



## **FENCING HERTFORDSHIRE CIC ANTI BULLYING POLICY**

### **STATEMENT OF INTENT**

We are committed to providing a caring, friendly and safe environment for all our members so they can participate in fencing in a relaxed and secure atmosphere.

### **BULLYING OF ANY KIND IS UNACCEPTABLE IN FENCING.**

If bullying does occur, all members should be able to tell and know that incidents will be dealt with promptly and effectively. This means that anyone who knows that bullying is happening is expected to tell the welfare officer as soon as they have concerns.

### **WHAT IS BULLYING?**

Bullying is the use of aggression with the intention of hurting another person. Bullying results in pain and distress to the victim. Bullying can be:

- Emotional - being unfriendly, excluding, tormenting (e.g. threatening gestures)
- Physical - pushing, kicking, hitting, punching or any use of violence
- Racist - racial taunts, graffiti, gestures
- Sexual - unwanted physical contact or sexually abusive comments
- Homophobic - because of, or focusing on the issue of sexuality
- Verbal name-calling, sarcasm, spreading rumors, teasing
- Cyber -
  - Any issues relating to the internet, such as email & internet chat room misuse.
  - Mobile threats by text messaging & calls
  - Misuse of associated technology, i.e. camera & video facilities

### **WHY IS IT IMPORTANT TO RESPOND TO BULLYING?**

Bullying hurts. No one deserves to be a victim of bullying. Everybody has the right to be treated with respect. The sport has a responsibility to respond promptly and effectively to issues of bullying.

### **OBJECTIVES OF THIS POLICY**

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All members, coaches, volunteers and parents should have an understanding of what bullying is

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All members, coaches and volunteers should know what the policy is on bullying, and follow it when bullying is reported

- All players and parents should know what the policy is on bullying, and what they should do if bullying arises

- As a sport, we take bullying seriously. Anyone involved in fencing should be assured that they will be supported when bullying is reported

### **FURTHER INFORMATION**

Further help and guidance can be obtained from the following:

- Children's Legal Centre 0845 345 4345
- KIDSCAPE Parents Helpline (Mon-Fri, 10-4) 0845 1 205 204 [www.kidscape.org.uk](http://www.kidscape.org.uk)
- Parentline Plus 0808 800 2222
- Youth Access 020 8772 9900
- Bullying Online [www.bullying.co.uk](http://www.bullying.co.uk)