

# **Border Association USA Track & Field**

## **Athlete, Parent, Coach Etiquette, Ethical Conduct & Sportsmanship**

### **A. Parent and Athlete Sportsmanship**

All Border Association (BA) Club Coaches and Presidents are required to know and review with their respective assistant coaches, volunteers, parents and athletes proper sportsmanship rules and ethical conduct standards for acceptable behavior at practice and competition.

Each Coach shall verify that each parent and athlete has been instructed in proper sportsmanship behaviors, ethical conduct and consequences for infractions. This verification will take the form of the parent/guardian and athletes signature (see attached sheet). Note: All coaches and volunteers must sign as well. All current club athletes, new and or unattached athletes must have these requirements signed and on file with Border Association Secretary before participation in any USATF Border Association Junior Olympic meet.

### **B. Venue Behavior**

Coaches, Parents and athletes will exhibit proper Sportsmanship behaviors and follow the ‘Chain of Command’ Grievance Process. If a Parent, Coach or Athlete has a question about a “discrepancy” on the track or field during a meet that individual will use their Club’ ‘Chain of Command’ and work through the Head Coach to clarify or correct the situation. Extreme cases of inappropriate behavior(s) can subject an individual to El Paso Police Department, University and/ or School District Police citations. The Head Coach is required to be present at all situations and competitions. If unable to attend the Head Coach will appoint a designee and inform meet personnel who said designee is.

### **C. Recruitment**

Once an athlete is signed to a USATF registered club, in good standing, communication in any fashion, (whether by direct contact or contact with and/or through parents, volunteer(s), boosters, sponsors, friends, telephone, mail, email), as to that:

- athlete(s) joining your team,

- The type or quality of coaching he/she is currently receiving,

Your unsolicited evaluation, critique or opinion of their performance(s), (other than praise and congratulations), is unprofessional and unethical conduct by a coach. Such conduct undermines the fair play standard each coach expects from his/her fellow coaches and subjects said coach to BA disciplinary action(s).

### **D. Infraction Consequences**

The Association Grievance Procedures will be followed. However the severity of the infraction and repeated minor offenses will accelerate disciplinary action. Ignorance of the rules is not a valid excuse from infraction consequences.

### **Infractions by Coaches, Adult Athletes (19 yr+) and Parents**

1<sup>st</sup> Infraction The individual will receive a written reprimand from Border Association and will be suspended from Border Association activities, administrative and/or coaching duties and competitions for the remainder of that calendar year.

2<sup>nd</sup> Infraction if a second infraction occurs within two years of the date of the first infraction permanent expulsion of the individual from the Border Association in all capacities will result.

### **Infractions by Athletes**

Disciplinary action will follow Association Grievance Procedures on a case-by-case basis. Consequences range from disqualification from an event, a meet, written reprimand, suspension from competition(s) and/or permanent expulsion from Border Association and its activities and competitions.