USA Deaf Handball

CODE OF CONDUCT

USA Deaf Handball grants membership to individuals and organizations. That membership may be withdrawn or denied by USA Deaf Handball after fair process any time that USA Deaf Handball determines a member or prospective member's conduct is inconsistent with the mission of USA Deaf Handball or the best interest of the sport of and those who participate in it. In order to assist all members and to better serve the interests of those who participate in , USA Deaf Handball has adopted this Code of Conduct.

All USA Deaf Handball members, including athletes, coaches, trainers, mechanics, team doctors, team managers, team directors, employees, volunteers, officers, staff and Board officers, pledge to abide by the following Code of Conduct:

1. Abide by all the USA Deaf Handball rules, selection procedures, and safety guidelines.
2. As an ambassador, exhibit the highest standards of fairness, discipline, ethical behavior, and genuine sportsmanship by mutually respecting and bringing honor to USA Deaf Handball.
3. Respect teammates, athletes, coaches, officials, spectators, volunteers, representatives, sponsors, and office staff of USA Deaf Handball without regard to race, religion, national origin, age, civil status, veteran status, language, social condition, mental or physical ability, sexual preference, or gender identity.
4. Will not use offensive language/gesture or non-consensual physical contact as a response to referees/jury/officials' decision as an expression of frustration and/or self-admonishment.
5. Will not engage in any form of discriminatory, verbal, physical, or sexual harassment/abuse, fraud, stealing, deception, or dishonesty related to USA Deaf Handball events or activities.
6. Will not disrespect, intimidate or embarrass other members, teammates, athletes, coaches, officials, spectators, sponsors, volunteers, board officers, committee members, USADSF and/or USA Deaf Handball staff in-person electronically, and/or through social networking venues (i.e. Facebook, Twitter, blogs/vlogs or websites, etc.).
7. Will not participate in any non-consensual sexual contact or advance or other inappropriate sexually-oriented behavior or action.
8. Respect and not cause damage to private or public property of others while at an event sanctioned by the USA National Deaf Team or at a designated USA National Deaf Team facility.
9. Will not sell or distribute any illegal drugs, including substances on the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) list of banned substances.
10. Will not knowingly misrepresent competitive achievements, professional qualifications, education, experience, eligibility, criminal record, or affiliations of oneself or another member.
11. 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.
12. Will not use illegal drugs in the presence of teammates, athletes, coaches, officials, volunteers, spectators, sponsors, and staff of a USA National Deaf Team and/or at any USA National Deaf Team event or activity.
13. 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:

1. a reprimand;
2. suspension from competition participation;
3. removal from team;
4. termination of memberships with the USA National Deaf Team;
5. any combination of the foregoing.

If a USA Deaf Handball 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 administrator of USA Deaf Handball 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 Team Bylaws and/or Grievance Procedures.

In the event any member of USA Deaf Handball has a complaint/grievance that falls under the control of

USA Deaf Handball, NO individual may contact any sponsor (i.e. employees, partners, suppliers, concerned individuals, et. Al.) for any reason related to the complaint/grievance until such time that all hearing (including appeals) related to the complaint/grievance has been fully completed.

A member of USA Deaf Handball has a right to file a complaint to USADSF only if USA Deaf Handball failed to give the member a full and fair proceeding as mentioned above.

I have read and understood the Code of Conduct and agree to abide by the rules specified in the document.

_____
Full Name

_____
Signature and Date