

# *British Council for Chinese Martial Arts*

## *Code of ethics for Coaches*

The coach's primary role is the development of their people so they can safely reach their maximum potential within the sport. Due regard must be given to the long-term health interests of the participants over short-term achievement. In order to deliver this, the Coach must adopt a professional manner in all that he or she does.

**Coaches have a Duty of Care towards any individual or groups of individuals that wish to participate in the sport.**

- Coaches must respect and work to the **Council's** Equal Opportunity Policy. Activity in our sport is actively encouraged, neither, race, age, sex, social and economic background or disability, should be a bar against active participation. It is the aim of our Coaching program to encourage and foster an ethos of providing an opportunity for all members to achieve their maximum potential, with the only constraints being their interest and ability.
- The Coach must respect the personal rights of freedom from physical or sexual harassment or abuse.
- Coaches must take into consideration the age, maturity and skill level of the athletes, particularly in the case of children or less developed young athletes.
- Coaches should ensure fairness in both training and competition, and to extend an equal opportunity for all to participate.
- Coaches must respect the dignity and recognise the individual's contribution to the sport, their club or association.
- Coaches must acknowledge and respect the Rules of Competition both National and International where appropriate. This respect should extend to the spirit of the rules as well as to the actual letter.
- Coaches must ensure that the venues and equipment are safe and appropriate for the activity.
- Coaches must positively discourage the use of prohibited drugs or other disallowed performance enhancing substances. They must be proactive in the education of their athletes, on the harmful effects of these prohibited substances.
- Coaches must encourage a respect for officials, without whom competitions can not take place, the Officials must discharge their responsibilities fairly and according to the rules of competition.
- Coaches should never openly or covertly solicit, athletes away from other Coaches, in order for them to join their Association.
- Coaches should hold recognised coaching qualifications and respect that the gaining of coaching qualifications is an ongoing commitment to maintain up-to-date practices and procedures.
- Coaches have a responsibility to share the knowledge and practical experience with other coaches on request.
- Coaches must respect the image of the coach and continuously maintain the highest standard of personal conduct and professionalism. This should be reflected in their manner, appearance and behaviour.
- All coaches have an equal right to desire the success of the athletes they coach - competing within the rules. Coaches should extend respect to other Coaches and reserve criticisms, observations or recommendations of their coaching practice to the appropriate person outside the view or hearing of the public or athletes.
- Coaches should actively seek out and refer to other professional agencies that could play a role in the development of the athletes they coach. This includes working openly with other coaches, using the expertise of sports scientists and sports physicians, nutritionists and displaying an active support of their National Governing Body.