****

**FOYLE VALLEY ATHLETICS CLUB**

**General Club Code of Conduct**

These guidelines have been produced to advise all members of the standards expected of members of **Foyle Valley Athletics Club**

1. **Behaviour**

During training sessions and competitions athletes should avoid actions which may bring the club into disrepute.

Athletes should:

* Abide by the Club Constitution and rules of the sport and maintain high standards of sportsmanship.
* Respect the decisions of coaches, officials and others involved in athletics and treat everyone equally.
* Respect your fellow athletes.
* Consistently promote positive aspects of the sport and maintain high standards of fair play.
* Act with dignity and display courtesy and good manners towards others.
* Avoid swearing, abusive language and irresponsible behaviour including behaviour that is dangerous to yourself or others, acts of violence, bullying, harassment and physical and sexual abuse.
* Not carry or consume alcohol to excess and/or illegal substances.
* Avoid destructive behaviour and leave athletics venues as you find them.

1. **Safety**

* Athletes should inform a coach of any illness or injury before, during or after an activity whether it is to themselves or others.
* Athletes should listen to instructions provided by coaches especially in regard to safety during a training session

1. **Club Subscriptions**

* Athletes must pay all club subscriptions by their due date – without subscription paid athletes will not be registered with ANI and therefore will not be entered for any races.

In addition, athletes, especially young athletes and vulnerable adults, should follow these guidelines on safe participation in athletics –

* Notify a responsible adult if you have to go somewhere (why, where and when you will return).
* Do not respond if someone seeks private information unrelated to athletics such as personal information, home life information.
* Strictly maintain boundaries between friendship and intimacy with a coach or official.
* Never accept lifts in cars or invitations into homes on your own without the prior knowledge and consent of your parent/carer.
* Use safe transport or travel arrangements.
* Report any accidental injury, distress, misunderstanding or misinterpretation to your parents/carers and club Welfare Officer as soon as possible.
* Report any suspected misconduct by coaches or other people involved in athletics to the club welfare officer as soon as possible.

Designated Welfare officer Lisa McGuigan is **07732144081** and ANI Officer is Allister Woods **07379125120/028 9060 2707** or welfare@athleticsni.org.

Any misdemeanours and general misbehaviour will be addressed by the immediate coach and reported verbally to the club committee. Persistent misbehaviour may result in dismissal from the club.