

Olympia Boxing CIC wants all members to enjoy our programmes in a safe and healthy environment shared with like minded other children, young people and adults.

In providing these guidelines Olympia Boxing CIC acknowledges the kind assistance and copyright of the NSPCC Child Protection in Sport Unit.

Staff, Coaches, and volunteers who deliver sports activities to children may, on occasions, be required to deal with challenging behaviour. These guidelines aim to promote good practice and to encourage a proactive response to supporting children and young people to manage their own behaviour. They suggest some strategies and sanctions which can be used and identify unacceptable sanctions or interventions which must never be used by Staff, Coaches and volunteers. The guidelines will also include the views and suggestions of children. These guidelines are based on the following principles:

- The welfare of the children, young people and adults is the paramount consideration.
- All those involved in activities including children, coaches / volunteers and parents / carers should be provided with clear guidelines about required standards of conduct, and Olympia Boxing CIC's process for responding to behaviour that is deemed unacceptable.
- Children, young people and adults must never be subject to any form of treatment that is harmful, abusive, humiliating or degrading.
- Some children, young people and adults exhibit challenging behaviour as a result of specific circumstances, eg a medical or psychological condition, and coaches may therefore require specific or additional guidance. These and any other specific needs the child, young person or adult may have should be discussed with parents / carers and the child, young person or adult in planning for the activity, to ensure that an appropriate approach is agreed and, where necessary, additional support provided e.g. from external agencies, Children's Social Care services etc

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- Sport can make a significant contribution to improving the life experience and outcomes for all children, young people and adults. Every child, young person or adult should be supported to participate and, only in exceptional circumstances where the safety of other people cannot be maintained, should a child, young person or adult be excluded from Olympia Boxing CIC programmes.

Planning programmes

Good coaching practice requires planning sessions around the group as a whole, but also involves taking into consideration the needs of each individual within that group. As part of session planning, coaches should consider whether any members of the group have presented in the past or are likely to present any difficulties in relation to the tasks involved, the other participants or the environment. Where Staff, Coaches and volunteers identify potential risks, strategies to manage those risks should be agreed in advance of the session, event or activity. The planning should also identify the appropriate number of adults required to safely manage and support the session including being able to adequately respond to any challenging behaviour and to safeguard other members of the group and the staff / volunteers involved. When children, young people or adults are identified as having additional needs or behaviours that are likely to require additional supervision, specialist expertise or support, this should be discussed with parents / carers and where appropriate the person(s). Olympia Boxing CIC should seek to work in partnership with parents / carers, and where necessary external agencies, to ensure that a child, young person or adult can be supported to participate safely. Agreeing Acceptable and Unacceptable Behaviours Staff, Coaches, volunteers and parents / carers should be involved in developing an agreed statement of what constitutes acceptable and unacceptable behaviour (code of conduct) and the range of sanctions which may be applied in response to unacceptable behaviour. Issues of behaviour and control should regularly be discussed with Staff, Coaches, volunteers, parents and children in the context of rights and responsibilities. When children are specifically asked, as a group, to draw up a code of conduct that will govern their 1 Go to www.evrychildmatters.gov.uk for more information about the government's strategy for achieving improved outcomes for all children participation in club

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activities, experience indicates that they tend to arrive at a very sensible working set of 'rules' with greater 'buy-in' from participants than those simply imposed by adults within the club. If and when such a code is compiled, every member of the group can be asked to sign it, as can new members as they join.

Managing Challenging Behaviour In responding to challenging behaviour the response should always be proportionate to the actions, be imposed as soon as is practicable and be fully explained to the child, young person and their parents / carers. In dealing with children, young people or adults who display negative or challenging behaviours, staff and volunteers might consider the following options:

- Time out - from the activity, group or individual work.
- Reparation - the act or process of making amends. • Restitution - the act of giving something back.
- Behavioural reinforcement - rewards for good behaviour, consequences for negative behaviour.
- De-escalation of the situation - talking through with the child / young person.
- Increased supervision by Staff, Coaches and volunteers.
- Use of individual 'contracts' or agreements for their future or continued participation.
- Sanctions or consequences e.g. missing sessions.
- Seeking additional / specialist support through working in partnership with other agencies to ensure a child's / young person's needs are met appropriately e.g. referral for support to Children's Social Care, discussion with the child's key worker if they have one, speaking to the child's school about management strategies (all require parental consent unless the child is felt to be 'at risk' or 'in need of protection').
- Temporary or permanent exclusion

The following should never be permitted as a means of managing a child's behaviour:

- Physical punishment or the threat of such.

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- Refusal to speak to or interact with the child, young person or adult.
- Being deprived of food, water, access to changing facilities or toilets or other essential facilities.
- Verbal intimidation, ridicule or humiliation.

Staff, Coaches and volunteers should review the needs of any child, young person or adult for whom sanctions are frequently necessary. This review should involve the child, young person parents / carers and in some cases others involved in supporting or providing services for the child, young person, adult and his / her family, to ensure an informed decision is made about the child, young person or adult's future or continued participation. As a last resort, if a child, young person or adult continues to present a high level of risk or danger to him or herself, or others, he or she may have to be suspended or barred from the organisation's activities.

Physical Intervention

The use of physical intervention should always be avoided unless it is absolutely necessary to prevent a child, young person or adult injuring themselves or others, or causing serious damage to property. All forms of physical intervention should form part of a broader approach to the management of challenging behaviour. Physical contact to prevent something happening should always be the result of conscious decision-making and not a reaction. Before physically intervening, the member of Staff, Coaches and volunteers should ask themselves, 'Is this the only option in order to manage the situation and ensure safety?' It is good practice to ensure that if you have to physically intervene in a situation with a child/young person/adult, it is in the least restrictive way necessary to prevent them from getting hurt, and used only after all other strategies have been exhausted. Studies have shown that, where this is the case, children, young people and adults understand and accept the reasons for the intervention.

The following must always be considered:

- Contact should be avoided with buttocks, genitals and breasts. Staff, Coaches and volunteers should never behave in a way which could be interpreted as sexual.

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- Any form of physical intervention should achieve an outcome that is in the best interests of the child, young person or adult whose behaviour is of immediate concern.
- Staff, Coaches and volunteers should consider the circumstances, the risks associated with employing physical intervention compared with the risks of not employing physical intervention.
- The scale and nature of physical intervention must always be proportionate to the behaviour of the child, young person or adult and the nature of harm / damage they might cause.
- All forms of physical intervention should employ only a reasonable amount of force -ie the minimum force needed to avert injury to a person or serious damage to property - applied for the shortest period of time.
- Staff, Coaches and volunteers should never employ physical interventions which are deemed to present an unreasonable risk to children/young people/adults or staff/volunteers.
- Staff, Coaches and volunteers shall never use physical intervention as a form of punishment.
- Physical intervention should NOT involve inflicting pain
- Where children are identified as having additional needs or behaviours that are likely to require physical intervention this should be discussed with parents / carers and where necessary Olympia Boxing CIC will seek advice from or to work in partnership with external agencies (e.g. Children's Social Care) to ensure that a child or young person can be supported to participate safely. This may include asking for the provision of a suitably trained support worker / volunteer or accessing staff / volunteer training in physical intervention. Any physical intervention used should be recorded as soon as possible after the incident by the Staff, Coaches or volunteers involved using an Olympia Boxing CIC Incident Report Form and passed to the Olympia Boxing CIC Welfare Officer as soon as possible.

Views From The Child, Young Person Or Adult

It is clear from the accounts of children, young people and adults that physical intervention provokes strong feelings. Children, young people and adults may be left physically or emotionally hurt. Even a child/young person/adult who hasn't been directly involved in the situation may be fearful that it will happen to them in future or have been upset by seeing what has happened to others. A timely debrief for appropriate Staff, Coaches and volunteers, the child and parents should always take place following an incident where physical intervention has been used. This should include ensuring that the physical and emotional well-being of those involved has been addressed and ongoing support offered where necessary. Staff, Coaches and volunteers, children, young people and parents should be given an opportunity to talk about what happened in a calm and safe environment. There should also be a discussion with the child/young person's parents/carers about the child's needs and continued safe participation in the programme. It is important that all Staff, Coaches and volunteers are made aware of and understand Olympia Boxing CIC's guidance about managing challenging behaviour to ensure that they are aware of ways in which they may need to intervene and are clear about the practice guidance in this area.

A policy for managing challenging behaviour In conclusion, Olympia Boxing CIC has a duty of care to children and young people and have implement this policy and procedure on managing challenging behaviour.