

# Farnham Runners Club Standards: **Code of conduct**

## About the code

As an England Athletics (EA) affiliated club, Farnham Runners is committed to upholding EA club standards to ensure we practise good governance and demonstrate a duty of care to all of our members, coaches and volunteers.

The purpose of our **code of conduct** is to clarify:

- what behaviours are acceptable and unacceptable
- the standards of practice expected
- the basis for challenging and improving practice.

Our **code of conduct** is a guide for all of our members to think about and monitor how we all conduct ourselves in our roles and represent our club. Our code of conduct lets everyone know what they can expect from our Committee, Coaches and Volunteers, but also what standard of behaviour is expected from club members.

All new members will be asked to read and agree to our **code of conduct** when they apply and join our club. Our existing members will be asked to agree to the code at the earliest opportunity and not later than their next membership renewal.

We will use this code to monitor and improve the behaviour and practice of our members where necessary. When a club member does not meet the expectations set out in our code, disciplinary or performance management action may be taken by the club. We believe that adopting and communicating a clear **code of conduct** is an important step in delivering EA standards for wellbeing and protection of all athletes in sport.

The Club Committee has a responsibility to implement and communicate codes of conduct as well as relevant policies and procedures that link to the codes. Details of all UKA and HCAF codes of conduct can be found [on the UKA website](#).

[link to [anti-bullying policy](#)]

# Code of Conduct for Senior Athletes (18 and over)

## As a responsible athlete, I will:

- always act with dignity and display courtesy and good manners towards others.
- in no way undermine, put down or belittle other runners.
- respect the rights of all club members, fellow athletes, coaches, officials and others involved in athletics and treat everyone equally.
- not discriminate against others, including on the basis of their race, gender, ethnicity, sexual orientation or disability.
- challenge and report inappropriate behaviour and language by others to the Welfare Officer or member of the Committee as soon as possible.
- participate and cooperate within the rules of the sport, respect decisions of coaches and officials, and demonstrate respect towards fellow athletes
- consistently promote positive aspects of the sport and never condone rule violations or the use of prohibited substances.
- anticipate and be responsible for my own needs, including being organised, having the appropriate equipment and being on time.
- not be verbally abusive whilst at club functions and events, or when part of a team/squad.
- never engage in any inappropriate or illegal behaviour.
- not carry or consume alcohol or illegal substances while training or competing.
- maintain strict boundaries between friendship and intimacy with a coach or official.
- use safe transport or travel arrangements.
- act ethically, professionally and with integrity, and take responsibility for your actions.
- abide by the UKA and the HCAF [Adult Safeguarding Policy and Adult Safeguarding Procedures](#)
- abide by the UKA and the HCAF [Child Safeguarding Policy and Child Safeguarding Procedures](#)

## Breach of the code of conduct

I understand that if I do not follow the code, action can be taken by my club and I may:

- be asked to apologise for my behaviour
- receive a verbal warning from my coach
- receive a verbal or written warning from the club committee
- be suspended from attending club training sessions
- be suspended from the club
- be required to leave the club.

## Code of Conduct for club members (16 to 17)

### **As a child or young person under 18 years, I have the right to:**

- Be safe and protected
- Be listened to
- Be respected and treated fairly
- Be believed
- Ask for help
- Be coached by someone with the right qualifications

### **As a young athlete, I will respect the code of conduct and I will:**

- Always run in a group with at least one DBS cleared runner and stay with the group at all times
- Be friendly and supportive to other club members
- Keep myself safe
- Tell someone if I am ill or injured
- Report inappropriate behaviour or risky situations to the Welfare Officer or member of the Committee as soon as possible
- Compete fairly and respect other athletes and officials
- Respect the rules of the club
- Behave and listen to all instructions from coaches, leaders and other runners
- Take care of equipment owned by the club
- Not be verbally abusive or take part in inappropriate or illegal behaviour
- Not bully anyone or pressure them to do things they don't want to do
- In no way undermine, put down or belittle other coaches, leaders or runners
- Keep to agreed timings for club activities
- Tell my parents/carers where I am or if I am going to be late
- Not carry or consume alcohol or illegal substances while training or competing
- Use safe transport or travel arrangements

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- receive a verbal or written warning from the club committee
- be suspended from attending club sessions
- be suspended from the club
- be required to leave the club