



FAIR PLAY

As of October 2023

What is Fair Play:

Fair play is crucial in sports and life. It means following rules, competing with a positive attitude, and promoting respect, humility, and generosity. Clear rules for all sports and levels ensure fair, safe, and enjoyable play. Inappropriate behavior should be dealt with appropriately. Adherence to rules enhances the enjoyment of sports. Players must learn and respect rules from the grassroots level to the highest level of competition.

Fair play is an attitude reflected in our actions, critical to creating a peaceful and better world. In sports, it teaches tolerance, respect, and teamwork. It unites people across cultures and produces better results than gamesmanship. Fairness and trustworthiness are crucial for societal order and human well-being.

The following values that form the foundation of fair play can be easily expressed in everyday interactions.

- **Respect**
 - Every athlete must play by written and unwritten rules. This includes respecting opponents, fellow players, referees, officials, and fans.
- **Friendship**
 - Rivalry on the field doesn't preclude friendship; it can create it through mutual respect. Friendships can often grow between sporting rivals.
- **Team spirit**
 - Individuals can be strong independently but are even stronger as a team. While achieving victory alone can be satisfying, nothing compares to sharing that moment with teammates and friends.
- **Fair competition**
 - To achieve success, one must not only win but do so through fair means.
- **Modesty**
 - Take pride in winning, but never gloat, tease, or celebrate excessively. Instead, be modest and humble.
- **Equality**
 - It is crucial for sports to have a level playing field where athletes can compete on equal terms. This is necessary for accurate measurement of performance. Any deviation from this can affect the results and lead to unfairness.
- **Integrity**
 - Practicing sports with a sound ethical framework is essential for true champions.
- **Solidarity**
 - It's important to support and share with each other to achieve mutual success on and off the field.
- **Tolerance**
 - The ability to accept disagreeable behavior or decisions develops self-control, which can determine success or failure.



FAIR PLAY cont.

- **Care**
 - True champions value caring for each other, knowing they couldn't reach the top alone.
- **Excellence**
 - Sport brings us together to strive for the highest level of human excellence.
- **Joy**
 - It is natural for competition to be intense, but it is vital to always find joy in practicing any sport. Even amid a heated fight, one should never forget the importance of play. With increased interest in the sport of fencing, we are dedicated to ensuring a positive experience for all fencers, regardless of the outcome.
- **Sport without doping**
 - Using drugs is cheating, which ruins the game and makes it unplayable.

What can we do in the sport of fencing to ensure the values of Fair Play are upheld?

- Every club should hold a Fair Play seminar/ discussion at least once a season with parents, coaches, and athletes at least once a season.
- Invite a club rep to speak on the club's code of conduct.
- Invite a referee to speak on the rules of the sport, including expectations of the behavior of athletes both on and off the field.
- Post Fair Play posters at strategic places around a club.

How can an athlete be penalized for not showing fair play?

Some examples of what might happen if an athlete engages in unfair play at the club and during competition:

- Warning.
- Being disqualified from an event.
- Banned from competing.
- Banned from a club.