

## **Active Essex School Games Code of Conduct and Photography Policy**

We appreciate that many parents and carers wish to support their children in our school games events. However, this is not always possible. Where we are able to accommodate we would remind our schools, staff and the parents/carers of this Code of Conduct and photographic policy, which applies to all attendees.

### **The values of all our School Games events are:**

<b>Honesty</b>	<b>Respect</b>	<b>Teamwork</b>
<b>Self-belief</b>	<b>Passion</b>	<b>Determination</b>

We would like all people attending our events to play their part in upholding these values.

Please ensure that this code is distributed to your staff and parents that may accompany the school group to our School Games events in order that they help us to make each event a day to remember for all the right reasons.

### **Code of Conduct**

1. The emphasis of our events is on enjoyment and competing fairly. Team managers, participants, accompanying adults and spectators are representing their school groups and should behave with the appropriate courtesy their schools would expect.
2. Team managers, accompanying adults, spectators and participants should show respect for all event officials, judges, leaders and other competitors.
3. Parents or spectators should at no point approach a judge, umpire or young leader to question procedures, decisions or outcomes of activity. This is entirely the domain of official team representatives.
4. Intimidation of referees or officials will not be tolerated. Team managers, participants, accompanying adults and spectators should accept the decisions of judges and umpires. These valuable volunteers have the right to enjoy the event too. Their decisions should be respected and cooperation with their instructions is always much appreciated.
5. Win-at-all-costs mentality is not appropriate for this event and teams must abide by the rules and spirit of the competition and the sport. Compete to the best of ability but respect the outcome.
6. These are family events and foul and abusive language will not be tolerated.
7. All participants should be encouraged and supported. Courteous applause should be given to all participants.
8. The aim is always that children should be encouraged to try their best, to be supported, whatever their results and enjoy the event for the spirit of taking part.
9. Alcohol is not permitted at any of the events.
10. Smoking or vaping in the vicinity of games, activities or groups of young people is not appropriate.
11. At the discretion of the event organisers and in the interest of safety and the enjoyment of all, Individuals who are unable to comply with the points in this code may be asked to leave, or may even have their team excluded from further inclusion in the event.

**Enjoy the day and help others to enjoy it too!**

### **Welfare**

If you have any concerns about child welfare or wish to discuss a problem or issue you can speak with the designated welfare officer at the event, or contact us via:

<https://www.activeessex.org/programme-landing-grid/?wpvprogramme=safeguarding>

Active Essex Safeguarding Lead Officer: **Jim Messenger: 03330137827**

### **Health and Safety**

Risk assessments are carried-out for all venues and activities. The assistance of everyone present appreciated to ensure the event is safe and enjoyable for all:

- Keep personal belongings safe at all times
- Be aware not to create hazards, block access or pose other risks with personal belongings and equipment etc.
- Report promptly any damages, spillages or other hazards etc. to a member of event staff.
- Be prepared for the conditions (appropriate clothing, sunscreen etc) and ensure adequate intake of fluids
- Play safely only in designated play areas, spectate only from the designated spectator areas and observe all guidelines and information.

### **Venue Information**

In the event of an incident please follow the instructions from venue and event staff. Please act calmly and efficiently in all circumstances.

### **Photography policy**

The proliferation of cameras on mobile devices makes casual photography a normal part of modern life for many people and the policing of photography at large public events can be very challenging. Parents and young people themselves generally welcome the opportunities to record and celebrate their activities and achievements through taking pictures.

For these reasons, Active Essex does not advocate the blanket banning of photography at events and instead promotes a sensible usage of photography. However, we do have a duty to protect young and vulnerable people from the opportunities for misuse of photography and appreciate the cooperation of everybody in this regard.

This guidance will help you ensure you're taking all necessary steps to protect children and young people from the inappropriate use of their images in resources and media publications, on the internet and elsewhere.

The main danger to young people from photography is the misuse of pictures for abusive intent or the identification of individuals to those who may pose a risk, including, for example, estranged family members. It is strongly recommended that young and vulnerable people in pictures posted in the public domain should not be accompanied by details of their full identity along with usual locations etc.

1. All school groups should return signed photo permission forms to the registration desk as part of the registration process. Any individual who has a specific request not to be photographed will be identified with a yellow wristband. All people are requested to be aware of this identification and observe the restrictions.
2. Participants, staff and other adults are asked to only photograph their own friends/children/school groups, where possible, and to only add to social media or share photos of their own children. Wide shots where other young people appear incidentally in the background and are unrecognisable are generally okay.
3. No photos are to be taken in changing areas or toilets. ALL uses of mobile communication devices and cameras in these areas should be avoided to prevent any misunderstandings.
4. Photography is generally not permitted in swimming or gymnastics areas. Again, the usage of mobile devices is dissuaded to avoid misunderstanding. Event officials may, at their discretion, allow specific official photography at set times that are appropriate (eg, award ceremonies).
5. Official event and press photographers will be made identifiable to all and should display accreditation at all times.
6. Event organisers reserve the right to challenge anyone using, or appearing to use, a photographic device inappropriately or in contravention on this guidance.
7. Our official event photos (once released) can be found at:  
<https://www.activeessex.org/resource/school-games-gallery/>