

BC Games Society Code of Conduct



The BC Games Society's Culture of the Games principles state that everyone associated with the Games:

- has the right to participate in an environment that is supportive, positive, respectful, accessible, and that contributes to exceptional experiences
- has the responsibility to contribute in a positive way to the experiences of everyone involved in the Games



The BC Games Society is committed to providing a sport, work, and volunteer environment in which all individuals are treated with respect and dignity. Each participant is entitled to an environment that promotes equal opportunities and prohibits discriminatory practices. The BC Games Society will not tolerate acts of harassment, abuse, bullying, hazing, or other such behaviours.

Exemplary conduct is expected of all Games participants (athletes, coaches, officials, adult supervisors, PSO representatives), volunteers, and spectators throughout the course of their involvement with the Games.

While at any Games event/function/venue prior to or at the Games, Games participants, volunteers, spectators, and individuals associated with the Games are expected to refrain from the use of drugs or alcohol. All Games events/venues/functions are smoke, vape, and cannabis free.

Any behaviour contrary to the spirit of the BC Games and/or the Culture of the Games and/or in violation of BC Games rules, policies, or the Code of Conduct will result in appropriate disciplinary action, which may include being sent home from the Games at their own expense. Violation of any BC Games rules by any participant may impact the continued participation of that individual in the Games and/or the inclusion of that sport in future BC Games.

Everyone has rights and has responsibility. Check your own actions and words, speak up for yourself and others, and if you see something, tell someone.

Everyone associated with the Games:

<p>has a responsibility to maintain and enhance the dignity and self-esteem of all others involved with the Games by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Showing/giving the same respect they would want in return. • Addressing others in a courteous and respectful manner. • Treating others fairly within the context of their activity, regardless of gender, ethnic background, color, sexual orientation, religion, political belief, or economic status. • Refraining from unwanted physical contact, verbal abuse and threats, unwelcome remarks including jokes, innuendo or taunting (in verbal, written or digital form) about a person's body, race, gender, attire, sexual orientation or religion. • Refraining from public criticism of others. • Refraining from the use of profane, insulting, harassing, or otherwise offensive language and obscene or offensive gestures. • Respecting the privacy of others by not divulging confidential information without consent, except where required by law, or sharing photos without permission. • Presenting any protest or disagreements via the correct avenue and in a respectful manner. 	<p>is expected to conduct themselves in a manner consistent with their position and to act as a positive role model in a manner that will bring credit to the BC Games, their sport, zone, and/or community, and themselves by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promoting sport and community in the most constructive and positive manner possible. • Being responsible for all of their own personal items such as identification, personal belongings, and equipment. • Refraining from engaging in deliberate cheating which is intended to manipulate the outcome of a competition. • Respecting and adhering to the rules and policies of the BC Games Society and as a participant, their respective sport. • Consistently displaying high personal standards and projecting a favourable image of their sport, zone, community, and/or position. • Exercising good judgement when sharing experiences on social media. • Treating all Games and venues, properties, and equipment with respect and care. • Not indulging in any unreasonable conduct which brings BC Games into disrepute, including but not limited to, activities which disturb or disrupt the peace, infractions of municipal, provincial or federal laws, the abusive use of alcohol, the non-medical use of drugs, tobacco, or the use of alcohol by minors, etc. • Maintaining personal dignity in all circumstances and exercising self-control. • Modeling sportsmanship, respect, and courtesy. 	<p>is responsible to contribute to a safe environment in all aspects/areas of the Games by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensuring the safety of others and themselves. • Abiding by the laws of BC and of the community(ies) in which the Games is taking place. • Refraining from unwanted contact including but not limited to, touching, pinching, kissing, sexual flirtations, advances, requests, or invitations, or physical or sexual assault. • Refraining from use of sexist jokes, display of sexually graphic material, degrading words used to describe a person, inquiries or comments about a person's sex life or gender. • Not using, advocating, or condoning the use of drugs or other banned substances. • Not using technology to hurt, intimidate, embarrass, or humiliate another person, including avoiding the use of camera phones in sensitive environments. • Not providing others with drugs and not providing those who are underage with alcohol or tobacco, vaping, or cannabis products. • Complying with rulings of the sport, host society volunteers, BC Games staff, or persons in a position of authority or responsibility. • Not using physical force, or engaging in verbal abuse, or violent acts of any kind.
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The BC Games Society Code of Conduct is consistent with the BC Universal Code of Conduct, [which can be found here](#).

<p>The BC Games Society expects participants to contribute to a safe environment at the Games. All interactions and communications are expected to be open, observable, and justifiable to protect individuals (especially minors) in potentially vulnerable situations. This means that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No one should be one-on-one in an isolated setting with a Games participant or volunteer. • Individuals are expected to be aware of when they may be alone with another individual in an isolated setting and take action to ensure someone else can be with them or in the same room as them or within easy earshot of the discussion. If the person initiating the meeting does not invite a third person (ideally an adult) to be present, then the person asked to attend the meeting should do so. • Everyone is responsible to initiate and implement this. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ For example, if someone needs to meet with another individual they should ask another person to be present. If no other adult is available then another minor (e.g. an athlete from their zone or another zone) could be asked to be present when a coach is meeting with an athlete.
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In addition to the expectations for everyone associated with the Games outlined on the previous page:

All BC Games participants are expected to:		All BC Games volunteers and spectators are expected to:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Compete/participate in a spirit of fair play and honesty. • Conduct themselves in accordance with this code both on and off the field of play from the time they board BC Games transportation (or arrive in the Games community by their own transportation) until they return home. • Abide by the BC Games curfew (or earlier curfew set by their coach/sport) and follow the accommodation check-in procedures. • Not use, advocate, or condone the use of performance enhancing substances. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct themselves in accordance with this code both while volunteering or attending events or spectating competitions/events. 		
Athletes are expected to:	Coaches/Adult Supervisors are expected to:	Officials are expected to:	Volunteers are expected to:	Spectators are expected to:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be gracious in victory and defeat. • Respect their opponents. • Respect the officials and their roles in the sport competition and any directions and decisions of officials. • Compete/participate within the rules of the BC Games, their sport, coaches/adult supervisors. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be gracious in victory and defeat. • Ensure decisions are made equitably, within the scope of their authority, that are in the best interest of athletes and that strive to preserve the present and future health and well-being of athletes. • Respect the officials and their roles in the sport competition and any directions and decisions of officials. • Ensure the safety and supervision of their athletes at all times during the Games and on transportation to/from the Games. • Avoid placing athletes in situations that are beyond their level. • Foster the self-esteem of all athletes. • Avoid deriving personal advantage from a situation or decision. • Coach in the spirit of fair play and honesty and within the rules of the BC Games and their sport. • Have been screened and approved by their Provincial Sport Organization. • Made commitments to pursue the National Coaching Certification Program in accordance with their sport's coach development pathway. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to improve their knowledge of their sport and the rules of their sport. • Officiate in a fair and honest manner, within the rules of their sport. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regularly seek ways of increasing professional development and self-awareness. • Co-operate with the athletes' coaches, involving them in decisions about their athletes. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cheer for all athletes in a positive manner, modeling good sportsmanship and fair play. • Promote respect and appreciation for all coaches, officials and volunteers at any event or practice, and encourage others to do so. • Thank and respect officials and encourage others to do so as well. • Have realistic expectations for performance outcomes. • Not demean or ridicule any athlete. • Not coach any athlete during an event, unless you are the team coach for that athlete. • Not intrude into the competition area.

Other BC Games Policies and Resources (with links):

- [Social Media Policy](#)
- [Safeguarding Policy](#)
- [Discipline Process](#)
- [Appeal Procedures](#)