



Code of Conduct

for

Junior Golf Leaders

and Coaches

All people involved in the coaching or leadership of young golfers have a duty of care to ensure that the welfare of the young people they are in charge of is always considered as a top priority.

This code of conduct has been designed to ensure that all coaches and leaders have a point of reference which reminds them of the minimum standards expected when in the care of young people. All leaders and coaches should ensure that they are fully conversant with the guidelines outlined within the code and should operate within the guidelines at all times.

Key principles

Sport can play an extremely important part of a child's life. Golf, like any other sport, plays this part and will have a great bearing in how a child develops both physically and mentally. Coaches and leaders should therefore ensure that the young persons golfing environment is one which is safe and allows them to have fun, learn and develop.

The Code

1. Golf is for everyone and people's rights to participate in golf should be respected at all times. To protect and promote the rights of young people leaders and coaches should:

- a) Ensure that young people are able to participate in golf without fear of ridicule, harassment or unfair restrictions.
 - b) Promote the idea of a child or young person having a balanced lifestyle. Coaches and leaders should monitor closely the activities of a child and ensure that they are developing as young sportsmen and women.
 - c) Treat young golfers as individuals and allow them to develop at a rate that is comfortable to them.
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2. Develop a relationship with the young people you work with which is based on mutual respect and honesty. The following actions will ensure that this relationship develops effectively:

- a) Be in touch with the needs of the young golfers you work with. Be aware of their backgrounds and other interests outside golf, this will help you understand them and notice potential changes in their behaviour.
 - b) Ensure that you are aware of issues related to the abuse of young people and that your behaviour does not constitute any of these forms of abuse.
 - c) Coaches and Leaders have a responsibility to act if they have concerns about the welfare of a young person.
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3. Ensure that your coaching knowledge is current and as up to date as it can be. Being up to date means that coaches and leaders will commit to obtaining ongoing training to ensure that they have knowledge of:

- a) The physical, emotional and psychological capabilities of the young people you work with.
- b) Best practice regarding health and safety issues.
- c) Different techniques to motivate youngsters and the application of those techniques during golf activity sessions.
- d) How young people develop skill and how best to provide an environment where this can develop.

Remember that being the best coach or leader often means that you have to refer your participants to other more experienced coaches in order for them to develop fully.

4. Coaches and Leaders should maintain the highest levels of personal standards at all times. This means that coaches and leaders should:

- a) Maintain high standards of personal appearance: a coach or leader should look like one.
 - b) Plan sessions effectively to ensure maximum participation and enjoyment by all.
 - c) Ensure that they present an image of health and vitality to the children in their care. Do not smoke while you are coaching nor should you drink alcohol before or during your sessions.
 - d) Be a positive role model for young people at all times.
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This code of conduct is designed to be specific to golf and should be used as a point of reference for all golf coaches and leaders.

I agree to follow the above code of conduct whilst involved with children within Rothbury Golf Club.

Signature:

Name (printed):