

CODES OF CONDUCT

Thanet Athletics Club is committed to safeguarding and promoting the wellbeing of all its members.

As a member of Thanet Athletics Club you are expected to abide by the following codes that apply to you.

Club Member (including Parents) - Code of Conduct

Members should:

- Not to bring the Club into disrepute.
- Be aware of the Club's policy documents and implement whenever possible.
- Recognise and appreciate the efforts made by coaches, volunteers, officials and administrators in providing the opportunity to participate and enjoy the sport of athletics and its activities.
- Be on time for and attentive at all training and coaching sessions.
- Abide by the Club, UK Athletics and England Athletics rules and accept, without question, decisions made by officials.
- Recognise good performance by all participants including that of your opponents.
- Be a good sportsperson- win with dignity, lose with grace.
- Listen to coaches and officials and be aware of the safety of yourself and others.
- Be respectful of other facility users and be aware of their presence.
- Smoking is prohibited at any club activity.

Competitor/Spectator - Code of Conduct

- All entrants must compete within the rules of the sport and respect officials and their decisions.
- Acknowledge good individual and team performance from all participants, irrespective of who they represent, and acknowledge effort rather than 'to win at all costs'.
- Verbally encourage all participants in a positive manner, shouting 'for' not 'at' participants.
- Never verbally abuse participants, coaches, officials or fellow spectators. Such behaviour can create a negative environment for participants and their

behaviour will often reflect this. Act as positive role model, your behaviour also sets the image of the Club.

- Abide by Thanet Athletics Club's Photographic Policy.
- Smoking is prohibited at any club activity.

Coach/Official/Event Organiser/Volunteer - Code of Conduct

- Recognise the importance of fun and enjoyment. Encourage people to participate and emphasise the spirit of the sport.
- Be aware of the Club's policy documents and implement whenever possible.
- Recognise that the safety of participants is paramount, ensuring good supervision of participants/competitors wherever possible.
- When conducting your duties, be a positive role model. If coaching, be consistent, objective, and provide positive verbal feedback in a constructive and encouraging manner.
- Ensure that your knowledge and coaching strategies/competition rules are up to date and in line with those of UKA and England Athletics.
- Recognise that it is illegal for players under 18 to drink alcohol or for those under 16 to smoke. Coaches should actively discourage both.
- Abide by the NGB's rules and accept, without question, decisions made by officials even if they appear to make a mistake.
- Smoking is prohibited at any club activity.

Disciplinary Procedure when Codes are Contravened

A Coach/Official should address any misconduct at the time, and should it be deemed necessary has the right to remove any individual from the activity.

When codes are contravened the matter should be reported via any member of the Club Committee or Coach, to the Secretary who will arrange a meeting to discuss within seven **days** of the incident.

A decision will be made as to the severity of the behaviour and action will be taken at one of the following stages as appropriate:

- Stage 1 - A verbal warning.
- Stage 2 - A written warning and advice regarding future conduct.
- Stage 3 - Final written warning and if appropriate a short-term ban.
- Stage 4 - Notice given to leave the Club and withdrawal of Club membership.

The individual has the right to appeal and this must be submitted in writing within seven **days** of receipt of any decision in writing.

If applicable an individual will be asked for a written apology to any injured/offended party.

Written by James Bridge and Phil Pittock on 19th February 2010

Agreed by Management Committee on 25th February 2010