

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 been trained.

Physical Interventions

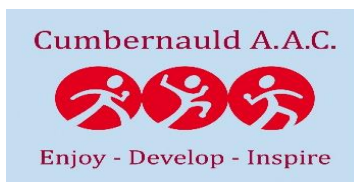
In the event that physical intervention is necessary to control challenging behaviour, this will only be used as a last resort to prevent a child from injuring themselves or others or to prevent serious damage to property.

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.

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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, parents will then be informed by the coach / lead / head coach, with the Welfare Officer in attendance. The Welfare Officer will be formally notified of the situation via an Incident Report Form.
3. Continued / re-occurring inappropriate behaviour, the Welfare Officer will be informed, an Incident Report Form will be completed, and a letter will be sent out to parents by the Welfare Officer, informing them that should the inappropriate behaviour continue, the athlete may be asked to leave the club. In this letter, a review in 4-weeks time will be arranged, however after this time, should there have been no / insufficient improvement in behaviour, having exhausted all avenues to improve the situation, the club will have no other option than to conclude that the athlete can no longer continue to attend Cumbernauld Amateur Athletics Club.
 1. All letters will be issued by the Welfare Officer after discussion between the Welfare Officer and the coaches' forum.
 2. No one coach can issue a letter to an athlete or parent.
 3. The Welfare Officer will keep a log of all physical interventions, inappropriate and challenging behaviour resulting in parents being informed or letters being issued.
 4. Appeals against this decision must be made by means of the Cumbernauld AAC Disciplinary Procedure.