



Officials Code of Ethics

Rationale

The responsibility for the ethical conduct of sport in Australia rests equally with officials, players, administrators, coaches, spectators, media, educators, parents, governments, sponsors and team owners.

The duty of the sports official is to act as an impartial judge of sporting competition. This duty carries with it an obligation for the official to perform with accuracy, consistency, objectivity and the highest sense of integrity.

In order to preserve and encourage confidence in the professionalism and integrity of officiating, officials must first foster ethical behaviour.

Sports officials have the right to expect that:

- Their health and safety are paramount;
- They are treated with respect and openness;
- They are appointed to a level of competition appropriate to their level of competence; and
- They have access to self-improvement opportunities.

Sports Officials' Code Of Ethics

- Place the safety and welfare of the participants above all else
- Accept responsibility for all actions taken
- Be impartial
- Avoid any situation which may lead to a conflict of interest
- Be courteous, respectful and open to discussion and interaction
- Value the individual in sport
- Seek continual self improvement through study, performance appraisal, and regular updating of competencies
- Encourage inclusivity and access to all areas of officiating
- Be a positive role model in behaviour and personal appearance
- Refrain from any form of personal abuse towards athletes
- Refrain from any form of sexual harassment towards athletes
- Show concern and caution towards sick and injured athletes

* Please refer to the Harassment-free Sport guidelines available from the Australian Sports Commission for more information on harassment issues