

Dwarf Sports Association UK (DSAuk)
Adult Participant Code of Conduct

For Event, Competition, Training Session, and Social Activity Participants



1. Purpose

DSAuk is committed to creating a welcoming, safe, and inclusive environment where every participant—whether an athlete, family member, friend, or carer—feels respected, valued, and able to take part. We celebrate diversity in all its forms, including disability, gender, age, sexual orientation, race, ethnicity, beliefs, and background.

This Code of Conduct sets out the standards of behaviour we expect from everyone involved in DSAuk activities. By following it, we can ensure our events remain positive, enjoyable, and respectful for all.

Principles for Participation

- **Fair play** – Respect the rules and the spirit of the game.
- **Equality** – Treat everyone with fairness and without discrimination.
- **Inclusiveness & tolerance** – Welcome and support people of all abilities and experiences.
- **Responsibility** – Act with integrity and care towards others.
- **Friendship** – Build supportive and encouraging relationships.

2. Expected Behaviour

- Respect and celebrate differences—never discriminate based on disability, gender, race, sexual orientation, religion, or any other characteristic.
- Treat all participants, coaches, volunteers, and staff with respect, dignity, and fairness.
- Recognise and value different levels of skill, fitness, and experience.
- Encourage and support others—celebrate their successes and be there when they need help.
- Follow the instructions of event staff, coaches, and volunteers.
- Comply with all venue and event safety rules.
- Be mindful of your surroundings and considerate to others.
- Follow DSAuk’s online safety guidelines when engaging digitally.
- Report any concerns for safety or well-being to event organisers.

3. Unacceptable Behaviour

This includes, but is not limited to:

- Discrimination, harassment, bullying, or intimidation of any kind.
 - Unwanted physical, verbal, or non-verbal behaviour that violates someone's dignity.
 - Use or display of offensive or explicit material.
 - Offensive jokes or remarks, including racial, religious, or gender-based slurs.
 - Stalking, intimidation, or taking photos/recordings without consent.*
 - Repeated disruption of activities.
 - Possession or use of weapons or illegal substances.
 - Inappropriate alcohol or substance use in non-designated areas.
 - Violent, aggressive, or threatening behaviour.
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4. Consequences of Breaching the Code

- **First offence:** Verbal warning and a discussion with the DSAuk Safeguarding Officer.
- **Second offence:** Temporary suspension from the activity or event.
- **Third offence:** Removal from the event (at your own expense if travel is required) and possible exclusion from future events.

If there is significant harm, or if a crime is suspected, the matter will be reported to the police or relevant authorities.

5. Virtual Events

When participating online, please:

- Follow the same standards of behaviour as at in-person events.
 - Avoid inappropriate language, personal attacks, or excessive posting.
 - Do not impersonate others or misuse chat/Q&A functions.
 - Inappropriate content will be removed and repeat offenders may be removed from the event.
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6. Reporting Concerns

If you experience or witness unacceptable behaviour:

- Speak to a member of venue staff or a DSAuk event organiser immediately.

- If there is immediate danger or a suspected crime, contact emergency services.

All concerns will be handled in line with DSAuk safeguarding policies, and event staff will provide appropriate support and escalation.

7. Accountability

Everyone involved in DSAuk events—including athletes, family members, carers, volunteers, sponsors, and guests—must follow this Code of Conduct at all event-related activities, including social gatherings.

8. Photography & Filming

Photography and filming may take place at DSAuk events. Consent will be sought for images highlighting specific individuals. If you do not wish to be photographed or filmed, please inform event organisers and request a yellow wristband to indicate this. While we will do our best, it may not be possible to exclude you from group shots taken in public spaces.

9. Contact Information

For concerns or questions, contact:

 [**info@dsauk.org**](mailto:info@dsauk.org)