



CODE OF CONDUCT

1. PURPOSE

- (1) Touch Singapore ("TSG") is committed to providing and encouraging a safe, fair and inclusive environment for everyone involved.
- (2) This Code of Conduct is intended to protect the spirit of the game; to preserve the best interest of the participants; and to set out minimum standards of behaviour, gender equity, harassment, discrimination and discipline. The Code is intended to serve as an ethical code to outline general principles and guidelines of proper ethical behaviour for all members, volunteers, and any other individuals and organisations that chose to affiliate with TSG.
- (3) Behaviour or actions (as outlined in this Code) that are considered unacceptable by TSG may result in disciplinary action against the relevant member through TSG Judicial, Disciplinary and Appeal Procedures as approved by TSG Management Committee.

2. INTERPRETATION

- (1) In this Code, unless the context otherwise requires –

"Athletes Code" means a Code of Behaviour that applies to athletes in the sport of Touch at any level of participation.

"Coaches Code" means a Code of Behaviour that applies to coaches of the sport of Touch at any level of participation.

"Core Code" means the overarching Code of Behaviour.

"Officials Code" means a Code of Behaviour that applies to Referee, Official, Administrators, Board member, Commission member, Committee member, volunteers or any person of authority of the sport of Touch at any level of participation.

"Spectators/Parents Code" means a Code of Behaviour that applies to Spectator and Parents of the sport of Touch at any level of participation.

"Management Committee" means the body consisting of the directors as described in TSG's Constitution 2017.

"Touch" means the sport or game played under the rules determined by the Federation of International Touch from time to time.

Words importing the masculine gender include females.

Words in the singular include the plural and words in the plural include the singular.

- (2) Where a word or expression is defined in a written law, then, unless the contrary intention appears, other parts of speech and grammatical forms of that word or expression, and cognate expressions, have corresponding meanings in that law

3. SCOPE

- (1) This Code applies to the following TSG members:
 - (a) Persons who participate in any TSG and/or TSG-affiliated tournaments either as participant or spectator/parent;
 - (b) Every Member of TSG as defined under the TSG Constitution; and
 - (c) All officers, volunteers, and/or employed staff.

4. CORE CODE

- (1) The following principles guide the interpretation of this Code:
 - (a) TSG members should fulfil their obligations to TSG with professionalism and integrity, to act within the rules and spirit of our sport;
 - (b) TSG members have a duty to discharge honourably and with integrity, all responsibilities and duties owed to TSG, the public, and members of TSG; and
 - (c) TSG members should not bring TSG or the sport of touch into disrepute through their activities, whether inside or outside TSG. Activities outside TSG are unlikely to be acceptable if they damage the standing or reputation of TSG or the sport of touch generally.
 - (d) TSG members shall comply with all legislation, enactments by whatever name called and subsidiary legislation made thereunder for the time being in force in Singapore.

5. ATHLETES CODE

- (1) The following principles guide the interpretation of the Athletes Code:
 - (a) An athlete must be fair, considerate and honest in all dealing with others; and display respect and courtesy towards everyone involved in TSG, to prevent discrimination and harassment.
 - (b) To encourage and support opportunities for participation in all aspects of Touch.
- (2) An athlete must –
 - (a) Honour both the essence and letter of competition rules, and play by the rules at all times;
 - (b) Encourage honest and open competition;
 - (c) Respect individual differences of people within TSG;
 - (d) Share the responsibility and work load;
 - (e) Respect the rights, dignity and worth of others;
 - (f) Refrain from any form of harassment of others;
 - (g) Refrain from any behaviour that may bring TSG, a member association or an affiliated club into disrepute;
 - (h) Exhibit exemplary sportsmanship at all times;
 - (i) Co-operate with his coach, manager, teammates and TSG's officials;
 - (j) Respect his opponents; and
 - (k) Safeguard his health by not using any illegal or harmful substances.

6. COACHES CODE

- (1) The following principles guide the interpretation of the Coaches Code:
 - (a) The relationship between a coach and his athlete imports a duty to be honest in all dealings with the athlete.
 - (b) A coach must have requisite knowledge, skill, and experience to provide competent service to the athlete.
 - (c) A coach must, at all times, conduct himself in a manner that shows leadership, respect for the game, and all those that are involved in the game.
- (2) A coach must –
 - (a) Demonstrate respect for all athletes regardless of level of ability the athlete possesses; and respect for the ability of referees and all officials;
 - (b) To prioritise the safety and welfare of athletes above all else;
 - (c) Be a positive role model for your athletes;
 - (d) Make a personal commitment to keep informed on sound coaching principles and abreast of current trends;
 - (e) Help each athlete reach his potential through positive and supportive feedback;
 - (f) Be professional in the discharge of his responsibilities;
 - (g) Encourage and support opportunities for participation in all aspects of Touch;
 - (h) Teach his athletes that the rules of the game are a mutual agreement which no one should try to evade or deliberately break;

- (i) Be reasonable with his demands on the athletes, taking into consideration the athlete's time and energy;
- (j) Not unlawfully discriminate against or harass fellow members or the public on the basis of gender, age, disability, marital status, ethnicity, religious or ethical beliefs or sexual orientation;
- (k) Not engage in any form of sexual harassment either verbal or physical behaviour of a sexual nature which is unwelcome to the receiver. Behaviour constituting sexual harassment include sex-orientated jibes or abuse; offensive gestures or comments; unwanted and deliberate physical contact; requests for sexual intercourse including implied or overt promises for preferential treatment or threats concerning present or future prospects for other Touch-related activities; the use of pictures/posters of a sexual or intimate nature; persistent and unwelcome social invitations, phone calls or mail; or obscene phone calls;
- (l) Ensure that equipment and facilities meet safety standards of the age, sex and ability of the team; and
- (m) Be honest and do not misrepresent qualifications.

7. OFFICIALS CODE

- (1) The following principles guide the interpretation of the Officials Code:
 - (a) An Official must be impartial, consistent, objective, courteous, and behave in a manner befitting the Official's standing.
 - (b) An Official must act honourably in the discharge of his duties, and behave in a manner consistent with the public interest.
 - (c) An Official must always be truthful and accurate in the Official's communications with any member of TSG or the public.
 - (d) An Official must not present, or permit to be presented, any evidence or information which the Official knows to be false.
- (2) An Official must –
 - (a) Discharge his responsibilities with due care, competence and diligence;
 - (b) Display fairness and uniformity in applying the rules of Touch;
 - (c) Condemn any deliberate foul as being unsporting, and promote fair play and appropriate sports behaviour;
 - (d) Use common sense to ensure the spirit of the game for players is not lost by being too pedantic when applying the rules of Touch;
 - (e) Make a personal commitment to keep informed on new developments in Touch rules;
 - (f) Prioritise the safety and welfare of the participants;
 - (g) Accept responsibility for all actions taken;
 - (h) Avoid any situation which may lead to a conflict in interest;
 - (i) Refrain from any form of sexual harassment towards athletes;
 - (j) Show care and concern for sick and/or injured athletes;
 - (k) Always act honestly, in good faith and in the best interests of Touch;
 - (l) Ensure that any information acquired or advantage gained from his position is not used improperly;
 - (m) In any proceedings before the Disciplinary Tribunal, conduct the matter in a manner which maintains fairness, integrity, and efficiency of the matter, and which is consistent with due process;
 - (n) Ensure that equal opportunity for participation in Touch is available to all regardless of ability, size, shape, set, age, ethnic origin or disability; and
 - (o) Make available this Code of Conduct to all participants

8. SPECTATORS/PARENTS CODE

- (1) The following principles guide the interpretation of the Spectators/Parents Code:
 - (a) A Spectator must relate to other Spectators in a manner which promotes appropriate social behaviour.
- (2) A Spectator must –
 - (a) Applaud good performance and efforts from all athletes and teams regardless of the outcomes of the relevant games;
 - (b) Respect the decisions of Officials and teach junior athletes to do the same;
 - (c) Not ridicule or scold an athlete for making a mistake; be motivational.
 - (d) Condemn the use of violence in any form;
 - (e) Show respect for all athletes and Officials;
 - (f) Not use foul language, sledge or harass athletes, other Spectators, Coaches or Officials;
 - (g) Be courteous in his communication; and
 - (h) Do not interfere with the conduct of any events.