



EKNGB Karate Coaches Code of Conduct

(Aligned with the UK Coaching Code of Practice and Sport England Expectations)

Purpose

This Code of Conduct sets out the standards of behaviour expected of all karate coaches operating under the English Karate National Governing Body (NGB). Coaches play a vital role in developing participants both as martial artists and as individuals. This Code is aligned with the UK Coaching Code of Practice for Sports Coaches and supports Sport England's commitment to safe, inclusive and high-quality sport. All coaches are expected to uphold the highest standards of integrity, safety, professionalism and respect.

Personal Standards

Karate coaches must:

- Always act as positive role models, demonstrating honesty, integrity, self-discipline and respect.
- Uphold the spirit, traditions and values of karate, including respect, courtesy and self-control.
- Avoid inappropriate language, gestures or behaviour.
- Refrain from consuming alcohol, drugs or any substance that could impair judgement before or during coaching.
- Take responsibility for their own behaviour, appearance and conduct, always.

Professional Standards

Karate coaches are required to:

- Hold appropriate and current coaching qualifications recognised by the English Karate NGB.
- Engage in continuing professional development (CPD) to maintain and improve coaching knowledge and skills.
- Coach only within the limits of their qualifications, experience and competence.
- Plan and deliver safe, structured and progressive training sessions appropriate to the age, ability and experience of participants.
- Conduct risk assessments and ensure safe use of facilities and equipment.
- Maintain appropriate records, including attendance, injuries and participant progress.
- Work cooperatively with other coaches, officials and support staff.

Duty of Care & Safeguarding

Karate coaches must:

- Place the welfare, safety and wellbeing of participants above performance or competition outcomes.
- Understand and follow the safeguarding policies and procedures of the English Karate NGB.
- Never tolerate or condone abuse, bullying, harassment or discrimination of any kind.
- Always maintain appropriate professional boundaries.
- Avoid any inappropriate physical, emotional or sexual contact with participants.
- Never enter into intimate or sexual relationships with participants currently under their coaching care.
- Report any safeguarding concerns, disclosures or poor practice immediately through the correct channels.

Relationships & Communication

Karate coaches should:

- Build relationships based on mutual trust, respect and openness.
- Communicate clearly, positively and constructively with participants, parents, carers and officials.
- Encourage participant feedback and listen to concerns.
- Use physical contact only when necessary for instruction or safety, and only with participant consent and understanding.
- Promote enjoyment, confidence and self-esteem through positive coaching methods.

Equality, Diversity & Inclusion

Karate coaches must:

- Treat all individuals fairly and with dignity, regardless of age, gender, disability, race, religion, sexual orientation or background.
- Promote equality of opportunity and inclusive participation in karate.
- Challenge and report discriminatory language or behaviour.
- Adapt coaching practices to meet individual needs where reasonably possible.

Responsibility to the Sport

Coaches have a responsibility to:

- Uphold the reputation and integrity of karate and the English Karate NGB.
- Comply with all rules, regulations, policies and codes of conduct set by the NGB and Sport England.
- Promote fair play, respect for officials and good sportsmanship.
- Report any breaches of this Code, unsafe practice or unethical behaviour.
- Cooperate fully with any disciplinary or safeguarding investigations.

Breaches of the Code

Failure to comply with this Code of Conduct may result in disciplinary action in line with the English Karate NGB's disciplinary and safeguarding procedures. Sanctions may include suspension, removal of coaching licence, or referral to statutory authorities where appropriate.

Coach Declaration

I confirm that I have read, understood and agree to abide by this EKNGB Karate Coaches Code of Conduct.

Name: _____

Position: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____