



IGSSA Code of Conduct – March 2023

Purpose

The Independent Girls Schools Sports Association (IGSSA) Code of Conduct is a framework that outlines the standards of behaviours and ethical conduct expected of all members, providing role-specific principles to guide individual behaviour and decision-making.

Member and affiliate schools must ensure that a current Code of Conduct is in use and easily accessible and understood by all relevant persons.

Scope

The IGSSA Code of Conduct guides players, coaches, officials, parents, and spectators participating in or attending IGSSA sporting competitions. It should be read in conjunction with policies and codes in place at member schools.

Player

- Maintain a high standard of conduct at all times, both on and off field
- Adhere to the principles of fair play and always play by the rules, respecting the traditions of the game and the spirit of competition
- Respect the rights and dignity of every person including teammates, opponents, coaches and officials and never engage in behaviour that abuses, provokes or harasses others
- Respect the decision of coaches and officials and never argue with them
- Respect the ability level of the opposition by not engaging in patronizing or condescending behaviour
- Never engage in inappropriate conduct including the use of offensive language and gestures that are demeaning to others
- Care for the equipment and facilities made available during training and competition
- Always consider the safety and wellbeing of other participants before performance and results

Coach

- Respect the rights and dignity of every person regardless of gender, race, ethnicity or sexual orientation
- Promote a safe and inclusive environment, in which every person is protected and free from discrimination, harassment, and abuse

- Promote the principles of fair play and discourage foul play and/or unsporting behaviour
- Always consider the safety and wellbeing of participants before performance and results
- Maintain respectful and appropriate relationships with every person
- Never engage in inappropriate conduct including the use of offensive language
- Follow the policies, guidelines and competition rules set down by IGSSA
- Report to school authorities all acts of unethical behavior, whether from players, officials, parents or spectators
- Encourage respect for the ability level of opponents, be sensitive and aware of situations that may increase opportunity for patronizing or condescending behaviour, whether intentional or not
- At all times act as a role model for others, displaying high standards of good sporting behaviour, including acceptance of the decisions of referees and umpires.

Official

- Respect the rights and dignity of every person regardless of gender, race, ethnicity or sexual orientation
- Be punctual, dress appropriately and behave in a manner consistent with the responsibility and authority of the position
- Promote a safe and inclusive environment, in which every person is protected and free from discrimination, harassment and abuse
- Always ensure the safety and wellbeing of players above all else
- Be impartial, consistent, and transparent in conduct and decision-making
- Avoid engaging in verbal communication with coaches, officials, parents and spectators during play except in instances of medical emergencies or to call out acts of unethical behaviour; avoid non-essential communication with players during the game and during breaks
- At all times act as a role model for others, displaying high standards of good sporting behaviour
- Never engage in inappropriate conduct including the use of offensive language
- Adhere to the laws of the game, IGSSA competition rules, and the principles of fair play, ensuring that the spirit of competition is respected by all players, coaches and officials

Parents and Spectators

- Encourage players to play by the rules and to show respect to coaches, officials and opponents at all times
- Respect the rights and dignity of every person including players, coaches, officials, parents and spectators; and never engage in behaviour that abuses, demeans, provokes or harasses others
- Understand that sport is designed to be fun and that participating for enjoyment and wellbeing should always come before performance and results

- At all times act as a role model for others, displaying high standards of good sporting behaviour
- Report to school authorities all acts of unethical behavior, whether from players, coaches, officials, parents or spectators
- Participate in positive cheering that reinforces and encourages participant effort

The IGSSA Code of Conduct will be reviewed on a two-yearly cycle.