

Procedure for Managing Challenging Behaviour in Young Athletes

Coaches / Volunteers who deliver sports activities to children may, on occasions, be required to deal with a child's challenging or inappropriate behaviour or deal with situations where the young athlete code of conduct is not being followed.

Coaches / volunteers will endeavour when planning delivery of training session, to take into consideration the needs of each child, considering previous behaviour and developing strategies to manage the risks associated with them. This may include alterations to group structures within squads, changes to adult to child supervision ratios or the identification of expertise or support from carers or outside agencies.

In all cases the following principles shall apply:

- The wellbeing of all children is the paramount consideration.
- Children must never be subjected to any form of treatment that is harmful, abusive, humiliating or degrading; children should always be able to maintain their respect and dignity.
- Coaches / volunteers should not attempt to respond to challenging behaviour by using techniques for which they have not trained.

Physical Interventions

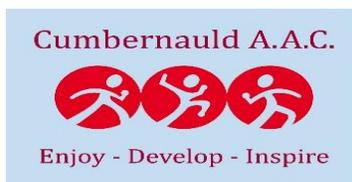
In the event that physical intervention is necessary to control challenging behaviour, this will only be used as a last resort to prevent a child from injuring themselves or others or to prevent serious damage to property.

When an incident involving challenging behaviour occurs, and physical intervention is deemed necessary, then an Incident Report Form should be completed as soon as possible and submitted to the club welfare officer. In such a situation, the parents / carers of the child or young person will be informed immediately either by the coach or welfare officer.

Procedure for Managing Challenging Behaviour

Should a young athlete behave in a manner that is contrary to the young athletes code of conduct the following steps will be instigated: -

1. Athletes will be spoken to by the coach or lead coach from his or her group.



2. Should the inappropriate behaviour continue / re-occur athletes will then be spoken to by the coach / lead / head coach; parents will be informed at this time and the Welfare Officer will be notified via an Incident Report Form.
3. **Continued inappropriate behaviour, Welfare Officers informed and -**
 - Athlete given a **GREEN LETTER** - Green letter informs the parent/ carer of the athlete's continued inappropriate behaviour.
 - Then an **AMBER LETTER** - Amber informs the parent/ carer that the athlete must take a 4 week 'time out' period.
4. Athletes given a final **RED LETTER**- Red informs the parent/ carer that the young person can no longer attend the club due to continued inappropriate behaviour.
 1. All letters will be issued by the Welfare Officers after discussion between the Welfare Officers and the coaches' forum.
 2. No one coach can issue a letter to an athlete.
 3. The Welfare Officers will keep a log of all inappropriate behaviour resulting in parents being informed or letters being issued.
5. Appeals against this decision must be made by means of the Cumbernauld AAC Grievance Procedure.