



## **GUIDELINES AND CODE OF CONDUCT FOR TARGET SHOOTING LEADERS AND COACHES**

Leaders should ensure that:

- they are familiar with the *Code of Ethics*, with these guidelines, with their own club rules and are aware of and follow the required procedures
- they create a safe environment for their shooters
- they remember that young shooters participate for fun and enjoyment and that skill development and personal satisfaction have priority over intense coaching and highly structured competition.
- they plan and prepare where appropriate.
- they are careful to avoid favoritism. Each child will require attention appropriate to their needs, ability and stage of development.
- they take care not to expose a child to persistent criticism, sarcasm, or hostility.
- they insist that shooters in their care respect the rules of the sport and will insist on fair play and ensure shooters are aware that cheating or bullying behaviour will not be tolerated. They should encourage the development of respect for opponents, range officials, coaches and other shooters.
- they are aware of boundaries between a working relationship and friendship with their shooters.
- they should avoid working alone with shooters and ensure there is adequate supervision for all activities.

- they involve parents where possible and inform parents and/or Children's Officer /club committee when problems arise.
- they co-operate with the recommendations from medical and ancillary practitioners in the management of shooters' medical or related problems.
- they avoid giving advice of a personal or medical nature if not qualified to do so or undertake any form of therapy (hypnosis etc.) in the training of children.
- they recognise developmental needs and realise that certain procedures may effect a child physically or psychologically and should thus be avoided.
- they are aware that children may be sensitive to their height, weight, appearance with shooting glasses frames etc and avoid anything that may heighten that sensitivity.
- they keep any information in relation to a shooter of a personal or medical nature strictly confidential unless the welfare of the child requires the passing on of this information.
- they never use physical punishment or physical force, nor punish a mistake - by verbal means, physical means, or exclusion.
- they never engage in rough physical games, sexually provocative games. allow or engage in inappropriate touching of any kind, and /or make sexually suggestive comments about, or to a child.
- they never exert undue influence over a participant in order to obtain personal benefit or reward.
- they acknowledge that the use of drugs, alcohol and tobacco is incompatible with a healthy approach to sporting activity and must be discouraged. They should avoid the use of alcohol, before sessions, during events and on trips with young shooters.