

Sports Federation

Student Competitor's Code of Conduct



Background

In 2011 it was agreed that all British Universities & Colleges Sport (BUCS) member institutions must adhere to the BUCS Policy on anti-social behaviour and, from 2013, provide their code of conduct in relation to initiations and alcohol abuse in sport.

Excellent behaviour and self-conduct, which is regularly associated with our students, are cornerstones of the reputation of the University of Oxford and its constituent Colleges. We expect that the behaviour of any student representing the University in sport reflects this and continues to reaffirm our institution's prestige in academic and sporting spheres.

Sports clubs are registered to the University through the Sports Federation. All students representing an Oxford University sports club are required to adhere to the standards within this code of conduct. These are in addition and by no means replace the standards set by a student's individual college and the overarching Proctor regulations.

Our Expectations

All students involved in competition should adhere to the following rules and regulations regarding behaviour and conduct on and around match days.

1. Misconduct

Every student within the institution has a responsibility to conduct themselves in an orderly fashion both at matches and in training sessions, be these competitors or spectators

Actions deemed as a breach of conduct are as follows:

- Violence, threatening, abusive, obscene or provocative behaviour, conduct or language.
- Encroachment of playing area by spectator or unauthorised person(s) (i.e. substitute or coach when not required).
- The throwing of missiles, bottles or potentially harmful objects at, onto or adjacent to the playing area and/or its players.
- The printing or publishing of material or the use of digital media that will bring the university, the club, team or an individual into disrepute.

2. Anti-social Behaviour

The consumption of alcohol, whilst tolerated by the institution, must be done with a responsible attitude. The consumption of alcohol in excess can lead to anti-social behaviour and in some extreme and well documented cases, death.

There may be no forced consumption of alcohol or any other forced activity and individuals must always be aware they can opt out at any point.

All athletes must be aware that if any grievance or complaint regarding student behaviour is submitted to the Sports Federation or to BUCS, the disciplinary outcomes may include:

- BUCS points deductions.
- Fines.
- Individual/ team/ club suspension or expulsion from BUCS competition.
- Removal of involved team(s) from the university programme.

The Sports Federation draws student's attention to Point 11 of the Code of Conduct for every Oxford University sports club:

"Club Social Functions

Social functions form an important part of a club's activities. As a result Clubs have a responsibility for any organized activity, including social events. Please be reminded that Clubs should under no circumstances place students under any pressure to take part or pass any form of initiation as part of their membership of the Club. All students should be able and encouraged to participate in student activities in an atmosphere free from discrimination or fear. All Clubs are reminded that they operate within the overall framework of Oxford University and infringements of these rules at social functions will be treated seriously."

Annually each Club President, Secretary and Treasurer sign their Club's Constitution and Code of Conduct which includes the above statement, agreeing on behalf of their membership to abide by this.

3. Anti-Doping

BUCS and UK anti-doping (UKAD) are in partnership to state a commitment to clean, doping-free competition at university level.

Athletes must adhere to their National Governing Body (NGB) anti-doping policies and regulations in addition to complying with the requirements of the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) code.

Athletes may also be subject to random testing at any stage throughout year.

Athletes caught with banned substances in their system will be subject to disciplinary proceedings.

4. Respect

All athletes are obliged to treat coaches, officials, supporters and other players in a respectful and dignified way.

Athletes or supporters should not behave in a way that could be deemed offensive to others and should appreciate that different individuals have different levels of tolerance in regards to playful and boisterous behaviour.

5. Club Coaches and Instructors

It is expected that coaches and instructors of Oxford University sports clubs will actively endorse and support the implementation of the Student Competitor's Code of Conduct, this is in addition to any associated sport specific guidelines and policies communicated by their relevant NGB.

6. College Sport

The Student Competitor's Code of Conduct applies to all students representing an Oxford University Sports Club.

To encourage consistent levels of behaviour and conduct, Colleges may wish to apply the standards outlined within the Code of Conduct to competitive inter-collegiate sport.

Reporting Complaints

Any student misconduct within sport should be reported to the Senior Sports Administrator of the Sports Federation or the Sports Services Manager in the first instance.

Student misconduct in breach of the standards set out above may be elevated to the student's college and will be subject to their disciplinary process, within the wider university guidelines of the Proctor's office.

All decisions are made in line with University Values and can be challenged through the Student Disciplinary Panel or Student's College procedures, as outlined in the University Council Regulations.

For full University disciplinary procedures, please view the Proctors' and Assessor's Memorandum,

Section 10: Disciplinary Procedures here:

http://www.admin.ox.ac.uk/media/global/wwwadminoxacuk/localsites/proctorsoffice/documents/University_Student_Handbook_2016-17.pdf

Updated January 2017

Available online at: <http://www.sport.ox.ac.uk/student-sport/resources/>

Oxford University Sports Federation,
Oxford University Sport,
Iffley Road,
Oxford,
OX4 1EQ

Tel: 01865 611488

www.sport.ox.ac.uk