



## **Code of Conduct for Coaches**

### **As a responsible athletics Coach you will:**

- Be appropriately qualified ensuring the DBS and licence are up-to-date.
- Respect every athlete and others involved in athletics, treating everyone equally.
- Operate without discrimination on grounds of gender, race, colour, language or religion.
- Place the welfare and safety of the athlete above the development of performance.
- Ensure that activities during training are appropriate for the age, maturity, experience and ability of the individual athlete.
- Never intentionally try to recruit athletes who are already receiving coaching from another club.
- Try to ensure training sessions do not exceed the maximum ratio of 1 coach to 12 athletes at any training session (juniors).
- Cooperate fully with others involved in the sport such as technical officials, team managers, other coaches, doctors, physiotherapists, sport scientists and representatives of the governing body in the best interests of the athlete.
- Consistently promote positive aspects of the sport such as fair play and never condone rule violations or the use of prohibited or age-inappropriate substances.
- Encourage and guide athletes to accept responsibility for their own performance and behaviour.
- Be responsible for setting boundaries between working relationship and friendships with the athletes.
- Recognise that you will have access to confidential information about athletes and staff so confidentiality and data protection must be maintained at all times.
- Ensure that no negative comments regarding Torbay AC, or any club member are posted on any social media sites.
- Do not pass on, or share, other athletes or coaches details without their consent
- Should Coaches become aware of any negative comments, or posts, on any athlete's social media, that are in breaches of the Clubs social media policy, they have a responsibility and **MUST** report it to the Club Welfare Officers, so that disciplinary procedures can be enforced.
- Any Coach in a relationship with a club athlete **MUST** be declared to the Welfare Officers, and must conduct him or herself in an appropriate manor.
- As Coach you **MUST NOT** allow an intimate personal relationship to develop between yourself and any athlete aged under **18 years**. Any violation of this could result in a Coaching licence being withdrawn, and membership to the club being terminated. It may also be a criminal offence to conduct a relationship with an athlete aged under 16 years. It may also be a violation of your Coaching licence to form an intimate personal relationship with a vulnerable adult coached by you.

### **As a responsible coach, when participating in or attending any athletics activities, including training/coaching sessions and competition events you will:**

- Consistently display high standards of behaviour and appearance.
- Challenge any inappropriate behaviour and language.
- Never engage in any inappropriate or illegal behaviour.

**To avoid question, especially when working with junior athletes you will:**

- Never share a bedroom with a junior athlete (under the age of 18 years).
- Ensure that parents/carers know and have given consent before taking a junior athlete away from the usual training venues.
- Respect the right of junior athletes to an independent life outside of athletics.