

## **Code of Conduct for USA National Deaf Sport Team (insert NSO)**

The mission of each National Deaf Sport Team (insert NSO) is to encourage participation and the pursuit of excellence in all aspects of the Deaflympics. As representatives of the USA National Deaf Sport Team, you are ambassadors of the United States Deaf Sports Federation. Each National Deaf Sport Team grants the privilege of membership to individuals and groups committed to the same mission. The privilege of membership may, therefore, be withdrawn or denied by the USA Deaf National Team Sport at any time when determined that a member's conduct is inconsistent with the mission of the organization or the best interest of the sport and those who participate.

All athletes, coaches and officials pledge to abide by the following Code of Conduct:

- Abide by all USA Deaf Sports Federation and the USA National Deaf Sport Team rules, selection procedures and safety guidelines.
- As an ambassador, exhibit the highest standards of fairness, discipline, ethical behavior and genuine sportsmanship by mutually respecting and bringing honor to the USA National Deaf Sport Team, the United States Deaf Sports Federation and the Olympic Movement.
- Respect teammates, athletes, coaches, officials, spectators, volunteers, representatives, sponsors and office staff of each USA National Deaf Sports Team without regard to race, religion, national origin, age, civil status, veteran status, marital status, language, social condition, mental or physical ability, sexual preference, or gender identity.
- Will not use offensive language/gestures or non-consensual physical contact as a response to the referees/jury/officials decision as an expression of frustration and/or self-admonishment.
- Will not engage in any form of discriminatory, verbal, physical or sexual harassment/abuse, fraud, stealing, deception or dishonesty related to USA National Deaf Sport Team events or activities.
- Will not disrespect, intimidate or embarrass other members, teammates, athletes, coaches, officials, spectators, sponsors, volunteers, Board of Directors, Committee members and/or USA National Deaf Sport Team and the USADSF Office staff and the USADSF board of directors in person, electronically, and/or through social networking venues (i.e. Facebook, Twitter, blogs or websites, etc.).
- Will not participate in any non-consensual sexual contact or advance or other inappropriate sexually oriented behavior or action directed towards any member

by a coach, official, athletic trainer or other person who is in a position of authority.

- Respect and not cause damage to private or public property of others while at an event sanctioned by the USA National Deaf Sport Team or at a designated USA National Deaf Sport Team facility.
- Will not sell or distribute any illegal drugs, including substance on the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) list of banned substances.
- Will not knowingly misrepresent competitive achievements, professional qualifications, education, experience, eligibility, criminal record or affiliations of one self or another member.
- Will not misrepresent the nature or extent of an injury in order to decline an invitation to participate in or withdraw from a competition, training camp or other similar activity.
- Will not use illegal drugs in the presence of teammates, athletes, coaches, officials, volunteers, spectators, sponsors and staff of a USA National Deaf Sport Team and/or at any USA National Deaf Sport Team event or activity.
- Will not commit a doping violation as defined by the International Olympic Committee (IOC), World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA), the United States Anti-Doping Agency (USADA), or the United States Olympic Committee (USOC).

Disciplinary action for violation of any provision in this Code of Conduct may include any or all of the following: (i) a reprimand; (ii) suspension from competition participation (iii) removal from team; (iv) termination of memberships with the USA National Deaf Sport Team (v) any combination of the foregoing.

If a USA National Deaf Sport Team member receives a disciplinary penalty or otherwise has a grievance related to this Code of Conduct, the member has the right to file a written request with the United States Deaf Sports Federation Board of Directors and Executive Director within thirty (30) day of the action giving rise to the members claimed grievance, to seek a review of the action in question pursuant to USA National Deaf Sport Team Bylaws and Grievance Procedures.

\*Put Signature box here

All athletes, coaches and officials have read and understood the Code of Conduct and agree to abide by the rules specified in the document.