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BCSA Fair Play Policy

BCSA Board, Approved on September 6th, 2018.

Purpose

Fair play is comprised of and embodies a number of fundamental values that are not only integral to sport but relevant in everyday life. These include fair competition, respect, friendship, team spirit, equality, sport without doping, respect for written and unwritten rules such as integrity, solidarity, tolerance, care, excellence and joy. All are the building blocks of fair play and important to our sport, our athletes, coaches, officials, volunteers, parents, and administrators.

BCSA Fair Play Philosophy

1. Fair play is an attitude, a way of thinking. It can be taught and it can be learned. Once it's learned, it can apply to every aspect of a person's life. That's why fair play is so important and that's why all of us are responsible.
2. We believe that the fair play philosophy becomes reality through the creation of a more ethical sport system, one that is democratic, open to all, and grounded in the principles of integrity, fairness and respect. Through sport, athletes learn about setting goals, working hard and having fun. They learn to respect their own abilities, and those of their competitors, and to value the effort of all participants, regardless of ability. When guided appropriately, athletes begin to realize that the joy of sport is as much in the effort as in the result.
3. Developing a more ethical sport system means addressing tough issues like violence and equity. In turn, both of those issues include difficult areas such as sexual harassment, the principles of team selection and participant involvement. Through fair play resources, advocacy, communications and training, we're working with partners at the National, Provincial and Municipal levels to create an atmosphere in which coaches, athletes, administrators and educators can make every athlete's sport experience a positive experience. We believe in an alternative and positive sport-model, one that closes the gap between fair play as a vision and fair play as a reality.

Policy

The British Columbia Sailing Association (BCSA) is committed to promoting and upholding the principles of fair play for all involved in Sailing in British Columbia. BCSA has adopted a Fair play code for athletes, coaches, officials, parents and administrators.

Principles

Fair competition

To enjoy the fruits of success, it is not enough to win. Triumph must be measured by absolute fair means, honesty and just play.

Respect

For every athlete, playing by the written rules is mandatory, and respecting the unwritten ones is a must. Fair play requires unconditional respect for opponents, fellow athletes, officials and spectators.

Friendship

Rivalry on the water does not exclude friendship. On the contrary, friendship could grow from noble rivalries.

Team spirit

Individuals can be strong on their own, but they are much stronger in a team. Sharing the moment of victory with your team is the ultimate pleasure.

Equality

Competing on equal terms is essential in sport. Otherwise, performance cannot be measured properly.

Sport without doping

Fair play means not cheating by taking drugs or doping. Anyone who does this ruins the sport for everyone else.

Integrity

Being honest and having strong moral principles are essential to fair play. Participating in sport within a sound ethical framework is vitally important if you aim to be a true Champion.

Solidarity

It is important to support each other and share feelings, aims and dreams. Mutual support brings mutual success on and away from the water.

Tolerance

The willingness to accept behaviour or decisions you may not agree with develops your self-control. Ultimately, that could be the deciding factor when it comes to winning or Losing.

Care

True champions care about each other as they are well aware that they could not be where they are without having been cared for by others.

Excellence

Sport engages us in a collective effort to pursue human excellence.

Joy

Pierre de Coubertin, the father of the modern Olympic Games said: "The important thing in life is not the triumph, but the fight. The essential thing is not to have won, but to have fought well." Competition can be intense, but you should always first look for joy when participating in any sports. You should never forget about the play even in the heat of the fight.

British Columbia Sailing Association Fair Play Code

Athletes:

1. I participate because I want to, not just because my parents or coach wants me to.
2. I will play by the rules of sailing and in the spirit of competition.
3. I understand that winning isn't everything. While it is great to win, it should always be fun to compete, improving skills, making friends and doing my best.
4. I shall observe the written and the unwritten rules of my sport, including the World Sailing Racing Rules of Sailing, Sailing Instructions and Notice of Race.
5. I shall treat my competitors with respect and in the same manner in which I would like to be treated.

6. I recognize the value and importance of volunteers, coaches and officials. I will treat coaches, officials, dockworkers, volunteers, parents or spectators with respect at all times. I will accept their decisions and show them respect.

7. I will represent the sport with great humility and humbleness and act as a role model for my sport.

Coaches:

8. I will encourage my athletes to respect their competitors and the rules of competition, to accept the judgements of officials without argument.

9. I will teach my athletes how to manage conflict and stress, and use good judgement in tough situations.

10. I will remember that children need a coach they can respect. I will be generous with praise and set a good example.

11. I will not ridicule or yell at my athletes for making mistakes or for performing poorly. I will remember that athletes play to have fun and must be encouraged to have confidence in themselves.

12. I will ensure that equipment and facilities are safe and match the athletes' ages and Abilities.

13. I will remember that participants need a coach they can respect. I will be generous with praise and set a good example.

14. I will obtain proper training and continue to upgrade my coaching skills.

15. I will work in cooperation with officials for the benefit of the sport.

Officials:

8. I will avoid or put an end to any situation that threatens the safety of the athletes. I will maintain a healthy atmosphere and environment for competition.

9. I will prevent athletes from intimidating others, either by word or action. Similarly, I will do not tolerate unacceptable conduct toward yourself, other officials, athletes or spectators.

10. I remain open to constructive criticism and will try to consider different points of view.

11. I will demonstrate respect for the athletes, their coaches, parents and everyone involved in your sport.

12. I will handle all conflicts firmly but with dignity. I accept my role as a teacher and role model for fair play, especially with young participants.

13. I will obtain proper training and continue to upgrade my officiating skills.

Administrators:

14. I will assist sailing leaders, coaches, and officials in promoting Fair Play.

15. I will work towards ensuring that sport leaders, coaches, officials and athletes understand their role and their responsibility for promoting Fair Play and upholding the

BC Sailing Fair Play Code.

16. I will encourage coaches and officials to become certified.

17. I will share BC Sailing's Fair Play Codes to coaches, athletes, officials, parents and news media.

Parents:

18. I respect the role and responsibilities of coaches, officials, athletes, and administrators in their commitment to making sport fair, fun and a positive learning experience for my Child.

19. I will help to reinforce the positive values in your children through sport.

20. I will encourage my child to play by the rules and to resolve conflicts positively.

21. I will make my child feel like a winner every time by offering praise for competing fairly and trying hard

22. I will avoid negative talk about coaches, officials, volunteers, and administrators and never question their decisions, judgment or honesty in public.