
GUIDELINES FOR INTERACTING WITH CHILDREN

Maintain appropriate boundaries

Coaches and other personnel in positions of authority should maintain clear:

Physical boundaries

- Use drills to develop fitness, not as a punishment
- Only use physical contact that is appropriate for the development of a particular skill and has the permission of the athlete
- Work within sight of others at all times

Emotional boundaries

- Use positive feedback on performance, not negative feedback about the person
- Be encouraging and avoid put-downs

Social boundaries

- Attend sport related events such as sponsorship and fundraising events, celebrations and annual meetings but do not socialise with athletes outside sporting functions
- Do not socialise with athletes via social media

Sexual boundaries

- Do not have sexual relationships with athletes you are coaching
- Do not touch athletes in ways likely to make them feel uncomfortable

Minimise physical contact

Generally, physical contact with players or participants should be to:

- Develop sport skills
- Give sports massage