

Universal Code of Conduct

The Universal Code of Conduct was created through extensive consultation with all national partners engaged in sport in Canada. A universal code unites everyone in the Canadian sport system in understanding the rules of play, to prevent maltreatment in sport. It is about uniting everyone in understanding how safe sport should be played at every level of the sports system.

1. All participants in sport can expect to play, practice and compete, work and interact in an environment free of maltreatment.
2. Addressing the causes and consequences of maltreatment is a collective responsibility and requires the deliberative efforts of all participants, sports stakeholders, sports club administrators, and organization leaders.
3. Participants in positions of trust and authority have the general responsibility to protect the health and well being of all other participants.
4. Adult participants have a specific ethical and statutory duty and the additional responsibility to respond to incidents of maltreatment involving minors and other vulnerable individuals.
5. All participants recognize that maltreatment can occur regardless of age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, race, ethnicity, indigenous status, or level of physical and intellectual disability and their interactions. Moreover, it is recognized that those from traditionally marginalized groups have increased vulnerability to experiences of maltreatment.
6. All participants recognize that individuals who have experienced maltreatment may experience a range of effects that may emerge at different points and that can profoundly affect their lives.
7. All adults working with children and youth have a duty to prevent or mitigate opportunities for misconduct.
8. In recognition of the historic vulnerability to discrimination and violence amongst some groups, and that continues to persist today, participants in positions of trust and authority have the duty to incorporate strategies to recognize systemic bias, unconscious bias, and to respond quickly and effectively to discriminatory practices.

Collectively we can create a better safe sport environment by coming together and uniting in a common understanding on code of conduct, of taking the training, and in declaring our individual commitment to a collective safe environment. We can make sport a safe place by uniting together, completing the training, committing to our individual responsibility, in accessing all of the codes and policies required to understand the environment we're supposed to work in.

Safe sport training is a critical element of understanding our responsibility and our obligations in an environment free from maltreatment. Together we can make sport a safe place for everyone.