

## **Discipline Policy**

### **BACKGROUND**

The BC Games Society is committed to providing a quality multi-sport Games experience for participants from throughout British Columbia. The success of these Games is due in large part to the dedication and hard work of thousands of volunteers.

The BC Games Society believes that all participants and volunteers should be treated with respect and consideration and that each should consider the rights and privileges of others. Certain rules have been established to ensure a quality experience for all BC Games participants. This standard of behavior is expected of all participants. The BC Games Society has initiated this Discipline Policy to address situations in contradiction of this philosophy.

### **APPLICATION**

This policy applies to all BC Summer and BC Winter Games participants, which includes athletes, head coaches, assistant coaches, adult supervisors, and officials.

### **CODE OF CONDUCT**

All participants and volunteers share in the responsibility of orderly conduct both during and outside of competition. This includes conducting themselves in the spirit of sport and fairplay, respecting others and their property, and conducting themselves in a way that supports the Society's harassment policy.

The BC Games Society code of conduct for participants is posted on the BC Games Society website and included in the *Guide to the Games*.

### **DISCIPLINARY PROCESS**

Regardless of the type or severity of the infraction of the BC Games Society code of conduct, the BC Games Society will either apply disciplinary action directly or seek disciplinary action from the PSO through the Provincial Advisor. In the case of the latter, if the PSO takes steps appropriate to the infraction in the view of the BC Games Society, the Society will consider the incident closed. If the action, in the estimation of the BC Games Society, is not commensurate with the infraction, the entire incident will be reviewed by BC Games staff and additional actions taken against the participant(s) and/or the PSO.

### **DISCIPLINARY ACTION**

While there is no "typical" penalty for infractions at a BC Games, there are penalties which can be applied depending upon the severity of the infraction. Some examples of past disciplinary actions are:

- the removal of a participant from competition
- the removal of an entire zone team from competition

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- suspension of a participant from Games activities outside of competition (e.g.: dances, special events, etc.)
- participant sent home prior to the conclusion of the Games, at her/his own expense
- an entire PSO placed on probation or removed from the Sport Package of the next BC Games
- financial restitution from participant or the PSO for damage done to a facility or equipment

## **APPEALS**

Should the sanctions of the BC Games Society not be to the satisfaction of the involved parties, the individual may appeal the decision as per the *BC Games Appeal Policy & Process, section 1, General – All Appeals*. Appeals must be in writing, detailing the grounds for the appeal, and received not more than thirty (30) days after the notice of disciplinary action.

If the involved parties are not satisfied with a sanction imposed by the Provincial Sport Organization, the individual may appeal the decision through the respective Provincial Sport Organization's appeal process, if applicable.

## **CONCLUSION**

The BC Games Society and the Provincial Sport Organizations and their members have enjoyed a relationship relatively free of discipline problems. The credit must go to the PSOs and their work with their Provincial Advisors, coaches, athletes, and officials. PSO Codes of Conduct have also assisted in keeping discipline problems to a minimum.

The BC Games Society encourages all sports to continue to educate their participants regarding appropriate behavior at all sport competitions.

## **APPENDIX**

### **Examples of Infractions**

#### **Minor**

- a single incident of disrespectful, abusive, or offensive behaviour
- conduct contrary to the spirit of sport
- significant breach of curfew
- verbal harassment

#### **Major**

- repeated incidents of disrespectful, abusive or offensive behaviour
- repeated incidents that are in contradiction of the spirit of sport or fairplay
- any use of alcohol by minors
- intoxication of coaches and/or adult supervisors
- use of illicit drugs or narcotics
- damage to property
- physical harassment

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