

WARLEY WOODS PACERS CODE OF CONDUCT

THE PURPOSE OF this Code of Conduct is to ensure that all members are treated fairly and equally when involved in any activity in the club. It is based on the England Athletics Code of Conduct for Athletes. When you attend training and events we expect you to act in a sensible way, be responsible for your own behaviour and do as Running Leaders and officials ask. If running as the responsible adult with a child (17 year olds only are permitted), you are responsible for their behaviour at all times. Warley Woods Pacers is **your** club and we would like you to make the most of what we offer, but not at the expense of others.

Members must abide by this Code of Conduct

1. Warley Woods Pacers do not tolerate the physical or mental abuse, harassment, discrimination against, or defamation of its members during, or subsequent to, club events, or through various types of social media.
2. Members of Warley Woods Pacers Running Club are expected to treat each other with respect and be ambassadors for the club.
3. Any member may be disciplined or excluded from membership of Warley Woods Pacers Running Club if his or her conduct has been, or is likely to be, prejudicial to the interests of the Club using the Appeals and Disciplinary Process
4. Consequently members must not either air views or distribute literature during Club meetings/events or through Club related social media, with the intention to harass, discriminate against or victimise other members or the wider community, in the spirit of the Equality Act 2010.
5. Running Leaders will treat everyone whom they are coaching or who is participating in a coached session with equal dignity and respect, irrespective of their ability, gender, age, ethnic origin, religion, sexual orientation, disability or political persuasion.
6. If a member feels they have been unfairly treated or targeted by another member, they shall raise this with the Vice chair so it can be addressed directly. Management Committee members who feel that unfair treatment or targeting of another member is occurring should raise this at a Management Committee Meeting.
7. Once a complaint has been made, the committee will discuss the matter with the individuals involved and seek a resolution.
8. If the matter is not resolved the Management committee may terminate the membership of the member, in accordance with the procedure given in the club constitution.

When running with the club:

- **Hi-visibility clothing should be worn** when light conditions poor (always for Tuesday evenings September - April)
- **The session Leader's decision is final** in all matters of Health and Safety. Rarely sessions may have to be modified/cancelled due to conditions...if you then choose to run that's your decision, but it is at your own risk and not covered by club insurance.
- **Please tell a leader if you are leaving a session early** so no-one is left wondering your whereabouts in the dark.
- **Do flag up any injury or limitation** to session Leader before starting, or at the earliest sign during a run. Please feel free to speak or email in confidence about any health issues potentially affecting your running arising at any time.
- **If unsure of the area** stick with someone who knows the route or drop back to a Leader....avoid guessing en route as you may lead astray others following you. If you are further back, don't worry...a Leader is always tasked to ensure all runners get back safely...no-one is ever left behind.
- **Be aware of traffic** - use pedestrian crossings responsibly and observe pedestrian traffic lights. Please cross roads rather than running in roads.
- **Be mindful of pedestrians** - give as wide a berth as possible and be aware they may not have heard your approach.
- **Warming up before the session starts is always a good idea...** it will maximise your training effect, reduce injury risk and acts as a good role model to new/less experienced runners.

For those that race:

- **If you enter under Warley Woods Pacers club name**, this raises the club profile and as an official England Athletics affiliated club member it's usually cheaper
- **Where practical, consider wearing club shirt/vest to race** (much easier for supporters to spot you also). Speak to the club chair regarding any kit queries and to place orders.
- **Only pass on race numbers to someone else with prior knowledge and permission of race organisers.**
- **If you would like your race time included** in newsletter/results table, please email it to the Chairman personally

England Athletics Code of Conduct for Athletes

As a responsible athlete you will:

- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of every athlete, coach, technical official and others involved in athletics and treat everyone equally.
- Uphold the same values of sportsmanship off the field as you do when engaged in athletics
- Cooperate fully with others involved in the sport such as coaches, technical officials, team managers, doctors, physiotherapists, sport scientists and representatives of the governing body in the best interests of the yourself and other athletes
- Consistently promote positive aspects of the sport such as fair play and never condone rule violations or the use of prohibited or age-inappropriate substances
- Anticipate and be responsible for your own needs including being organised, having the appropriate equipment and being on time
- Inform your coach of any other coaching that you are seeking or receiving
- Always thank the coaches and officials who enable you to participate in athletics

As a responsible Athlete, when participating in or attending any athletics activities, including training/coaching sessions and competition events you will:

- Act with dignity and display courtesy and good manners towards others
- Avoid swearing and abusive language and irresponsible behaviour including behaviour that is dangerous to yourself or others, acts of violence, bullying, harassment and physical and sexual abuse
- Challenge inappropriate behaviour and language by others
- Never engage in any inappropriate or illegal behaviour
- Avoid destructive behaviour and leave athletics venues as you find them
- Not carry or consume alcohol to excess and/or illegal substances.
- Avoid carrying any items that could be dangerous to yourself or others excluding athletics equipment used in the course of your athletics activity

In addition, athletes, especially young athletes and vulnerable adults, should follow these guidelines on safe participation in athletics:

- Notify a responsible adult if you have to go somewhere (why, where and when you will return)
- Do not respond if someone seeks private information unrelated to athletics such as personal information, home life information
- Strictly maintain boundaries between friendship and intimacy with a coach or technical official
- Never accept lifts in cars or invitations into homes on your own without the prior knowledge and consent of your parent/carer
- Use safe transport or travel arrangements
- Report any accidental injury, distress, misunderstanding or misinterpretation to your parents/carers and club Welfare officer as soon as possible.
- Report any suspected misconduct by coaches or other people involved in athletics to the club welfare officer as soon as possible