## **Activator in Inclusive Martial Arts**

#### The role of the Activator in Inclusive Martial Arts

As an Activator in Inclusive Martial Arts it is your duty to deliver safe, inclusive and engaging physical activities.







The role of the Activator is different from the role of a coach. An Activator focuses solely on engagement! Whilst there are some similarities the coach will engage **and** enrich by also focusing on the development of their participants.

## The responsibilities of an activity leader

1 Protect the rights of participants

2 Establish relevant philosophy

3 Ensure compliance with legislation

4 Lead and communicate effectively

Duty of Care Safe Practice Safeguarding

The following legislation has the potential to impact on you in your roles as an Activator.

It is your responsibility to comply:

- Health and Safety (UK 1977)
- Equality (UK 2010)
- Data Protection (GDPR)
- Children's Act (UK 2004)

Failure to comply can put yourself and those in your care at risk!





Health and Safety at Work Act (1977 UK): Impact on activators

Health and Safety at Work laws lay down general principles for the management of health and safety at work. To comply in your roles as an Activator you should:

- Follow the H & S guidance for the facility
- Conduct Risk Assessment for the activity
- Ensure the activity & participants are safe
- Ensure the equipment is safe & fit for purpose for the activity
- Ensure that equipment is set up correctly
- · Know where the first aider is located
- Know the emergency procedures for the facility
- Keep the activities safe by managing behaviour and hazards
- Refer concerns that cannot be easily resolved to a supervisor/centre manager/facility manager/programme manager

It is essential to apply all principles listed here to other vulnerable adults and children.

Remember to obtain a police check for when working with children.



#### Activator Responsibilities

Children's Act (2004 in the UK):

#### Impact on activators:

Laws on children are designed with guiding principles in mind for the care and support of children. These are:

- To allow children to be healthy
- Allowing children to remain safe in their environments
- Helping children to enjoy life
- Assist children in their quest to succeed
- Help make a contribution a positive contribution
   to the lives of children
- Help achieve economic stability for our children's futures

An activator is able to contribute to, and support, all of these principles. To support these principles you should **NOT** be alone with a child, **NOT** take a child in your car or home, **NOT** share a room with a child and **you** should **AVOID** physical contact.

Abuse is any action by another person – adult or *child* – that causes significant harm. It can be physical, sexual, emotional, neglect, bullying or harassment. Where abuse is detected; do not investigate. You should report concerns to relevant authorities (schools, social services, police, NGB Child Protection Officer).

Data Protection Act – GDPR 1977 in the UK 2016 in the EU

- Data Protection controls how personal information and data is managed according to strict rules called 'data protection principles'. As an Activator you must make sure that when you collect the personal data from your participants (name, age, medical information) you must make sure the information is:
- Used fairly and lawfully (do not give it to others)
- Used for limited, specifically stated purposes (for managing your attendance and participation targets only)
- Used in a way that is adequate, relevant and not excessive
- Accurate
- Kept for no longer than is absolutely necessary
- Handled according to people's data protection rights
- Kept safe and secure



Equality Act (2010 UK)

Open Activity: everyone included and involved.

Modifying Activity: adapting to challenge the individual.

Parallel Activity: running variations an activity simultaneously based on the individual needs of the participants.

Consider: grouping participants (parallel) based on ability or motivations to drive social cohesion.
Caution: Protected characteristics ARE NOT suggested grouping ideas for a session.

Equality laws protect people against discrimination in line with the following 9 protected characteristics:



age

disability

gender reassignment

race

religion or belief

sex

sexual orientation

marriage and civil partnership

pregnancy and maternity

# Exemplar Code of Conduct – Who is it for?

Ikkaido is fully committed to safeguarding and promoting the well-being of all its members, ensuring a positive and enjoyable experience for all. We believe that it is important that members, coaches, administrators and parents associated with the club should, at all times, show respect and understanding for the safety and welfare of others. Therefore, members are encouraged to be open at all times and to share any concerns or complaints that they may have about any aspect of the club with their Coach or the Welfare Officer.

As a member of Ikkaido, you are expected to abide by the following Code of Practice:

All members must take responsibility in ensuring they are up to date with the rules and understand and adhere to them.

All members must respect the rights, dignity and worth of all participants regardless of age, gender, ability, race, cultural background, religious beliefs or sexual identity.

Members should recognise the valuable contribution made by coaches and officials who are usually volunteers, because they give their time and resources to provide martial arts for you.

All members must respect officials and publicly accept their decisions.

All members should be positive role models, treat other students and officials with the same level of respect as they would expect to be shown to them.

Members should use correct and proper language at all times.

Members are not allowed to smoke, consume alcohol or drugs on club premises or whilst representing the club.

Members should keep to agreed timings for training and competitions or inform their coach if they are going to be late.

Members must wear suitable kit for training and competitions, as agreed with the coach. Members must pay any fees for training or events promptly. Bullying of any sort will not be tolerated.

Encourage everyone to enjoy martial arts and understand that people have different motivations for taking part.