

## Coaches' Code of Conduct

The Virgin Islands Track and Field Federation (VITFF) is committed to providing an environment in which all individuals are treated with respect. Further, the VITFF supports equal opportunity and prohibits discriminatory practices. Registrants of the VITFF and participants in the VITFF's programs and activities are expected to conduct themselves at all times in a manner consistent with the values of the VITFF. Conduct which violates these values, may be subject to sanctions pursuant to the VITFF's Disciplinary Policy.

All coaches have the responsibility to:

1. ensure that all athletes under the responsibility of the given coach have been annually trained on the Athlete's Code of Conduct.
2. ensure that breaking the Athlete's Code of Conduct is immediately reported to the VITFF Executive Committee and properly investigated in line with the Disciplinary Policy.
3. commit to that all athletes under the responsibility of the given coach are cared, properly prepared for and supported/coached/advised during any competitions and practices.
4. provide coaching age appropriate and meet the needs of the athlete in terms of experience and ability.
5. ensure equipment is properly maintained and that athletes are aware of their responsibility for ensuring their own safety. Make sure athletes are taught how to manage dangerous athletics equipment and always follow these rules.
6. have a transparency in coaching: if asked by an athlete, who is already being coached by someone else, to provide further coaching, contact the other coach to discuss the matter.
7. encourage good working relationships based on mutual respect and trust with all athletes.
8. show respect to all individuals regardless of gender, ethnic or racial origin, sexual orientation, age, marital status, religion, political belief, disability, or economic status.
9. avoid being critical, demeaning or sarcastic or acting in a way which might affect an athlete's self-esteem and strive for constructive feedback.
10. avoid an intimate relationship to develop between coaches and athletes; in case of athletes under 18, it is strictly prohibited.

11. consistently demonstrate the spirit of sportsmanship, sports leadership and ethical conduct and practices.
12. ensure that the rules of the sport, and the spirit of such rules are adhered to by himself and the athletes under own responsibility.
13. show example of respecting others through support/advice of athletes not only under own responsibility.
14. avoid criticism/comment of any officials/coaches/parents during competitions or practices. Any complaint has to be reported officially to the organizers in written form with proper evidences.
15. ensure that every athlete under own responsibility abstain from the use of alcohol and tobacco while participating at the VITFF's competitions and practices.
16. abstain from the non-medical use of drugs or the use of performance-enhancing drugs or methods or promoting them to the athletes under own responsibility.
17. refrain from any behavior which constitutes harassment, where harassment is defined as comment or conduct, directed towards an individual or group, which is offensive, abusive, racist, sexist, degrading or malicious.
18. refrain from any behavior which constitutes sexual harassment, where sexual harassment is defined as unwelcome sexual advances or conduct of a sexual nature when submitting to or rejecting this conduct influences decisions which affect the individual, such conduct has the purpose or effect of diminishing performance or such conduct creates intimidating, hostile or offensive environment.
19. always comply with the Constitution, policies, rules and regulations of the VITFF, as adopted and amended from time to time, including complying with any contracts or agreements executed with the VITFF.

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Coach's Signature

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Date

**Details for revisions:**

Name of Document:	<b>COACHES' CODE OF CONDUCT</b>
Version number:	V1
Effective date of this version:	1, February, 2025
Authorized by:	Members' Constitution Review Meeting 2025
Review cycle:	Every 4 years
Responsibility of Review Cycle:	President
Revision history:	V1: Creation
Date:	26, December 2024
Approved by:	Keith A. Smith Sr., President of VITFF