



Code of Conduct for Athletes

Walton Athletic Club (WAC) is fully committed to safeguarding and promoting the well-being of all its members, ensuring a positive and enjoyable experience for all. The club believes that it is important that members, coaches, volunteers and parents associated with the club should, at all times, show respect and understanding for the safety and welfare of others. Therefore, members are encouraged to be open at all times and to share any concerns or complaints that they may have about any aspect of the club in accordance with the [concerns](#) and [complaints](#) processes.

As a responsible member of WAC, you are expected to abide by the following code of conduct:

1. All members must take responsibility for ensuring they are up-to-date with the rules, understand and adhere to them.
2. All members must uphold the same values whilst engaged in athletics as you would off the field.
3. All members must respect the rights, dignity and worth of all participants regardless of age, gender, ability, race, cultural background, religious beliefs or sexual identity.
4. Members should recognise the valuable contribution made by coaches, administrators, team managers, team mates and officials who are all volunteers. Remember, they give their time and resources for your benefit.
5. All members must respect officials and publicly accept their decisions.
6. All members must inform their coach of any other coaching that they are receiving.
7. All members should be a positive role model, treat other players and officials with the same level of respect you would expect to be shown to you.
8. All members must act with dignity at all times and use correct and proper language.
9. Members are not allowed to smoke or consume drugs on club premises or whilst representing the club. They are not allowed to use illegal or performance enhancing drugs whilst representing the club.
10. Good behaviour is expected at all times when travelling by coach, staying in hotels or at any competition venue.
11. Members will be responsible, and pay for any damage caused, other than by accident, whether at WAC or other venues.
12. Members should read and comply with the [social media policy](#). They should respect the privacy of others and not provide private information about others without consent; this includes posting on social media.
13. Members should keep to agreed timings for training and competitions or inform their coach or team manager if they are going to be late.
14. Members must wear suitable kit for training and match sessions, as agreed with the coach/team manager. The WAC club vests must be worn at all matches and Members may be prevented from competing if not worn.
15. Members must pay any fees for training or events promptly.
16. Bullying of any sort will not be tolerated. Encourage everyone to enjoy sport and understand that people have different motivations for taking part.
17. Members should not take valuable items to training or competitions and WAC will not be responsible for the loss of any personal property.

Sanctions:

Breaches of this code by a member may include a verbal/written warning, temporary suspension or, in extreme cases, permanent exclusion from club activities. Team Managers may also exclude any Member whose behaviour breaches the code of conduct from participating in certain events.

Where a Member is suspected of (or found to have taken) illegal or performance enhancing substances, the Member will automatically be suspended from the club and reported to England Athletics.

Approved 18 December 2019