

British Weight Lifting

Codes of Conduct

(Updated 2025)

Introduction

As the National Governing Body, BWL is responsible for setting the standards and values that apply at every level. Our Codes of Conduct require the highest standards of conduct from everyone involved in weightlifting and para powerlifting (“the sport”) to ensure that behaviour and actions meet the values and standards expected at all times.

These Codes relate to all members, including those in paid roles and those who volunteer. We expect everyone to conduct themselves in an honest, fair, impartial and transparent manner. There is a generic element which applies to everyone involved in the sport and there is additional guidance for other roles within the sport.

Any reports of inappropriate conduct will be taken very seriously and dealt with appropriately. Any breach of the Code of Conduct may result in disciplinary action and potential sanction from BWL including the application of immediate membership/licence suspension pending the review of relevant information/evidence. As per BWL Safeguarding Case Management Process internal investigations can be carried out by BWL which are independent of any police and/or statutory body investigation, the outcome of such may differ to the outcome of the police and/or statutory body investigation and could lead to membership/licence suspension.

Generic Code

All members will, at all times:

- Respect the spirit of fair play, including regulations, rules and requirements of the sport.
- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of all people involved in the sport, regardless of any protected characteristics (age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation).
- Accept that certain information is confidential and/or sensitive and maintain the trust implied in the ownership of this.
- Promote the reputation of the sport and take all possible steps to prevent it from being brought into disrepute.
- Use appropriate language, whether in verbal or written format, including social media and online.
- Be courteous to others, be gracious in success and defeat and respect decisions made by officials.
- Take personal responsibility for your own actions and use appropriate behaviour.
- Protect others from any form of abuse including verbal or physical abuse and threatening or intimidating behaviour.
- Ensure your own safety and the safety of others wherever possible.
- Abide by and follow all BWL rules and policies especially in relation to: safeguarding, anti-doping, equality and diversity, and cooperate with any appropriate investigations or proceedings.