

Dwarf Sports Association UK (DSAuk)

Child and Young Participant Code of Conduct

(For children and young people under 18 participating in DSAuk events, competitions, training sessions, and social activities)

Version 1 – January 2026

1. Purpose

DSAuk is committed to creating a welcoming, safe, and inclusive environment where every child and young person feels respected, valued, and able to take part.

We recognise our responsibility to safeguard and promote the welfare of all children and young people involved in our activities. This Code of Conduct sets out the standards of behaviour we expect from children and young participants and explains how everyone can help make DSAuk activities positive, enjoyable, and safe.

This Code should be read alongside the DSAuk Safeguarding Children and Young People Policy.

Principles for Participation

- **Fair play** – Respect the rules and the spirit of the game.
 - **Equality** – Treat everyone fairly and without discrimination.
 - **Inclusiveness & tolerance** – Welcome and support people of all abilities and experiences.
 - **Responsibility** – Take care of yourself and others.
 - **Friendship** – Be kind, supportive, and encouraging.
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2. Expected Behaviour

Children and young people taking part in DSAuk activities are expected to:

- Be kind, respectful, and considerate to other participants, coaches, volunteers, and staff.
- Treat everyone fairly regardless of disability, gender, race, religion, sexual orientation, or background.
- Listen to and follow the instructions of coaches, volunteers, and event staff.
- Play safely and within the rules of the activity.
- Use appropriate language and behaviour at all times.
- Respect equipment, facilities, and personal belongings.

- Support and encourage others, and celebrate their achievements.
 - Tell a trusted adult or a DSAuk staff member if they feel unsafe, worried, or unhappy.
 - Follow DSAuk's online safety guidance when using phones, tablets, or computers at activities.
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3. Unacceptable Behaviour

The following behaviour is not acceptable and may result in action being taken:

- Bullying, teasing, name-calling, or excluding others.
 - Discrimination or harassment of any kind.
 - Hitting, pushing, kicking, or any other form of physical aggression.
 - Swearing, using rude or offensive language, or making hurtful jokes.
 - Damaging equipment or property.
 - Taking photos or videos of others without permission.*
 - Sending or sharing unkind, upsetting, or inappropriate messages or images.
 - Repeatedly disrupting activities or refusing to follow instructions.
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4. Keeping Everyone Safe

To help keep everyone safe:

- Stay within agreed areas and do not leave activities without telling a coach or volunteer.
 - Follow supervision and buddy arrangements where these are in place.
 - Only use changing rooms, toilets, and private areas as directed by staff.
 - Use mobile phones and social media responsibly and only in permitted areas or times.
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5. Consequences of Breaching the Code

DSAuk aims to be fair, supportive, and proportionate when dealing with behaviour concerns.

Depending on the seriousness of the behaviour, this may include:

- A conversation and reminder about expected behaviour.
- A warning and discussion with the participant and their parent/carer.
- Time out from an activity session.
- Temporary suspension from the activity or event.
- Removal from the event and/or exclusion from future events.

Serious concerns or repeated breaches may be managed under DSAuk safeguarding or disciplinary procedures. Parents/carers will be informed where appropriate.

6. Online and Virtual Events

When taking part in online sessions or events, children and young people must:

- Use respectful language and behaviour.
- Not share personal contact details publicly.
- Not post or share inappropriate images, videos, or messages.
- Follow instructions from session leaders and moderators.

Inappropriate content will be removed, and participants may be removed from the session if behaviour does not improve.

7. Reporting Concerns

Children and young people should:

- Tell a trusted adult, coach, volunteer, or DSAuk staff member if they are worried about anything.
- Report bullying, unsafe behaviour, or anything that makes them feel uncomfortable.

Parents/carers should:

- Speak to a DSAuk event organiser or the Designated Safeguarding Lead if they have concerns.

All concerns will be taken seriously and handled in line with DSAuk safeguarding procedures.

8. Photography and Filming

Photography and filming may take place at DSAuk events.

- Parental/carer consent will be obtained for images of children and young people.
 - Children and young people should not take photos or videos of others without permission.*
 - If a participant does not wish to be photographed or filmed, this should be communicated to event organisers.
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9. Accountability

This Code of Conduct applies to all children and young people attending DSAuk activities.

By taking part in a DSAuk activity, participants agree to follow this Code and to behave in a way that helps keep themselves and others safe.

10. Contact Information

For safeguarding concerns or questions:

 info@dsauk.org