



Title:	Code of Conduct	Effective Date:	12-15-2024
Approved By:	Board of Directors	Revision / Replaces:	v2024.1

Code of Conduct and Ethics

(the “Code”)

Taekwondo Ontario has adopted the Universal Code of Conduct to Prevent and Address Maltreatment in Sport (“UCCMS”), as amended from time to time, which shall be incorporated into this Code by reference as if set out in full herein. Any modifications or amendments made to the UCCMS by the relevant functions of Abuse-Free Sport shall come into effect immediately upon their adoption by the relevant functions of Abuse-Free Sport and automatically without the need for any further action by Taekwondo Ontario.

As a Signatory of Abuse-Free Sport, Taekwondo Canada has designated certain Participants as Abuse-Free Sport Participants.

*It is important to note that the Code applies to all Participants, **but not all Participants are Abuse-Free Sport Participants** and subject to the Office of the Sport Integrity Commissioner (“OSIC”) Process under Abuse-Free Sport.*

Members of Taekwondo Ontario may have their own codes of conduct applicable to registrants participating in the Member’s business, activities, and events. A Member’s registrants may also be subject to this Code if they are involved in Taekwondo Ontario business, activities, and Events, including being designated an Abuse-Free Sport Participant.

Purpose

1. The purpose of this Code is to ensure a safe and positive environment within the programs, activities, and Events of Taekwondo Ontario and its Members by making all Participants aware that there is an expectation, at all times, of appropriate behavior consistent with Taekwondo Ontario’s core values, mission, and policies.
2. Taekwondo Ontario and its Members and Participants support equal opportunity, prohibit discriminatory practices, and are committed to providing an environment in which all individuals can safely participate in sport and are treated with respect and fairness.

Application - General

3. Taekwondo Ontario and its Members and Participants support equal opportunity, prohibit discriminatory practices, and are committed to providing an environment in which all individuals can safely participate in sport and are treated with respect and fairness.
4. This Code also applies to the conduct of Participants outside of the business, activities, and Events of Taekwondo Ontario and its Members when such conduct adversely affects Taekwondo Ontario's relationships (and the work and sport environment) or is detrimental to the image and reputation of Taekwondo Ontario or a Member. Such applicability will be determined by Taekwondo Ontario's Independent Third Party.
5. In addition, this Policy will apply to breaches of the Code that occurred when Participants involved interacted due to their mutual involvement in the sport or, if the breach occurred outside of the sport environment, if the breach has a serious and detrimental impact on the Participant(s).
6. This Code applies to Participants active in the sport or who have retired from the sport where any claim regarding a potential breach of this Code occurred when the Participants were active in the sport.

Prohibited Behaviors

7. All Participants must refrain from any behavior that constitutes a Prohibited Behavior as defined by the UCCMS and the Code.
8. Participants are responsible for knowing what actions or behaviors constitute Prohibited Behavior and Maltreatment.
9. Prohibited Behavior under the UCCMS includes, but is not limited to:
 - a. Physical Maltreatment
 - b. Psychological Maltreatment
 - c. Neglect
 - d. Sexual Maltreatment
 - e. Grooming
 - f. Boundary Transgressions
 - g. Discrimination
 - h. Failing to Report
 - i. Aiding and Abetting
 - j. Retaliation
 - k. Interference with or Manipulation of Process

10. False Reports

In addition to the Prohibited Behavior defined in the UCCMS, this Code sets out other expected standards of behavior and conduct for all Participants and any failure to respect these expected standards of behavior by any Participant may constitute a breach of this Code.

Responsibilities Of Participants

11. All Participants have a responsibility to:

- a. Conduct themselves in a manner consistent with the Tenets of Taekwondo, which are courtesy, integrity, perseverance, self-control and indomitable spirit.
- b. Refrain from any behavior that constitutes Maltreatment and Prohibited Behavior under this Code and the UCCMS.
- c. Maintain and enhance the dignity and self-esteem of other Participants by:
 - i. Treating each other with fairness, honesty, respect and integrity;
 - ii. Focusing comments or criticism appropriately and avoiding public criticism of Athletes, Athlete Support Personnel, officials, organizers, volunteers, employees, or other Participants;
 - iii. Consistently demonstrating the spirit of sportsmanship, sport leadership, and ethical conduct; and
 - iv. Ensuring adherence to the rules of the sport and the spirit of those rules.
- d. Refrain from the use of power or authority to coerce another person to engage in inappropriate activities.
- e. Refrain from consuming tobacco products, cannabis, or recreational drugs while participating in the programs, activities, competitions, or Events of Taekwondo Ontario or a Member.
- f. In the case of Minors, not consume alcohol, tobacco, or cannabis at any competition or Event.
- g. In the case of individuals who are not Minors, not consume cannabis in the Workplace or in any situation associated with the Events of Taekwondo Ontario or a Member (subject to protections under applicable human rights legislation), not consume alcohol during training, competitions, or in situations where Minors are present, and take reasonable steps to manage the responsible consumption of alcohol in adult-oriented social situations.
- h. When driving a vehicle:
 - i. Have a valid driver's license;
 - ii. Obey traffic laws;
 - iii. Not be under the influence of alcohol or illegal drugs or substances;
 - iv. Have valid car insurance; and
 - v. Refrain from engaging in any activity that would constitute distracted driving.
- i. Respect the property of others and not willfully cause damage.
- j. Promote sport in the most constructive and positive manner possible.

- k. Refrain from engaging in deliberate behavior which is intended to manipulate the outcome of a para-classification, competition, not offer or receive any benefit which is intended to manipulate the outcome of a competition or para-classification. A benefit includes the direct or indirect receipt of money or other anything else of value, including, but not limited to, bribes, gains, gifts, preferential treatment, and other advantages. Sporting advantage is also a benefit.
- l. Adhere to all applicable federal, provincial/territorial, municipal and host country laws.
- m. Comply with the bylaws, policies, procedures, rules, and regulations of Taekwondo Ontario, its Members and those of any other sport organization with authority over the Participant, as applicable, and as adopted and amended from time to time.

DIRECTORS, COMMITTEE MEMBERS, STAFF AND CONTRACTORS

12. In addition to section 4 (above), Directors, Committee Members, Staff and Contractors of Taekwondo Ontario and its Members will have additional responsibilities to:
- a. Function primarily as a Director, committee member or employee of Taekwondo Ontario or the Member (as applicable) and ensure to prioritize their duty of loyalty to Taekwondo Ontario or the Member (and not to any other organization or group) while acting in this role.
 - b. Act with honesty and integrity and conduct themselves in a manner consistent with the nature and responsibilities of the business and the maintenance of all Participants' confidence.
 - c. Ensure that financial affairs are conducted in a responsible and transparent manner with due regard for all fiduciary responsibilities.
 - d. Comply with their obligations under the Screening Policy, including understanding ongoing expectations under the Screening Policy and fully cooperating in the screening process.
 - e. Conduct themselves openly, professionally, lawfully and in good faith.
 - f. Be independent and impartial and not be influenced by self-interest, outside pressure, expectation of reward, or fear of criticism in their decision-making on behalf of Taekwondo Ontario.
 - g. Exercise the degree of care, diligence, and skill required in the performance of their duties pursuant to applicable laws.
 - h. Maintain required confidentiality of organizational information.
 - i. Commit the time to attend meetings and be diligent in preparation for, and participation in, discussions at such meetings.
 - j. Have a thorough knowledge and understanding of all governance documents.

ATHLETE SUPPORT PERSONNEL

13. In addition to section 4 (above), Athlete Support Personnel have additional responsibilities.
14. Athlete Support Personnel must understand and respect the inherent Power Imbalance that exists in this relationship and must not abuse it, either consciously or unconsciously.
15. Athlete Support Personnel will:
 - a. Avoid any behavior that abuses the Power Imbalance inherent in the position of an Athlete Support Person to:
 - i. establish or maintain a sexual relationship with an Athlete or encourage inappropriate physical or emotional intimacy with an Athlete, regardless of the Athlete's age.
 - b. Ensure a safe environment by selecting activities and establishing controls that are suitable for the age, experience, ability, and fitness level of Athletes.
 - c. Prepare Athletes systematically and progressively, using appropriate timeframes and monitoring physical and psychological adjustments while refraining from using training methods or techniques that may harm Athletes.
 - d. Avoid compromising the present and future health of Athletes by communicating and cooperating with sport medicine professionals in the diagnosis, treatment, and management of Athletes' medical and psychological treatments.
 - e. Support the Athlete Support Personnel of a training camp, provincial/territorial team, or national team should an Athlete qualify for participation with one of these programs.
 - f. Comply with all established responsibilities and obligations as set out by the Athlete Support Person's professional governing association or order, if any.
 - g. Accept and promote Athletes' personal goals and refer Athletes to other coaches and sport specialists as appropriate.
 - h. Provide Athletes (and the parents/guardians of Minor Athletes) with the information necessary to be involved in the decisions that affect the Athlete.
 - i. Act in the best interest of the Athlete's development as a whole person.
 - j. Comply with their obligations under the Screening Policy, including understanding ongoing expectations under this Policy and fully cooperating in the screening process.
 - k. Under no circumstances provide, promote, or condone the use of drugs (other than properly prescribed medications) or prohibited substances or prohibited methods and, in the case of Minors, alcohol, cannabis, and/or tobacco.
 - l. Respect competitor Athletes and, in dealings with them, not encroach upon topics or take actions which are deemed to be within the realm of coaching, unless prior approval from the coaches who are responsible for the Athletes is received.
 - m. When a Power Imbalance exists, not engage in a sexual or intimate relationship with an Athlete of any age.

- n. Disclose to Taekwondo Ontario or the Member (as applicable) any sexual or intimate relationship with an Athlete over the age of majority and, if requested by Taekwondo Ontario, immediately discontinue any coaching involvement with that Athlete.
- o. Recognize the power inherent in the position of Athlete Support Personnel and respect and promote the rights of all Participants in sport. This is accomplished by establishing and following procedures for confidentiality (right to privacy), informed participation, and fair and reasonable treatment. Coaches have a special responsibility to respect and promote the rights of Participants who are in a vulnerable or dependent position and less able to protect their own rights.
- p. Dress professionally and use appropriate language.
- q. Comply with provincial team agreements (if applicable).

ATHLETES

16. In addition to section 4 (above), Athletes will have additional responsibilities to:
- a. Follow their athlete agreement and any other provincial team agreement (if applicable).
 - b. Report any medical problems in a timely fashion, when such problems may limit their ability to travel, practice, or compete.
 - c. Participate and appear on-time and prepared to participate to their best abilities in all competitions, practices, training sessions, and evaluations.
 - d. Properly represent themselves and not attempt to participate in a competition for which they are not eligible by reason of age, classification, or other reason.
 - e. Adhere to any rules and requirements regarding clothing, professionalism, and equipment.
 - f. Act in accordance with applicable policies and procedures and, when applicable, additional rules as outlined by Athlete Support Personnel.

OFFICIALS

17. In addition to section 4 (above), officials will have additional responsibilities to:
- a. Maintain and update their knowledge of the rules and rule changes.
 - b. Not publicly criticize other Participants.
 - c. Adhere at all times to the rules of their international federation and any other sport organization that has relevant and applicable authority.
 - d. Place the safety and welfare of competitors, and the fairness of the competition above all else.

- e. Strive to provide a fair sporting environment, and at no time engage in Maltreatment or Prohibited Behavior toward any person on the field of play.
- f. Respect the terms of any agreement that they enter with Taekwondo Ontario or a Member.
- g. Work within the boundaries of their position's description while supporting the work of other officials.
- h. Act as an ambassador of the sport by agreeing to enforce and abide by national and provincial/territorial rules and regulations.
- i. Take ownership of actions and decisions made while officiating.
- j. Respect the rights, dignity, and worth of all Participants.
- k. Act openly, impartially, professionally, lawfully, and in good faith.
- l. Be fair, equitable, considerate, independent, honest, and impartial in all dealings with others.
- m. Respect the confidentiality required by issues of a sensitive nature, which may include discipline processes, appeals, and specific information or data about Participants.
- n. Comply with their obligations under the *Screening Policy*, including understanding ongoing expectations under this Policy and fully cooperating in the screening process.
- o. Honor all assignments unless unable to do so by virtue of illness or personal emergency, and in these cases inform a supervisor or Taekwondo Ontario or the Member at the earliest possible time.
- p. When writing reports, set out the actual facts to the best of their knowledge and recollection.
- q. Dress in proper attire for officiating.

PARENTS/GUARDIANS

18. In addition to section 4 (above), parents/guardians at Events will:
- a. Encourage Athletes to compete within the rules and to resolve conflicts without resorting to hostility or violence.
 - b. Condemn the use of violence in any form.
 - c. Never ridicule a Participant for making a mistake during a competition or practice.
 - d. Respect the decisions and judgments of officials and encourage Athletes to do the same.

- e. Support all efforts to stop and prevent verbal and physical abuse, coercion, intimidation, and excessive sarcasm.
- f. Respect and show appreciation to all competitors, and to coaches, officials and other volunteers.
- g. Never harass Participants, competitors, Athlete Support Personnel, officials, parents/guardians, or other spectators.
- h. Never encourage, aid, covert up or assist an Athlete in cheating through doping, competition manipulation or other cheating behaviors.

MEMBER CLUBS

19. Member Clubs must:

- a. Adhere to all of Taekwondo Ontario's governing documents and policies, and, when required, amend their own rules to comply or align with those of Taekwondo Ontario.
- b. Pay all required dues and fees by the prescribed deadlines.
- c. Ensure that all Athletes and coaches participating in sanctioned competitions and Events of Taekwondo Ontario are registered and in good standing.
- d. Appropriately screen prospective employees, staff and contractors to help ensure Athletes have a healthy and safe sport environment.
- e. Ensure that any possible or actual misconduct is investigated promptly and thoroughly.
- f. Impose appropriate disciplinary or corrective measures when misconduct has been substantiated.
- g. Advise Taekwondo Ontario immediately of any situation where a complainant has publicized a complaint in the media (including social media).
- h. Provide Taekwondo Ontario with a copy of all decisions rendered pursuant to the organization's policies for complaints and appeals.
- i. Implement any decisions and disciplinary sanctions imposed pursuant to Taekwondo Ontario, any Member or club's discipline process.

ANTI-DOPING

20. Taekwondo Ontario and its Members adopt and adhere to the Canadian Anti-Doping Program where applicable. Taekwondo Ontario and its Members will respect any sanction imposed on an Individual as a result of a breach of the Canadian Anti-Doping Program or any other applicable Anti-Doping Rules.



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RETALIATION, RETRIBUTION OR REPRISAL

21. It is a breach of this *Code of Conduct and Ethics* for any Participant to engage in any act that threatens or seeks to intimidate another individual with the intent of discouraging that Participant from filing, in good faith, a complaint pursuant to any Taekwondo Ontario policy. It is also a breach of this *Code of Conduct and Ethics* for a Participant to file a complaint for the purpose of retaliation, retribution or reprisal against any other Participant. Any Participant found to be in breach of this section shall be liable for the costs related to the disciplinary process required to establish such a breach.

PRIVACY

22. The collection, use and disclosure of any personal information pursuant to this Policy is subject to Taekwondo Ontario's *Privacy Policy*.