



STUDENT BEHAVIOURAL STANDARDS – OFFICIAL CODES OF BEHAVIOUR/CONDUCT

Behavioural standards are very important in the structure and functioning of the South Eastern Independent Schools Association. A set of **Official Codes of Behaviour** for Administrators, Players, Teachers, Officials, Coaches and Parents will be the set of rules under which all SEISA competitions will be played. In addition to these Codes of Behaviour, some specific behavioural standards are listed within the regulations of each sport.

Players are responsible for conforming to the spirit as well as the letter of the rules. Most of us can clearly distinguish between fair play and gamesmanship or taking advantage of loopholes in the rules. The following comments are intended to assist other key stakeholders to avoid thoughtless and unintentional breaches of sportsmanship.

Team Captains. The home Captain should extend normal courtesies of a host of visiting teams.

Spectators:

1. Whatever interferes with the orderly conduct of an event, or the comfort and freedom of others to watch and enjoy the event is not acceptable.
2. Spectators are encouraged to applaud good play by both sides.
3. There should be no streamers, either in rolls or bunches, banners, bugles, car horns or other noisy instruments.
4. There should be no cheerleaders or other exhibitions.
5. Areas used by spectators should be left litter free.

Coaches are always expected to set an example to others and ensure that the spirit of the game and essence of the regulations are upheld.

Host Schools

Wherever competitions are conducted at school venues, it is recommended that the host School provides a staff to monitor and deal with spectator conduct.

Host schools are also expected to “Meet & Greet” visiting schools and escort them to Change rooms, competition venues etc.

CODE OF BEHAVIOUR | **PLAYERS**

- Play by the rules.
- Never argue with an official. If you disagree, have your captain, coach or manager approach the official during a break or after the competition.
- Control your temper. Verbal abuse of officials and sledging other players, deliberately distracting, or provoking an opponent are not acceptable or permitted behaviours in any sport.
- Work equally hard for yourself and/or your team. Your team’s performance will benefit, so will you.
- Be a good sport. Applaud all good plays whether they are made by your team or the opposition.
- Treat all participants in your sport, as you like to be treated. Do not bully or take unfair advantage of another competitor.
- Cooperate with your coach, team-mates, and opponents. Without them there would no competition.
- Participate for your own enjoyment and benefit, not just to please parents and coaches.
- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of all participants regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background, and religion.



CODE OF BEHAVIOUR | **PARENTS**

- Remember that children participate in sport for their enjoyment, not yours.
- Encourage children to participate, do not force them.
- Focus on the child's efforts and performance rather than winning and losing.
- Encourage children always to play according to the rules and to settle disagreements without resorting to hostility or violence.
- Never ridicule or yell at a child for a mistake or losing a competition.
- Remember that children learn best by example. Appreciate good performances and skilful plays by all.
- Support all efforts to remove verbal and physical abuse from sporting activities.
- Respect officials' decisions and teach children to do likewise.
- Show appreciation for volunteer coaches, officials, and administrators. Without them, your child could not participate.
- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of every young person regardless of their agenda, ability, cultural background, or religion.

CODE OF BEHAVIOUR | **COACHES**

- Remember that young people participate for pleasure and winning is only part of the fun.
- Never ridicule or yell at a young player for making a mistake or not coming first.
- Be reasonable in your demands on player's time, energy, and enthusiasm.
- Operate within the rules and spirit of your sport and teach your players to do the same.
- Ensure that the time players spend with you is a positive experience. All young people are deserving of equal attention and opportunities.
- Avoid overplaying the talented players; everyone needs and deserves equal playing time.
- Ensure that equipment and facilities meet safety standards and are appropriate to the age and ability of all players.
- Display control, respect, and professionalism to all involved with the sport, including opponent's coaches, officials, administrators, the media, parents, and spectators. Encourage players to do the same.
- Show concern and caution toward the sick and injured players. Follow the advice of a physician when determining whether an injured player is ready to recommence training or competition.
- Obtain appropriate qualifications and keep up to date with the latest coaching practices and the principals of growth and development of young people.
- Any physical contact with a young person should be appropriate to the situation and necessary for the player's skill development.
- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of every young person regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background, or religion.



CODE OF BEHAVIOUR | **TEACHERS**

- Encourage young people to develop basic skill in a variety of sports and discourage overspecialisation in one event, sport or playing positions.
- Create opportunities to teach appropriate sports behaviour as well as basic skills.
- Give priority to free play activities, skill learning and modified sports over highly structured competition for primary school children.
- Prepare young people for intra and inter school competition by teaching them basic sport skills.
- Make young people aware of the positive benefits of participation in sporting activities.
- Keep up to date with coaching practices and the principals of physical growth and development.
- Help young people understand that playing by the rules is their responsibility.
- Give all young people equal opportunities to participate in administration, coaching, refereeing, and playing.
- Support implementation of the National Junior Sport Policy.
- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of every young person regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background, or religion.

CODE OF BEHAVIOUR | **OFFICIALS**

- Modify rules and regulations to match the skill levels and needs of young people.
- Compliment and encourage all participants.
- Be consistent, objective, and courteous when making decisions.
- Condemn unsporting behaviour and promote respect for all opponents.
- Emphasise the spirit of the game rather than the errors.
- Encourage and promote rule changes, which will make participation more enjoyable.
- Be a good sport yourself. Actions speak louder than words.
- Keep up to date with the latest trends in officiating and the principles of growth and development of young people.
- Remember, you set an example. Your behaviour and comments should be positive and supportive.
- Place the safety and welfare of the participants above all else.
- Give all young people a 'fair go' regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background, or religion.