

British Orienteering's Code of Ethics and Behaviour is the ethical philosophy under which the sport operates. It describes the behaviour expected of all within orienteering in the UK.

British Orienteering is responsible for setting standards and values to apply throughout the sport at every level.

The Code of Ethics and Behaviour encapsulates all the sporting, moral and ethical principles that orienteering represents. The Code is intended for all participants and disciplines within the sport. Everyone involved in the sport should promote equality of opportunity, fairness and respect. All those involved within orienteering have a responsibility to act according to the highest standards of integrity and to ensure that the reputation of the sport is, and remains, high.

## *Purpose*

The purpose of the Code of Ethics is to **“establish the expected minimum standards of behaviour and conduct for all people involved within the sport”**.

We believe the content of the Code of Ethics & Behaviour will contribute to a positive future for British Orienteering.

The content of this Code of Ethics & Behaviour applies to all involved with the sport of orienteering in the UK. To protect the reputation of orienteering in the UK, the Code also applies to all those associated with British Orienteering who are involved in orienteering overseas.

## *Expected Minimum Standards of Behaviour and Conduct*

All individuals involved in orienteering will, at all times:

- Respect the spirit of fairness in orienteering. This is more than participating within the rules – it also incorporates the concepts of friendship, respect for others and always participating with the right spirit.
- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of others.
- Conduct themselves in a manner that takes all reasonable measures to protect their own safety and the safety of others.
- Promote the reputation of orienteering and take all possible steps to prevent it from being brought into disrepute.
- Protect themselves and others involved in orienteering from verbal or physical abuse and threatening or intimidating behaviour.
- Never use inappropriate language or gestures.
- Abide by British Orienteering's Child Safeguarding Policy and Adult Safeguarding Policy.
- Abide by the British Orienteering Equality Policy.
- Abide by the British Orienteering Anti-doping Rules.
- Take personal responsibility to ensure that they are suitably insured for their activities.

*Good practice should reflect the following principles:*

***Rights – People must:***

- respect and support the rights of every individual to take part in orienteering
- help create an environment of enjoyment which is free of fear, discrimination or harassment
- be committed to treating all people fairly and providing equality of opportunity irrespective of age, gender, ability, race, religion, ethnic origin, creed, colour, social status or sexual orientation
- be discreet in the handling of any information about people engaged in orienteering

***Relationships – People must:***

- not engage in any behaviour which constitutes any form of abuse (physical, sexual or emotional), neglect or bullying
- promote the welfare of participants and, in the case of children, discuss with the child, their parents/carers the potential impact of orienteering on the child
- take action if they have any welfare concerns about any child by following the appropriate procedures
- encourage people to take responsibility for their own development
- communicate fully with people and particularly parent/carers in the case of children, the nature of the orienteering programme and costs involved

***Responsibilities (Personal Standards) – People must:***

- be fair, considerate and honest in their dealings with everyone
- promote an image of a healthy lifestyle whilst participating or volunteering in orienteering
- display high standards of language and behaviour
- be a positive role model for others
- promote respect for the environment

***Responsibilities (Professional Standards) – People must:***

- follow the guidelines of British Orienteering for orienteering activities