**Power Athletics Coaches & Junior Coaches Code of Conduct**

Power Athletics Cheerleading
Date of Next Review: July 2021
Reviewed by: Sian Young on 29/06/2020

Power Athletics expects a high standard of behaviour from all its members, particularly its staff. This code of conduct aims to protect children and young people, as well as reduce the possibility of unfounded allegations being made. It is important to remember that you are acting in a position of trust, are likely to be seen as a role model and must act appropriately.

Coach Responsibilities:

- Prioritising the welfare of children and young people.

- Providing a safe environment for children and young people, this includes ensuring equipment is used safely and for its intended purpose also having a good awareness of issues to do with safeguarding and child protection and taking action when appropriate.

- Following our principles, policies and procedures, this includes policies and procedures for child protection/safeguarding, whistleblowing and e-safety.

- Staying within the law at all times.

- Modelling good behaviour for children and young people to follow.

- Challenging unacceptable behaviour and reporting any breaches of the codes of conduct to the Designated Safeguarding Officer.

- Reporting all allegations/suspicions of abuse following our reporting procedures, this includes abusive behaviour being displayed by an adult or child and directed at anybody of any age.

Junior Coach Responsibilities:

- Prioritising the welfare of athletes.

- Following the lead session coach to providing a safe environment for children and young people, this includes ensuring equipment is used safely and for its intended purpose also having a good awareness of issues to do with safeguarding and child protection and taking action when appropriate.

- Following our principles, policies and procedures, this includes policies and procedures for child protection/safeguarding, whistleblowing and e-safety.

- Staying within the law at all times.

- Modelling good behaviour for children and young people to follow.

- Challenging unacceptable behaviour and reporting any breaches of the codes of conduct to the Designated Safeguarding Officer.

- Reporting all allegations/suspicions of abuse following our reporting procedures, this includes abusive behaviour being displayed by an adult or child and directed at anybody of any age.

All coaches, junior coaches and volunteers should:

1. Treat all club members, including athletes, parents and other coaches, fairly and without prejudice or discrimination.

2. Understand that every athlete and parent is an individual with different needs.

3. Respect differences in gender, sexual orientation, culture, race, ethnicity, disability and religious belief systems between yourself and others, and appreciate that all participants bring something valuable and different to Power

Athletics.

4. Challenge discrimination and prejudice.

5. Encourage young people and adults to speak out about those attitudes or behaviour that makes them uncomfortable

Relationships with athletes/parents/guardians:

 1. Promote relationships that are based on openness, honesty, trust and respect.

2. Avoid favouritism.

3. Be patient with others.

4. Use special caution when discussing sensitive issues with children and young people.

5. Ensure that your contact with children and young people is appropriate and relevant to the task at hand - Ensure that whenever possible, there is more than one adult present during activities with children and young people, if this isn’t possible, ensure you are within sight or hearing of other coaches.

6. If a child specifically asks for or needs some private time with you, ensure that another coach knows where you and the child are.

7. Only provide personal care in case of an emergency and make sure there is more than one adult if possible

To show respect to athletes and parents you should:

1. Listen to and respect all members of Power Athletics at all times.

2. Value and take into consideration athletes’ contributions, actively involving them in planning activities wherever possible.

3. Respect a young person or vulnerable adult’s privacy as far as possible. (In some cases it may be necessary to break confidentiality in order to follow child protection procedures; if this is the case it is important to explain this to the young person or vulnerable adult at the earliest opportunity).

Unacceptable behaviour

When working with children and young people, you must not:

1. Allows concerns or allegations to go unreported.

2. Take unnecessary risks.

3. Smoke, consume alcohol or use illegal substances.

4. Develop inappropriate relationships with children and young people.

5. Make inappropriate promises to children, young people and vulnerable adults (This includes having any form of sexual contact with a child or young person).

6. Let children and young people have your personal contact details (mobile number, email or address) or have contact with them via a personal social media account.

7. Act in a way that can be perceived as threatening or intrusive.

8. Patronise or belittle any athlete, parent, volunteer or other coach.

9. Make sarcastic, insensitive, derogatory or sexually suggestive comments or gestures to or in front of young people or children.