

BF REFEREES CODE OF CONDUCT

1. SCOPE

This code does not supersede any other BF Code of Conduct (including Members Code of Conduct and Team Officials code of conduct) but is in addition to it.

2. GENERAL

- All fencing referees must ensure that every individual including all young/vulnerable people that they come into contact with within their role as a BF referee are respected as individuals and treated equitably and with dignity at all times. They should ensure that all refereeing duties complies with the current guidance issued by British Fencing and does not form any sort of abuse (emotional, physical, sexual, bullying, neglect etc).
- All relationships should be based on respect, honesty and openness.
- All referees should encourage young/vulnerable fencers to be aware of their behaviour on piste
- All fencing referees should have an ongoing commitment to their own continuous professional development and work with others (i.e. coaches, parents, competition organisers) to ensure the safety, enjoyment and development of fencers during all competitions (club, domestic, national and international).
- All fencing referees should work within their own competency and qualifications.
- All fencing referees should strive to be positive role models, working within British Fencing guidance displaying high standards of personal behaviour.
- All fencing referees should promote good behaviour within the rules of fencing. This includes enforcing rules regarding behaviour of supporters (coaches/parents) as well as athletes.
- All fencing referees should not allow any form of bribery, favouritism or pressure from coaches to influence the outcome of any fencing match that they are officiating at.
- All FIE referees should sign and abide by the British Fencing Declaration of Good Conduct for Referees.

3. WELFARE & DUTY OF CARE

British Fencing referees should never:

- Invite a child to your home/ hotel room (if allocated to a GBR international youth competition) or secluded place where they will be alone with you.
- Share a bedroom with a child
- Purchase or ply any young person (either fencer or fellow referee) with alcohol when allocated to any BF organised competition (domestic or international)
- Engage in a sexual relationship with a young person
- Bully a child either physically or verbally, nor reduce a child to tears as a form of control
- Engage in rough, physical or sexually provocative games
- Make sexually suggestive remarks to a young/at risk fencer – even in fun
- Allow or engage in any form of inappropriate touching
- Allow the use of inappropriate language to go unchallenged
- Do things of a personal nature for a fencer that they can do for themselves unless specifically requested to do so and then with the utmost discretion
- Spend excessive amounts of time with individual fencers away from others
- Abuse the referees position of trust in any way
- Allow allegations made by a child to go unchallenged, unrecorded or not acted upon
- Embarrass, humiliate or undermine any individual or cause them to lose self esteem
- Make remarks about another individual that are in any way offensive or in any way can be construed as such
- Fail to record any incident in line with British Fencing guidelines

British Fencing referees must ensure that they have the appropriate criminal record checks necessary for the level and/or frequency of activity they are engaging in.

At a Board meeting of 11.12.14 the Board of BF has delegated authority to the CEO to administer such matters which have not expressly been reserved to be dealt with under the Disciplinary Code by this Code of Conduct. Notwithstanding such authority, the CEO may, in his or her absolute discretion, determine that an allegation of a breach of Code of Conduct is of a nature that it should properly be dealt with under the Disciplinary Code. In such circumstances, the CEO may refer such a matter to be dealt with under the Disciplinary Code