

CLUB CODE OF ETHICS

REFERENCE: By-law 1201 (1) (b) (v) and 1201 (1) (c) (xii)

EFFECTIVE DATE: September 2000

1.0 SKATE CANADA MISSION STATEMENT

Skate Canada is an Association dedicated to the principles of enabling every Canadian to participate in skating throughout their lifetime for fun, fitness and/or achievement.

2.0 INTRODUCTION

This mission can only be accomplished successfully if all stakeholders involved in the sport of skating (including skaters and parents, coaches, officials and club directors) share a common vision and understanding of their role to create and maintain a positive learning environment. However, it is the actions of each stakeholder that ultimately contribute to or undermine the existence of a positive skating environment.

The onus of establishing and maintaining appropriate ethical behaviour in the pursuit of this worthwhile objective falls on and must be accepted by the leaders in our sport. At the club or skating school level, these people are: coaches, club directors and officials.

3.0 ETHICAL CONDUCT

To understand the fundamental principles of ethical conduct, it is useful to review the definition of the word "ethical":

- relating to morals or moral principles;
- philosophy which governs human character and conduct i.e. the distinction between right and wrong and/or moral duty and obligations to the community;
- originating from the Greek word "ethos," meaning character.

4.0 CLUB OBLIGATIONS TO THE SKATER AND PARENT

4.1 To provide up-to-date quality Skate Canada skating programs to all members in accordance with delivery standards prescribed by Skate Canada.

4.2 To provide the skater and parent(s) with the basic information necessary to enable them to choose a realistic and affordable course of action to achieve their goals and objectives.

4.3 To outline clearly all club programs including cost and method of payment.

4.4 To outline clearly all club policies including parent responsibilities, safety issues, carnival fees, test days, ice qualifications, etc.

4.5 To ensure that sufficient, qualified coaches are available to teach all programs within the club, including private and group instruction.

4.6 To adopt a philosophy of being athlete centered in all decision making.

4.7 To ensure that the best interests of all skaters in the club are taken into account in club decision making. To ensure that each skater is able to participate and progress at his/her own level and that no skater is held back.

4.8 To communicate as regularly and effectively as possible with skaters and parents as to club activities, changes in Skate Canada rules and regulations, club regulations and policies and other important or relevant information affecting the skater's participation in the sport.

4.9 To help ensure that a positive learning environment is maintained in the club.

4.10 To respect all members' racial and religious practices.

4.11 To inform all members regarding the club's constitution and by-laws and requirements for the Annual General Meeting.

4.12 To implement an appeal process to deal with customers requesting special consideration.

5.0 CLUB OBLIGATIONS TO THE SPORT

5.1 To maintain a current working knowledge of the ISU, Skate Canada and Section rules, policies, regulations and programs so as to be able to deliver the product of skating in an organized and professional manner.

5.2 To exhibit the important character traits of honesty, reliability/dependability and cooperation when dealing with all participants in the sport.

5.3 To share responsibility with the Skate Canada Board, the Section, Skate Canada Officials (judges, evaluators, referees, accountants) and coaches to initiate and support actions that are required to meet the needs of the skaters and skating in general.

5.4 To promote Skate Canada and its programs and the sport of skating in general.

6.0 CLUB OBLIGATIONS TO THE COACHES

6.1 To hire only qualified Skate Canada coaches who have paid the current Skate Canada coaching membership fees.

6.2 To convey at the beginning of each year the club's expectations and the responsibilities of the coach.

6.3 To provide a reasonable contract to coaches which does not infringe upon their right to earn a living.

6.4 To negotiate coaching contracts in good faith and honour their terms.

6.5 To treat all coaches and staff fairly and with respect.

6.6 To respect a coach's teaching methods and judgment regarding a skater's readiness for testing.

6.7 To refrain from soliciting directly or indirectly another coach's students for a particular coach.

6.8 To refrain from interfering with a coach-skater or coach-parent relationship unless agreed upon by both parties.

6.9 To refrain from firing a coach for unjust reasons or become slanderous towards a coach.

6.10 To provide accurate information when advertising to attract coaches to a location.

6.11 To accept the name of the coach representative who is selected by the coaches.

6.12 To hold club executive meetings at a convenient time as to permit the coaching representative to attend.

6.13 To involve the club coach representative in the process of developing policies, procedures and regulations for the operation of the club, to monitor the club's programs and overall performance.