

# ATHLETE CODE OF BEHAVIOUR POLICY

## POLICY STATEMENT

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Membership of the Western Region Academy of Sport (WRAS) is considered a privilege. Athletes are representatives of WRAS, their sport, their parents and the community and therefore have a responsibility to these groups.

Everyone involved with WRAS has the right to feel safe at all times. As a member of WRAS it is important to understand that you have the right to be treated in a non-discriminatory way and receive a fair go, as do all other members. You should treat all participants as you would like to be treated yourself. Cooperation with team mates, squad staff, administration staff, officials and opponents is crucial to success in WRAS and sport in general. Athletes are expected to respect the rights, dignity and worth of all participants regardless of their ability, gender or cultural background. All WRAS athletes are expected to demonstrate good sportsmanship, honesty, integrity and respect for others and be a responsible citizen and community role model.

In order to receive and retain a Scholarship, athletes must comply with the following conditions and other directions given by WRAS from time to time. The purpose of this document is to provide a detailed outline of the rights and responsibilities of WRAS athletes.

WRAS athletes are expected to:

- attend all training sessions (including strength & conditioning training and education sessions) and events listed in the WRAS program;
- comply and obey with lawful instructions provided by WRAS personnel or any other person in authority of WRAS;
- advise WRAS as soon as possible of any obvious danger within WRAS, or any activities conducted by any person who may endanger the property or persons of WRAS or those associated with it;
- not engage in any illegal activities, particularly the use of performance enhancing drugs and doping practices;
- act in an appropriate manner and maintain a proper code of behaviour, particularly during WRAS activities and while representing WRAS;
- wear the appropriate supplied WRAS clothing at all WRAS events and training sessions;
- where requested, assist in the promotion of all WRAS official sponsors;
- keep WRAS informed of any medical conditions and treatments that could affect athletes health and/or performance;
- keep WRAS informed of any changes of contact details including email, telephone number, etc;
- understand that the WRAS insurance coverage is limited and it is recommended that athletes have adequate Private Health insurance and extra cover;
- stay with the WRAS squad in overnight situations, where accommodation is provided;
- check their email or team app at least once a week and more often in the lead up to organised events;
- when necessary, notify WRAS staff of any changes in travel arrangements to and from WRAS events;
- leave facilities free from litter of other mess;
- understand that in the event of any breach of the Code of Behaviour, that the athlete's scholarship may be terminated;

Authorised by: WRAS Board of Management	Title: Athlete code of conduct policy	Page: 1
Version Date: June 2017	Next Review: June 2018	No of Pages: 2

- understand that WRAS may terminate an athlete's scholarship or vary the benefits associated with it, by notice in writing;
- understand that if an athlete's scholarship is terminated at any time, for any reason, the athlete will return all property, uniforms and equipment that is owned by WRAS;
- agree to become a member of WRAS; and
- agree to pay any levy that WRAS applies

## **UNACCEPTABLE BEHAVIOUR**

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The following are deemed unacceptable behaviours by WRAS athletes and are grounds for revision of scholarship if undertaken:

- discriminating against, harassing, bullying or making derogatory or demeaning remarks about, or to anyone;
- making any sexual comments or advances that offend, intimidate or humiliate others;
- making insulting comments towards someone in relation to their age, race, gender, ability, cultural background, sexuality or religion;
- male athletes entering rooms of female athletes, female athletes entering rooms of male athletes;
- being in the possession of offensive materials at WRAS events;
- gambling, wagering or betting at or on WRAS events;
- knowingly circulating false or misleading information about any other WRAS member;
- misrepresenting the nature or extent of an injury or illness to participate in (or cause an athlete to participate in) a competition, training camp or other similar activity when such participation is inconsistent with the appropriate medical response to the injury or illness;
- not respecting all property and facilities utilised by WRAS including accommodation, furnishings, uniforms and equipment;
- not respecting the personal property of other WRAS members;
- borrowing money from WRAS athletes or squad staff;
- exhibitions of poor sportsmanship (including abuse of officials)

Note: No policy can address, in specific fashion, all possible situations, which may take place. When this policy does not address a specific behaviour, athletes and squads are expected to conduct themselves and their activities in a spirit of social responsibility and respect for others.

Whilst WRAS staff and squad staff will provide as much supervision as possible in attempting to fulfil their duty of care to athletes, athletes and their parents should be aware that direct 24 hour supervision for all athletes is not always possible. Consequently, all WRAS members will be accountable for their own actions at all times whether under direct or indirect supervision of staff.

Authorised by: WRAS Board of Management	Title: Athlete code of conduct policy	Page: <b>2</b>
Version Date: June 2017	Next Review: June 2018	No of Pages: <b>2</b>