

BEYOND BADMINTON CHORLEY

CODE OF CONDUCT

Drafted in line with Badminton England's Codes of Conduct guidance

1. Introduction

Beyond Badminton Chorley is committed to providing a welcoming, fair, and safe environment for everyone involved in the club, whether as a player, junior, parent/carer, coach, volunteer, or committee member. This Code of Conduct sets out the standards of behaviour expected of everyone connected with the club, in line with Badminton England's national Codes of Conduct.

Everyone taking part in club activities is expected to have read, understood, and agreed to abide by the relevant section(s) of this Code below.

2. Code of Conduct for Players

All adult players at Beyond Badminton Chorley are expected to:

- Treat everyone fairly and equally, regardless of age, gender, disability, ethnicity, nationality, sexual orientation, religion, or belief;
- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of every person within the club, both on and off the court;
- Play within the rules and spirit of badminton, and respect the decisions of coaches, officials and match organisers;
- Congratulate opponents and teammates on their performance regardless of the outcome, and avoid ridiculing or blaming others for mistakes;
- Arrive on time for sessions and matches, and let someone know if unable to attend or running late;
- Challenge or report any discriminatory, bullying, or unsporting behaviour witnessed at the club;
- Avoid using social media or other communication to publicly criticise other players, coaches, officials, or the club.

3. Code of Conduct for Junior Players

In addition to the expectations above, junior members (under 18) are expected to:

- Listen carefully to coaches and follow instructions during sessions;
- Treat other players, coaches and volunteers with kindness and respect;
- Tell a coach, parent, or the Welfare Officer if they, or someone they know, is being upset, bullied, or made to feel unsafe;
- Use equipment and facilities responsibly;
- Enjoy the sport and support fellow players, regardless of ability.

4. Code of Conduct for Parents and Carers

Parents and carers of junior members are asked to:

- Encourage their child to focus on effort and enjoyment rather than winning or losing;
- Applaud good performances and effort from all children, not just their own;
- Leave coaching to the coaches during sessions and matches;
- Respect the decisions of coaches and officials, and support their child in doing the same;
- Ensure their child understands and follows the Code of Conduct for Junior Players;

- Report any concerns about a young person's welfare to the Club Welfare Officer promptly (see the Safeguarding Policy);
- Behave respectfully towards coaches, volunteers, other parents, and children at all times.

5. Code of Conduct for Coaches

Coaches at Beyond Badminton Chorley are expected to:

- Hold a valid Badminton England coaching qualification and be listed on the Badminton England coaching register;
- Hold a satisfactory enhanced DBS check where required, and complete recognised safeguarding training;
- Place the wellbeing, safety and enjoyment of every player above results;
- Treat all players fairly, and never show favouritism regardless of a player's ability;
- Always work in an open environment, avoiding unobserved or private one-to-one situations with junior players wherever possible;
- Never condone rule violations, foul play, or use of banned substances;
- Encourage players to take responsibility for their own performance and behaviour;
- Follow Badminton England's and the club's safeguarding policies and best-practice guidance at all times.

6. Code of Conduct for Volunteers and Committee Members

Everyone helping to run the club, including committee members, is expected to:

- Act in the best interests of the club and its members at all times;
- Treat all members, coaches, opponents, and venue staff with courtesy and respect;
- Support the club's aims of inclusion, fair play, and safeguarding;
- Declare any conflict of interest to the Committee where relevant;
- Complete any relevant training (such as safeguarding training) required for their role.

7. Equality Statement

Beyond Badminton Chorley believes that everyone should be able to enjoy badminton regardless of their age, gender, disability, ethnicity, nationality, sexual orientation, religion, or belief. Discriminatory behaviour of any kind will not be tolerated and will be addressed under the club's disciplinary procedures.

8. Breaches of this Code

Any concerns about a breach of this Code of Conduct should be raised with the Welfare Officer, Chair, or Secretary in the first instance (see the club's Constitution for contact routes). Breaches may be dealt with informally or, where serious or repeated, may be referred to the Committee for formal action under the club's disciplinary procedures, and where relevant, to Badminton England's own disciplinary or safeguarding procedures.

This Code of Conduct is a good-practice template based on Badminton England's published Codes of Conduct and common practice among affiliated clubs. It is not legal advice. The Committee should review and formally adopt it, and ensure all members, coaches, and volunteers are made aware of it.