

## SKATE ONTARIO CODE OF CONDUCT – PARENTS AND GUARDIANS

Skate Ontario is committed to providing a safe and positive sporting environment in which individuals are treated with respect and dignity. All individuals will be aware that there is an expectation at all times of appropriate behaviour consistent with the values of Skate Ontario.

### **Guidelines:**

All individuals have a responsibility to:

- Maintain and enhance the dignity and self-esteem of Skate Ontario athletes, coaches, officials, volunteers, staff and other individuals by:
  - Demonstrating respect to individuals regardless of body type, physical characteristics, athletic ability, gender, ancestry, colour, ethnic or racial origin, nationality, national origin, sexual orientation, age, marital status, religion, political belief, disability or economic status
  - Focusing comments or criticism appropriately and avoiding public criticism of athletes, coaches, officials, volunteers, staff and other individuals
  - Consistently demonstrating the spirit of sportsmanship, sport leadership and ethical conduct
  - Consistently treating individuals fairly and respectfully
- Refrain from any behaviour that constitutes harassment where harassment is defined as a comment or conduct directed towards an individual or group which is offensive, abusive, racist, sexist, degrading or malicious
- Refrain from any behaviour that constitutes sexual harassment, where sexual harassment is defined as unwelcome sexual comments and sexual advances, requests for sexual favours, or conduct of a sexual nature
- Comply at all times to the bylaws, policies, procedures, rules and regulations of Skate Ontario

### **Specific Requirements for Parents/Guardians:**

In addition to the responsibilities listed above, parents and guardians will:

- Be supportive of athletes, other competitors, coaches, officials, other volunteers and staff members
- Encourage athletes to play by the rules and resolve conflict without resorting to hostility or violence
- Stress the importance of participation and remember that athletes are involved in the sport for their own enjoyment, not for that of the parent/guardian
- Respect the decisions and judgments of the officials and encourage athletes to do the same
- Maintain a supportive and constructive atmosphere conducive to athletes' personal development
- Maintain a supportive and constructive atmosphere for other stakeholders (e.g. club and skating school volunteers, staff members, event volunteers)

Conduct that violates this Code may be subject to disciplinary action including, but not limited to, the loss, or suspension of, certain privileges connected with Skate Ontario and associated host facilities. Such discipline may include the removal or ban from an event, practices and other related team activities for the parent/guardian and/or the participant.

This policy complements Skate Ontario's Harassment, Bullying and Discrimination Policy in building a constructive environment for all Skate Ontario stakeholders

