

BEHAVIOUR POLICY

While children are attending our club, we expect them to:

- Use socially acceptable behaviour
- Respect one another, accepting differences of race, gender, ability, age and religion
- Develop their independence by maintaining self-discipline
- Participate in the activities organised at the club
- Speak to their opponent politely at the start and end of a game, whether they won or lost
- Not refuse to play with particular other players if invited to
- Ask for help if needed
- Enjoy their time at the club

Also when playing games, especially in competitions, we expect children to:

- Play in a spirit of good sportsmanship
- Avoid boasting or gloating when winning, or in any way trying to humiliate a defeated opponent
- Avoid distracting the opponent by humming, excessive talking or other methods
- Avoid commenting in any way on other people's games, or crowding around them
- Be aware that we can't provide complete silence to play games in
- Be aware that some children may be more sensitive to sounds and distractions
- Avoid taking back moves (except in a friendly game with the agreement of the opponent)
- Report any problems/disputes immediately to an organiser, not waiting until after the end of a game to make a complaint

At the start of any competition we will give a reminder of these rules

Dealing with inappropriate behaviour

- Challenging behaviour will be addressed in a calm, firm and positive manner.
- In the first instance, club organisers will discuss with the child why their behaviour is not acceptable
- Club organisers will give the child an opportunity to explain their behaviour, to help prevent a recurrence.
- We will encourage and facilitate mediation between children to try to resolve conflicts e.g. when a dispute happens during a game
- If inappropriate behaviour is serious or persistent, it will be discussed with the parent/carer to agree the best course of action
- The club does not use or threaten punishments
- In more serious cases it may be necessary to exclude a child from the club or allow them to attend only with parental supervision
- The reasons for any decisions by the club as a result of challenging behaviour will be clearly explained

Physical intervention

- Physical intervention will only be used as a last resort
- It will only be used if believed necessary to prevent injury, or to prevent significant damage to equipment or property.
- If physical intervention has to be used, the incident will be discussed with the parent or carer as soon as possible.