

NORTHWICH SAPPHIRES NC CODE OF CONDUCT

Summary

This code of conduct applies to all personnel involved in Northwich Sapphires Netball Club, including players, parents/carers, coaches, umpires, team managers, supporters and connected participants.

Everybody is expected to follow these guidelines in order to enable everyone to enjoy their netball experience and to maintain the reputation of the club and its members.

Everybody

Everybody will:

- Respect people, regardless of age, gender, ability, race, cultural background, religious beliefs or sexual identity.
- Respect the rules of the game and the decisions of umpires and abide by their decisions without protest.
- Recognise fair play and applaud the good performance of the opposition as well as Northwich Sapphires.
- Enjoy success but accept defeat gracefully and use it as an opportunity for learning.
- Respect opponents and avoid all forms of gamesmanship or applauding oppositions' mistakes.
- Show due respect to club volunteers (including coaches, umpires, team managers and committee members) who work so hard and give their time to provide netball and other opportunities for members.
- Never verbally, physically or emotionally abuse volunteers or other players at any time
- Refrain from smoking, consuming alcohol or banned substances or using inappropriate language while representing the club or attending club activities.
- Agree to pay fees as required by the club each year.
- Attend the AGM and support club activities.

Players

As a player, I will:

- Encourage and support my fellow team members at all times.
- Make every effort to develop my own skills, techniques, tactics, fitness and understanding of the game and help my fellow players to do the same.
- Be punctual for training and competition and be ready and prepared to work hard and to bring appropriate kit and equipment.
- Ensure that my coach is informed of any injury or medical condition that may affect my performance or availability.
- Be committed to the club and play for the team I have been selected to represent.
- Ensure that I am up to date with the laws of the game and understand and adhere to them.
- Accept that netball is a team game and that some selection decisions may not always be what I would like, but have been made for the benefit of the team.
- Be prepared to spend time on the bench and will use that time to learn and to support and help my team mates. Coaches' decisions are based on numerous factors that you are not always aware of.

Parents/ Carers.

As a parent/carer I will:

- Ensure that my child is aware and complies with this code and conduct and be a positive role model by complying with the code myself, displaying sportsmanship and tolerance.
- Support my child's involvement and help them to enjoy all that netball has to offer and provide positive feedback that motivates and encourages them and helps to increase their self esteem and sense of personal achievement.
- Support the team coach and understand that while selection decisions might not always be what you want for your child, netball is a team sport and the coach has to balance the needs of all players and team demands.
- Be realistic about my child's abilities, the stage of development they are at. Avoid putting undue pressure on them or criticising them but help them to learn valuable life lessons such handling and overcoming disappointment.
- Work with my child's coach to provide the best possible balance between the demands of netball, education and home.
- Ensure that my child understands that they should take an appropriate level of responsibility for their own and others safety.
- Immediately inform the coach or team manager of any injury or illness which might impact on my child's ability to train or compete.
- Be punctual when collecting or delivering my child and I will ensure that I collect them in the presence of the coach.
- Acknowledge the work and time put in by club volunteers and encourage my child to do the same by thanking volunteers.
- Ensure that my child is aware of all arrangements made for training, competition, tours and trips.
- Help my child to recognise good performance, not just results.
- Report any concerns that I have which I feel unable to discuss with the coach or team manager to the Club Safeguarding Officer.

Coaches

As a coach I will

- Hold appropriate and up to date qualifications and insurance and commit to ongoing development, based on self-analysis and reflection.
- Ensure that any activity in which I am involved complies with the club policies, especially Duty of Care when working with junior players.
- Demonstrate high standards of behaviour and conduct and be a positive role model for the players at all times.
- Consider the wellbeing and safety of participants above all else (including performance) and where appropriate, work with parents to provide the best possible balance between the demands of netball, education and home.
- Always ensure that I am never alone with a junior player (who is not my own) where I am completely unobserved, in the club or other environments.
- Ensure that if any physical support is required, permission is sought from the player and will adhere to England Netball guidelines.
- Ensure that all activities are appropriate for the age, ability and experience of those taking part.
- Clarify with players (and where appropriate parents/carers) exactly what is expected of them and what they can expect from me as a coach.

- Develop a relationship with performers and others based on openness, honesty, mutual trust and respect.
- Encourage players to be responsible for their own learning, development, actions, decision making, behaviour and performance.
- Communicate with and provide feedback to players in a manner that reflects respect and care and which values their performances and not just results.
- Ensure that all junior players are collected by parents/carers at the end of a club activity.
- Maintain appropriate records including registers, teams and accident reports.

Umpires

As an umpire I will

- Hold appropriate qualifications and insurance.
- Set a positive example to others, especially young players and supporters.
- Ensure that any activity in which I am involved complies with the club policies.
- Avoid all forms of gamesmanship.

Supporters

Supporters will

- Respect and accept the decisions of umpires without protest or comment.
- Respect all players and other officials and supporters and refrain from any negative interaction with them.
- Avoid coaching the team or individuals during the game. This only detracts the player and may well be at odds with the coach's input.
- Refrain from getting involved with any disputes courtside. Express any concerns to the coach or Team Manager at the end of the match.

Breach of Code of Conduct

Northwich Sapphires NC operates a zero -tolerance approach to verbal, physical or emotional abuse of any kind towards anyone involved in the club's activities. If there is evidence that the Code of Conduct has been contravened, a three stage process will take place.

Stage One: Every effort should be made to resolve any breach of the Code of Conduct without using the club disciplinary process by communicating with relevant volunteers e.g. Team Manager or Coach.

Stage Two: Informal Resolution: If the matter is not resolved, the Membership Officer will work with the Club President to investigate the incident and endeavour to liaise with the person(s) in question (if they so wish) in order to identify a resolution.

Stage Three: Formal Resolution: If the issue cannot be resolved informally, the matter will be put to the club disciplinary committee and club disciplinary procedure followed. (See Northwich NC Complaints and Disciplinary policy).