



Parent Code of Conduct

Reviewed August 2024

WFSC is committed to creating a safe and positive environment for skaters' emotional and social development and ensuring that it promotes an environment free of misconduct.

In this code

“**parents**” shall refer to “parents and guardians”

“**child**” refers to a person under the age of 17 and those 17 or over with special needs.

This code applies to all parents who are members of Wellington Figure Skating Club (WFSC), have children who are members of WFSC, or have children who take part in lessons through the Learn to Skate Wellington programme. All parents/guardians of skaters agree to abide by this code when attending lessons and/or as part of their child's WFSC membership.

Support

- I will do my best to make skating fun and will remember that my child participates in skating for their own enjoyment and satisfaction, not mine.
- I will avoid comparing my child with other skaters.
- I will ensure my child wears appropriate skating clothing, and their personal skates or other equipment are fit for use.

Set a Positive Example

- I will model positive, responsible behaviour.
- I will go through the WFSC Code of Conduct with my child to help them understand the behaviours expected of them.

Communication

- I will inform my child's coach of any physical/mental disability or challenge affecting my child that may affect the wellbeing and safety of my child or others.
- I understand that reporting any acts of bullying, harassment or abuse to a Coach, WFSC Committee, Officials or rink staff is in the best interests of my child and other skaters to enable early intervention.

Respect Coaches and Officials

- I will respect my child's coach and refrain from “side line” coaching or any other activities that may impede the coach's ability to do their job during lessons or training sessions.
- I will remain in the designated area for parents and spectators during lessons and training sessions to avoid distracting my child.

Observe Rules and Policies

- I will follow the rules set for lessons, training sessions, club events and competitions and understand that these rules and policies are in place to ensure the safety and wellbeing of all skaters.

Prohibited Conduct

- I understand that if my child is under the age of 14 they may not be left unattended while at the rink.
- I will refrain from any behaviour or comments which are profane, insulting, harassing, sexist, racist, abusive, disrespectful or otherwise offensive.
- I will not ridicule, bully, blame, make negative comments, harass or yell at my child or other skaters, other parents, coaches, committee members, officials or volunteers in response to a poor performance or for any other reason. This includes on and off ice time and my social media sites.
- I will refrain from physical violence to individuals or property.
- I will not photograph, video or record my child, or any other skater or coach during lessons or training sessions.
- I will not attend the rink with my child while under the influence of alcohol or illegal drugs and I will not engage in criminal activity.
- I will at no time claim to represent WFSC without permission from the WFSC Committee.

Additional Responsibilities for Parents of Figure and Competitive Skaters

Practice Good Sportsmanship

- I will encourage good sportsmanship by demonstrating positive support for all skaters, coaches and officials at every lesson, practice session, competition and test session.
- I will place the emotional and physical well-being of my child and others ahead of my desire to win.
- I will teach my child that doing their best is more important than winning, so that my child will never feel defeated by the results of a competitive event.
- I will not assist or condone any athlete's use of a banned substance as described by the International Olympic Committee, International Skating Union, or NZIFSA, or refuse for my child to submit to properly conducted drug tests administered by one of these organisations.

Healthy Balance

- I will encourage my child to maintain a healthy balance between skating and life. (e.g., school, other activities, social life, etc.)
- I will take a healthy interest in my child's progress and development and be responsible for their nutrition, rest, adherence to off-ice training regimen set by the coach or other fitness professional, overall health, life-balance, and moral and emotional support.
- I understand that WFSC committee and coaches can be approached for support with any concerns I have regarding my child's physical and mental health, dietary intake/body image issues, bullying and any other matters that affect my child and/or their ability to skate.