

Old County Pitch and Putt Club



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Code of Conduct for Young People (Under 18's) in Pitch and Putt

Guidelines and Code of Conduct for Young People

Old County Pitch & Putt Club wishes to provide the best possible environment for all young people involved in the sport. Young people deserve to be given enjoyable, safe sporting opportunities, free of abuse of any kind. These participants have rights, which must be respected, and responsibilities that they must accept. Young people should be encouraged to realise that they have responsibilities to treat other participants and sports leaders with fairness and respect.

Young players are entitled to:

- Be listened to.
- Be believed.
- Be safe and feel safe
- Have fun and enjoy pitch & putt.
- Be treated with dignity, sensitivity and respect.
- Have a voice in relation to their activities within pitch & putt.
- Participate on an equitable and fair manner, irrespective of ability, disability, gender, religion, social class, etc.
- Experience competition at a level at which they feel comfortable.
- Make complaints and have them dealt with.
- Get help against bullies.
- Say no.
- Protect their own bodies.
- Confidentiality.

Young players should always:

- Treat Sports Leaders with respect including, coaches, managers, club officials, etc.
- Look out for themselves and the welfare of others.
- Play fairly at all times and do their best.
- Be organised and on time and tell someone if you are leaving a venue or competition.
- Respect team members, even when things go wrong.
- Respect opponents and be gracious in defeat.
- Abide by the rules set down by team managers when travelling to away events.
- Behave in a manner that avoids bringing the sport of Pitch and Putt into disrepute.
- Talk to the Old County Pitch & Putt Club Juvenile Officer if they have any problems.

Young players should never:

- Cheat
- Use violence or engage in irresponsible, abusive, inappropriate or illegal behaviour.
- Shout or argue with officials, coaches, teammates or opponents.
- Harm team members, opponents or their property.
- Bully or use bullying tactics to isolate another player or gain advantage.
- Take banned substances, drink alcohol, smoke or engage in sexual behaviour.
- Keep secrets, especially if they have been caused harm.
- Tell lies about adults or young people.
- Spread rumours.
- Discriminate against other players on the basis of gender, age, disability, social class, religion, race, etc.

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Guidelines for Parents

Old County Pitch and Putt Club believe that parents should:

- Be a role model for your child and maintain the highest standards of conduct when interacting with children, other parents, with officials and organisers.
- Always behave responsibly and do not seek to unfairly affect the game / player/ competition. Never intentionally expose any young participant to embarrassment or disparagement using flippant or sarcastic remarks
- Always recognise the value and importance of the officials and volunteers who provide sporting and recreational opportunities for your child. Do not publicly question the judgment or honesty of officials, coaches, organisers or opponents. Respect officials, coaches and opponents. Parents are welcome to attend events and coaching sessions but should not interfere with the coach while working with the player.
- Encourage your child to play by the rules. Teach your child that honest endeavour is as important as winning and do all you can to encourage good sportsmanship.
- Set a good example by applauding good play on both sides. Encourage mutual respect for coaches, teammates and opponents
- Parents should support all efforts to remove abusive behaviour and bullying behaviour in all its forms. Please read the bullying policy within the Pitch and Putt Ireland guidelines.

Parents Code of Conduct

- I will respect the rules and procedures set down by Old County Pitch and Putt Club.
- I will respect my child's teammates, coaches, managers, and leaders, as well as players, parents and coaches from opposing teams. I will encourage my child to treat other participants, coaches, selectors, and managers with respect.
- I will give encouragement and applaud only positive accomplishments whether from my child, his/her teammates, their opponents or the officials.
- I will respect my child's leader(s) and support his/her efforts
- I will respect the officials and their authority during sessions and events within Old County Pitch and Putt Club and under the auspice of Pitch and Putt Ireland.
- I will never demonstrate threatening or abusive behaviour or use foul language.

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Under 18 Signature: _____ **Date:** _____