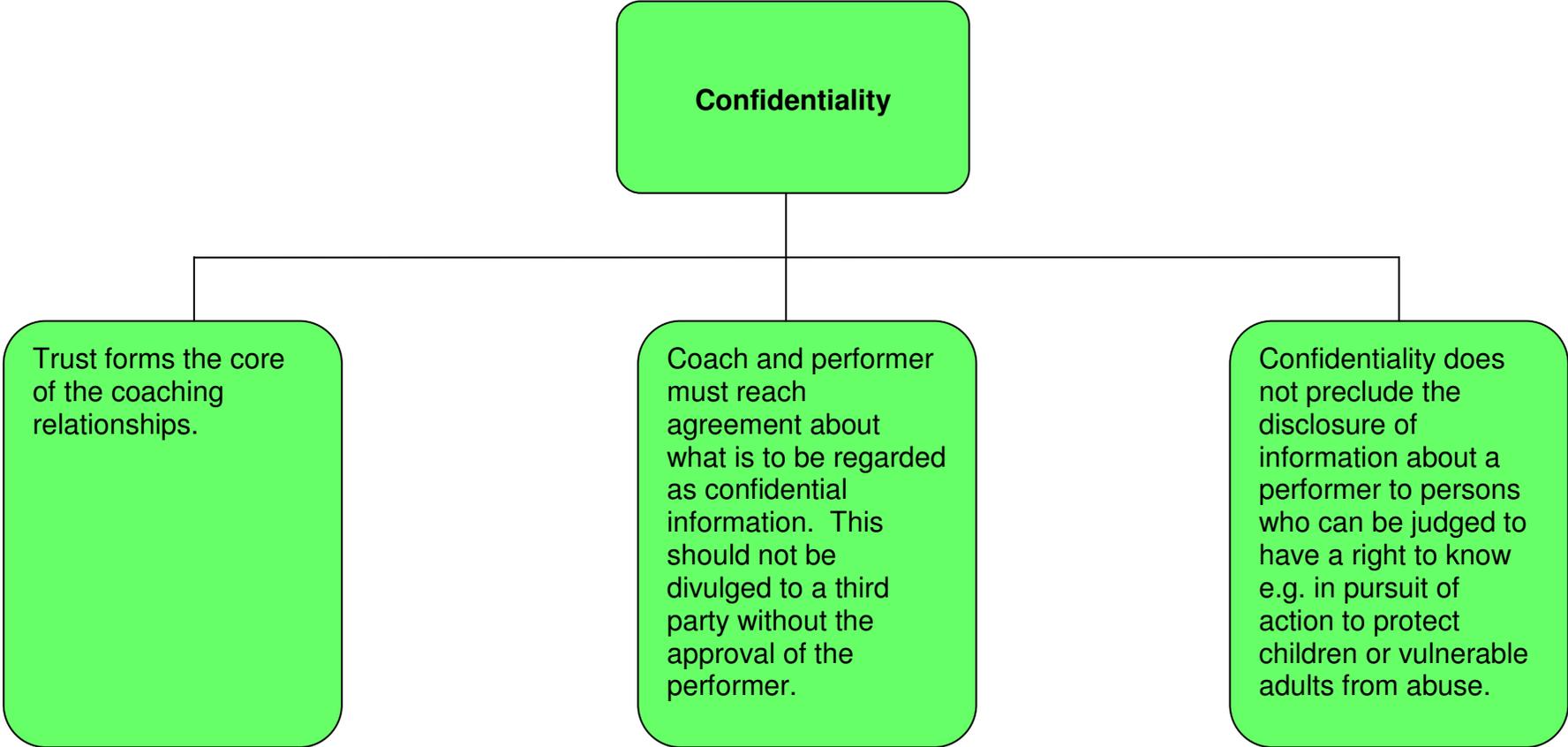
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## Confidentiality



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graph TD; A[Confidentiality] --- B[Trust forms the core of the coaching relationships.]; A --- C[Coach and performer must reach agreement about what is to be regarded as confidential information. This should not be divulged to a third party without the approval of the performer.]; A --- D[Confidentiality does not preclude the disclosure of information about a performer to persons who can be judged to have a right to know e.g. in pursuit of action to protect children or vulnerable adults from abuse.]
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## Relationships

Coaches should be concerned primarily with the well being, safety, protection and future of the individual performer.

Coaches should communicate and co-operate with other sports and allied professionals in the best interest of their performers.

Encourage athlete to take responsibility for their own development and actions.

Coaches either in open or secret, should never persuade, athletes from other teams who are receiving coaching to join their squad.

Not publicly criticise or engage in demeaning description of other coaches.

## Advertising

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graph TD; A[Advertising] --- B[Advertising by coaches in respect of qualifications, training and/or service must be accurate and they must be able to present evidence of qualifications upon request.]; A --- C[Permission to display advertising should be sought from appropriate people. This includes advertising on kit.]; A --- D[Coaches must agree not to make any public statement that is false, under any circumstances examples of such statements include coaches' qualifications or experience and fees they charge.]; B --- E[Coaches must not display any affiliation with an organisation in a manner that falsely implies sponsorship or accreditation by that organisation.]; B --- F[Advertising by coaches in respect of qualifications, training and/or service must be accurate and they must be able to present evidence of qualifications upon request.];
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## Commitment

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graph TD; A[Commitment] --- B[Coaches need to update knowledge of development in their sport on a regular basis.]; A --- C[Engage in self analysis and reflection to identify their professional needs.]; A --- D[Coaches have a responsibility to declare to their employers any other current coaching commitments.]; B --- E[A coach must commit to what they can offer a performer, but not give false promises or commitments.]; C --- F[Coaches have a responsibility to themselves and their performers to maintain their own effectiveness they should recognise when their personal resources are so depleted that help is needed. This may necessitate the withdrawal from coaching temporarily or permanently or seeking support from NGB or other Development Officers.]; D --- G[Coaches should find out if any prospective participant is receiving instruction from another coach. If so with agreement from the participant the other coach should be contacted to ensure the best interests of the participant is maintained.];
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# E Techonology

Coaches making contact with young people by phone text or email should never be undertaken but if absolutely necessary blanket communication rather than individual and only with parental knowledge or consent. Ideally contact should be on a face to face basis.

Coaches should not engage with participants via social networking sites, e.g. facebook myspace, twitter. Coaches should not add athletes/players as friends or contact them through these websites via online messages.

Coaches need to be aware of cyber bullying, which includes posting upsetting or defamatory remarks about an individual online and name calling or harassment using mobile phones or emails to send sexist, homophobic or racist message or attack other kinds of differences such as physical or mental disability, cultural or religious background.

Parental consent must be obtained to take photographs and they must only be used for the purpose of which that consent was given. They must be destroyed within 3 years or if the holder of the images has been notified of a change of circumstances. The holder must therefore provide people with the opportunity to notify them should circumstances change, this also applies to mobile camera phones.

Complying with codes of conduct is a requirement. There are policies and procedures in place to respond to the breaches of the code of conduct.

Signature: .....