

Edgeworth & District Little Athletics Centre (EDLAC)

Codes of Behaviour Policy

1. Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to outline the expected standards of behaviour for all parents, spectators, and supporters involved with Edgeworth & District Little Athletics Centre (EDLAC). These standards are in place to ensure a safe, respectful, and enjoyable environment for all athletes, volunteers, and families.

2. Scope

This policy applies to all parents, guardians, spectators, volunteers, and officials involved in activities conducted by EDLAC.

3. Parent's Code of Behaviour

Parents and guardians are essential to creating a positive environment where children can enjoy and grow through athletics. As such, EDLAC expects the following behaviours:

- **Encourage Participation-** Encourage children to participate for their own enjoyment and development if they are interested.
- **Effort Over Outcome-** Focus on the athlete's effort and performance, not just the outcome. Support the setting of realistic personal goals.
- **Value Personal Bests-** Emphasise that achieving a personal best and making an honest effort are just as important as winning.
- **Respect the Rules-** Encourage athletes to always compete according to the rules and the spirit of fair play.
- **Supportive Reactions-** Never ridicule or yell at athletes for making a mistake or losing an event.
- **Lead by Example-** Demonstrate good sportsmanship by applauding the efforts of all athletes, regardless of the result.
- **Respect Officials-** Raise concerns respectfully and through proper channels, never questioning an official's integrity or judgement publicly. Acknowledge that most officials are volunteers.
- **No Abuse Tolerated-** Support the elimination of verbal and physical abuse in all aspects of the sport.
- **Appreciate Volunteers-** Recognise the time and commitment of coaches and volunteers who provide recreational opportunities for the athletes.
- **Enjoyment Comes First-** Remember that children are participating for fun, personal development, and enjoyment — not to entertain spectators.
- **Positive Reinforcement-** Congratulate all participants for their efforts and performance, regardless of their placing.
- **No Alcohol During Events-** Alcohol must not be consumed by spectators during athletics competition.

4. Spectator's Code of Behaviour

To ensure a safe and respectful atmosphere for everyone at EDLAC:

- **Promote Safety**- Safety in the park is a shared responsibility. Ensure your behaviour contributes to a safe environment.
- **No Pets or Ball Games**- For safety and fairness, no dogs (or other pets) or ball games are permitted while athletics competition is in progress.
- **Be Respectful and Encouraging**- Applaud all athletes for their effort. Refrain from any negative or abusive language or behaviour.

5. Compliance

Any breaches of this policy may result in the individual being asked to leave the premises. Ongoing or serious breaches may result in further action, including exclusion from future events.

6. Review

This policy will be reviewed annually or as needed to ensure it remains up to date and relevant to the needs of the Centre.

Approved by: EDLAC Committee **Effective Date:** 29/07/2025

Review Date: 24/05/2026