



Policy 4 : Code of Conduct Policy

4.0 The Notion of Fair Play

It is expected that members, officials, coaches and supporters uphold the principles of Fair play and do not bring the association or any of its clubs into disrepute.

The notion of fair play is something which is integral to all sports regardless of what level of the sport is being participated in. It can range from the participants on the pitch to the spectators and supporters and is something that is continually promoted by both World and National Governing Bodies of a particular sport.

Not only is fair play important within the context of playing the actual sport but it is imperative then when dealing with children and young people entering into a possible career in sport they are treated fairly and gain enjoyment from the sport not being used simply as a means to an end.

4.1 The Unicef Code of Sports Ethics

The British Aikido Association have adopted the Unicef Code of Sport Ethics.

The main principle of the Code of Sports Ethics is to ensure that ethical considerations leading to fair play are integral elements of sports activity, sports policy and management – not simply optional elements. It must apply to all levels of ability and commitment which includes recreational as well as competitive sport Aikido.

The primary focus of the Code is Fair Play for young people as it is recognised that children and young people of today are the adult participants of tomorrow. The Code is directly aimed at institutions and adults who have a direct or indirect influence on young people's participation and involvement in sport at all levels. WE must always lead by positive example and provide role models for the next generation.

4.2 Fair Play: A definition

Fair play is not simply playing within the rules of sport Aikido it is defined as much more. It is taken to incorporate the concepts of friendship, respect for others and playing the game within the right spirit.

Fair play incorporates issues concerned with the elimination of cheating, gamesmanship, doping, violence, sexual harassment and abuse of children, exploitation, unequal opportunities, excessive commercialization and corruption.

4.3 Code of Sports Ethics : Outline

The Code of Sports Ethics ensures that fair play must be given the highest priority by all of those parties who are directly or indirectly involved with Aikido or who influence and promote sporting experiences for children and young people.

4.4 Individual Responsibility

When working directly with children or young people individuals shall have the following responsibilities:

- To behave in a way which sets a good example and presents a positive role model for children and young people. Fair Play must be condoned in this capacity



- To ensure that their own level of training and qualification is appropriate to the needs of the child as they progress through different levels of sporting commitment
- To put the health, safety and welfare of the child as the first priority
- To provide a sporting experience which encourages a life-long commitment to the sport
- To avoid placing expectations on a child unrelated to his or her capacity to meet them
- To place the enjoyment of the child as a top priority and to not place undue influence and pressure on them which exploits their ability to choose to participate in the sport
- To provide the child or young person and their family with as much detailed information as possible ensuring full awareness of the potential risks and attractions or reaching a high level of performance

4.5 The BAA as an Organisation

All Sports and Sports related organisations have responsibilities both in order to set a proper context for Fair Play and when working directly with young people.

- To publish clear guidelines on what is to be considered appropriate behaviour and ensure that they are adhered to at all levels of participation and involvement in sport
- To establish appropriate incentives to comply with the guidelines must also be developed as must the required sanctions for breach of the guidelines
- To ensure that decisions are made in accordance with the Code of Ethics
- To increase awareness of fair play through the use of campaigns, awards, educational material and training opportunities
- To create rewards schemes for fair play and high levels of personal achievement within this sphere
- When working with young people sports and sports related organisations have the following responsibilities:
- To ensure that the structure of competition acknowledges the special requirements of the young and growing child and provides the opportunity for graded levels of involvement
- To support the modification of the rules to meet the special needs of the young putting the emphasis on fair play over and above competitive success
- To ensure that safeguards are in place to protect children, young people and women from sexual harassment and abuse and also to prevent the exploitation of children – this is particularly relevant to those who demonstrate a high level of ability
- To ensure that all those within or associated with the organisation who have a responsibility towards children are appropriately qualified to work at that level
- Individuals

4.6 Fair Play Principles

- Performance and achievement: performance should always be linked to the effort used to achieve objectives.
- Rules: performance is worthwhile if done in compliance with the rules.
- Equal opportunities: without exception, everyone has access to sports, enjoying within it the same rights and the same duties.
- Practice (and competition) conditions must also be the same for different athletes and no prior benefit should be given to some over others.
- Respect: need to show tolerance and acceptance to all those involved in sport and outside it.
- Sporting activities and behaviour associated with these should never jeopardize the health and well-being of athletes and their team mates/opponents.



- Young people develop and practise physical, behavioural and intellectual skills by challenging themselves and each other in physical activities, movement, games and sport.
- Learning fair play behaviour in sport can lead to the development and reinforcement of fair play behaviour in the community and in life.
- Young people who live in a multicultural world learn to accept and respect diversity, and practise personal peaceful behaviour, they promote peace and international understanding.
- A focus on excellence can help young people to make positive, healthy choices, and strive to become the best that they can be in whatever they do.
- Learning takes place in the whole body, not just in the mind, and physical literacy and learning through movement contribute to the development of both moral and intellectual learning.
- The summary of principles include, Cooperation, warmth and respect, initiative and participation, solidarity, engagement, commitment, responsibility, citizenship, justice, empathy, honesty and sportsmanship

4.7 Practice Protocols: Self Disciplines

Section 1 : Standing Rei

- Rei when entering and leaving the Dojo.
- Rei when joining and leaving the Tatami.
- Rei to partner before and after practise.

Section 2 : Kneeling Rei

- Rei at the commencing of and end of the lesson.
- At the end of lesson wait for Sensei to rise then rise, wait for Sensei to Rei off the Tatami, then you may leave Tatami.

Section 3 : Line Up

- At the beginning and end of the lesson take position in a line on the Tatami in grade order from left to right.

Section 4 : General Codes of Conduct

- Never leave or join the Tatami without informing Sensei.
- Never practise anything other than what you have been told to.
- Never chew gum or eat on the Tatami.
- Never wear anything on the Tatami that could cause damage to you, others or the mat. e.g. rings, watches, ear rings etc.
- Always have clean feet, hands and suits.
- Please ensure that all nails are cut short.
- Always kneel or sit cross-legged on the mat.
- Do not drink alcohol before a lesson or on the day of the competition.
- Do not smoke
- Wear something on feet to edge of Tatami.
- No footwear on the mat at all.
- No foul or bad language.
- Do not make personal comments about others.
- Respect all
- Always follow the associations Equity guidelines

Following these disciplines create a better frame of mind for learning AIKIDO