



# **GUNGAHLIN LITTLE ATHLETICS CODE OF BEHAVIOUR**

## **ATHLETES**

**Play by the rules**

**Never argue with or abuse an official**

**Do not deliberately distract or provoke an opponent – this is not acceptable in our sport**

**Work equally hard for yourself and your Club. Your Club will only benefit from your efforts**

**Show good sportsmanship – applaud all good results whether they be from your Club, opponent, or from another Club**

**Show respect to coaches and officials**

**Recognise the value and importance of volunteer officials and/or coaches, as they give their time, resources and knowledge to provide an enjoyable and safe environment for you, and deserve your support**

**Treat all fellow athletes as you would like to be treated – do not interfere with, bully or take unfair advantage of another athlete**

**Co-operate with your coach, Centre or Club mates and other participants in our sport – without them there would be no competition**

**Participate in Little Athletics for your enjoyment – not just to please your parents, relatives or your coach**

**Avoid using bad language**



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## **PARENTS**

**Encourage the child to participate if they are interested**

**Focus upon the child's efforts rather than the overall outcome (result) of the event, as this will assist the child in setting realistic goals related to his/her ability by reducing the emphasis on winning**

**Teach the child that an honest effort is as important as a victory, so that the result of each event is accepted without undue disappointment**

**Encourage the child to always participate according to the rules**

**Never ridicule or yell at a child for making a mistake or losing an event**

**Remember that the child is involved in Little Athletics for their enjoyment – not yours**

**If you disagree with an official, raise the issue through the appropriate channels rather than questioning the official's judgement and honesty in public, remembering that most officials give their time and effort freely for the children's involvement in Little Athletics**

**Support all efforts to remove verbal and physical abuse in athletics activities**

**Recognise the value and importance of being a volunteer official and/or coach, as they give their time, resources and knowledge to provide an enjoyable and safe environment for your children, and deserve your support**

**Remember that children participate in athletics activities for fun and are not participating for the convenience of parents only – it is not a child-minding organisation Centres need your support and involvement to conduct activities for YOUR child**

**Demonstrate appropriate social behaviour by not harassing children, coaches or officials, and by not smoking or being intoxicated**

**Avoid using bad language**