

**Ilkley Harriers Code of Conduct for Coaches, Run Leaders and Volunteers whilst leading athletics activities**

Coaches and Run Leaders have undertaken training and have a UKA licence to confirm as such. The main coach qualifications are now CiRF (coach) and LiRF (run leader). In the past and now there is specific training for different athletics disciplines (eg track, field, endurance racing …) and different levels. In addition, DBS certification is required that is up to date.

Any volunteer leading a running group who does not have CiRF or LiRF or equivalent training will work under the supervision of an appropriately qualified person (usually CIRF or LiRF) and is required to acquire DBS certification.

As a responsible coach, officer or volunteer you will:

* Respect the rights, dignity and worth of every athlete and treat everyone equally regardless of background or ability.
* Place the welfare and safety of the athlete above the development of performance. Cooperate fully with other colleagues in the best interest of the athlete.
* Undue influence should not be exerted on an athlete to gain personal benefit or reward.
* Ensure there is a balance between the development of performance and the social, emotional, intellectual and physical needs of the individual.
* Be responsible for the safety of athletes in your care. Equipment and conditions within the working environment should be checked in accordance with usage and guidelines. Coaches and leaders should do a Risk assessment for their session.
* Do not encourage athletes to train or compete on an injury.
* Relationships with athletes should be developed as appropriate working relationships based on mutual trust and respect.
* A spirit of fair play and good sportsmanship should be encouraged.
* Promote the positive aspects of athletics and do not condone bad sportsmanship or substance abuse.
* Recognise that access to confidential information about athletes and members is necessary at times and such information should remain confidential.
* Display consistently high standards of behaviour and good manners, encourage and guide athletes to accept responsibility for their own performance and behaviour.
* Make sure all activities are appropriate to the age, ability and level of experience of those taking part.
* Follow all guidelines laid down by the national governing body and the club.
* Abide by the EA recommended 1:12 maximum coaching ratio at all sessions, with 1:5 for those who do not have a UKA licence.
* Ensure your DBS certificate is up to date.
* Be aware of current adult and child protection and welfare child regulations and guidances.
* Don’t leave yourself open to question, this should be with all athletes but in particular younger athletes by:
	+ Excessive handling or touching beyond the needs of good coaching of athletes within their care
	+ Regularly transporting athletes on their own
	+ Taking an athlete to your own home unsupervised or staying in a room alone with an athlete
* Report any accidental injury, distress, misunderstanding or misinterpretation to the carer (if appropriate) and the club Welfare officer.\*
* Report concerns you have of the wellbeing of individuals to the club Welfare Officer\*.
* Remember that athletics is fun to coach and take part in.

Other roles include Race Director, race marshals, medical or first aid support which are included in the EA race licensing procedures (not covered here however the general principles of behaviour below apply).

* welfare@ilkleyharriers.org.uk

Reference:

<https://www.britishathletics.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/safeguarding/Code-of-Conduct-for-Coaches-2020.pdf>