

Code of conduct for players, parents and members

How we treat each other at our volleyball club: in the hall, on the sidelines, on the road and online.

Club	Adopted on	Next review
------	------------	-------------

How to use this sample: read it through with the board, delete or change anything that does not fit your club and fill in the blanks. Have the board adopt the code (or the general meeting, if your constitution requires it), share it with every member and review it every season.

1. Why we have this code

At our club everyone should be able to enjoy volleyball and feel safe, whether they play, coach, referee, keep score or help in any other way. This code of conduct describes how we treat each other: in the hall, on the sidelines, on the way to away matches and online. It applies to everyone who belongs to the club or visits us.

2. Who it applies to

- Players of all ages
- Parents and carers of junior members
- Members who do not play, or no longer play
- Volunteers such as referees, scorers, hall duty volunteers and committee members
- Supporters and visitors at our matches and events

Coaches and team staff follow this code too. If the club has a separate code of conduct for coaches, that applies as well.

3. What we expect from everyone

- We treat everyone with respect: teammates, opponents, referees, coaches, volunteers and spectators.
- We do not accept discrimination, bullying, abusive language, intimidation, harassment (including sexual harassment), violence or threats. Not even as a joke.
- We speak to each other calmly about behaviour, preferably not in front of others. And we accept it when someone speaks to us.
- We keep our commitments: we arrive on time, say in good time when we cannot come and do what we said we would do.
- We take care of the hall, the balls, the nets and other people's belongings, and we tidy up together afterwards.
- We follow the law and the house rules of the sports hall, including those on alcohol, smoking and drugs.
- We do our share of the jobs that keep the club running, such as refereeing, scoring and setting up.

4. As a player

- You play fair. You win without showing off and lose without complaining.
- You accept the referees' decisions. During a match, questions to the referee go through the game captain.
- After the match you thank the opponents and the referees.
- You encourage your teammates, also after a mistake. Giving instructions is the coach's job.
- You arrive on time, say in good time when you cannot come and follow the coach's instructions.

- In the changing rooms and showers you respect everyone's privacy: you do not take photos or videos there.

5. As a parent or carer

- You cheer the whole team on positively, and applaud a good rally by the opponents too.
- Coaching is the coach's job. You do not give your child your own instructions during a match.
- You leave referees, scorers and opponents alone and do not comment on decisions.
- Questions about playing time or the line-up are not for during or straight after a match, but for a calm moment with the coach.
- You keep in mind that coaches, referees and team staff are often volunteers who give up their free time.
- If you are down for transport or a job and cannot make it, you arrange a replacement yourself.
- You set a good example: children copy the way adults behave.

6. As a member, volunteer or visitor

- You respect referees, scorers and other volunteers. Complaints about their work go to the board afterwards, not in the hall.
- As a volunteer you are the face of the club: you are welcoming and neutral towards the home and away teams.
- You follow the instructions of the hall duty volunteer and the board.
- Anyone who does not keep to this code in the hall may be asked to leave by the hall duty volunteer or the board.

7. Online and on social media

- What you would not say in the hall, you do not post online either: no insults, bullying or negative posts about players, coaches, referees or opponents.
- You only share photos and videos of other people with their permission. For junior members you also ask a parent or carer.
- A team's group chat is about the team. Playing time, the line-up or referees are things you discuss with the person directly.
- You do not share anyone's address, phone number or other details without their permission.
- You only use the club's name and logo for club business.

8. Contact with junior members

These rules apply to every adult who has contact with players under 18 on behalf of the club: coaches, team staff, volunteers and board members.

- Messages to junior members go through the team channel or with a parent or carer included, not as a private message.
- Messages are about the sport and the club and are sent at reasonable times.
- You do not send junior members friend or follow requests on social media and do not hold private conversations with them there.
- You do not go into a changing room alone while junior members are changing. If you need to, you knock first and go in with a second adult.
- If you drive a junior member home on your own or meet one on one, a parent or carer knows about it.

9. Raising a concern: who to contact

Do you see or hear behaviour that does not fit this code, or is it happening to you? Speak to the person if it is safe to do so. If that is not possible or it is serious, report it to the coach, a board member or the confidential adviser. What you tell us is treated in confidence.

Role	Name	Phone or email
Confidential adviser		
Board		
Youth coordinator		

If anyone is in immediate danger, call the emergency services.

10. Measures

If someone does not keep to this code, the first step is a conversation. After that the board can take measures, depending on how serious the behaviour is and whether it has happened before:

1. a conversation with the coach or a board member;
2. a warning, spoken or in writing;
3. a temporary ban from training, matches or activities (suspension);
4. for serious or repeated behaviour: ending the membership, as set out in the club's constitution.

Before the board takes a measure, the person concerned gets the chance to tell their side of the story. For junior members, their parents or carers are involved. In cases of violence or sexual misconduct the board can suspend someone straight away; reporting it to the police is always possible.

11. How we make this code known

This is how we make sure everyone knows the code (tick what applies):

- ☐ It is on the club website.
- ☐ It is in the club handbook.
- ☐ New members receive it when they join.
- ☐ It is on display in the hall, on the notice board or on a screen.
- ☐ All members receive it by email at the start of every season.
- ☐ Other: _____

The board reviews the code every season. Comments and suggestions are welcome.

If your club uses Koach with the Club plan, you can point all members to this code with a club announcement in the app; Koach has no private messages.

You are free to use, copy and adapt this sample.

Declaration

Club

I have read the club's code of conduct and will keep to it. I know who to contact if I see or experience something that does not fit this code.

Name

Team

Date

Signature

For members under 18, a parent or carer also signs:

Name of parent or carer

Date

Signature

Hand in to:

Declaration

Club

I have read the club's code of conduct and will keep to it. I know who to contact if I see or experience something that does not fit this code.

Name

Team

Date

Signature

For members under 18, a parent or carer also signs:

Name of parent or carer

Date

Signature

Hand in to:
