

**COBIS Primary Games 2026**  
**Wednesday 11 March-Saturday 14 March 2026**  
**Games Handbook**

## Introduction

The COBIS Games were introduced by John Bagust, who at the time was Head of Primary Schools for the Prague British School (PBS). The inaugural COBIS Games took place at PBS in May 2012. Two years later, in May 2014, a COBIS Games for secondary school aged students was introduced. The COBIS Primary and Secondary Games are now held in alternate years.

The COBIS Games aim to provide COBIS students with an opportunity to participate in a safe and competitive, international sporting event that is open to all COBIS member schools. The objectives of the COBIS Primary Games are:

- To make international competitive sport accessible to age-appropriate students in Years 5 and 6.
- To ensure equal opportunity and participation to both boys and girls.
- To ensure the Games provides a learning experience in sportsmanship and in the value of healthy competition.
- To understand the value of the benefits of training in preparation for competition.

## Host School

COBIS is delighted that Harrow Haikou will be hosting the 2026 Primary Games in China. It takes a tremendous amount of hard work to host a successful Games and COBIS is grateful to the team at Harrow Haikou for their dedication so far.

Information about the host school can be found on their website: <https://www.harrowhaikou.cn/>

COBIS works in close partnership with host schools to advise on things like budget, running order, safeguarding, logistics and rules to ensure an affordable, safe and enjoyable Games.

## Definition of a School Team

An official *School Team* consists of the participating students and school staff that are designated to look after the students (between 12 and 20 students, with a minimum of 6 boys and 6 girls, and two or three accompanying teachers). All other people travelling with the team will be considered to be spectators.

## Participating Teams

The full list of participating schools will be uploaded to the COBIS website once finalised.

## Eligibility and Student Numbers

- Each school must enter between 12 and 20 students, with a minimum of 6 boys and 6 girls
- The COBIS Primary Games is organised for students who attend a COBIS school and are registered in Year 5 or Year 6 **and** are officially of Year Five or Year Six age.
- Only students born between **1 September 2014 and 31 August 2016** and currently registered in Year 5 or Year 6 may be entered into the School Team.

- Teams should be accompanied by a minimum of two members of staff – one male and one female.
- Each school must be able to field a team for each sport. However, not all students need participate in all sports.
- All student team members must be current pupils of the COBIS school that was allocated a place at the Games. If a group of schools under the same management are registered as separate COBIS member schools, then only students from the member school allocated a place in the Games can participate. If any school is found to be in breach of these regulations, the whole team will be disqualified from that year's competition. If a school wishes to transfer their Games registration to a different school (within the same group) this can only be done with the permission of COBIS and the host school.

### Participation Fee

COBIS and the host school will collaborate to ensure costs are kept as low as possible. Each participating school is required to pay an entry fee. The fee is determined by the host in agreement with COBIS, based on the total budgeted costs of the Games and divided by the number of participating teams. The entry fee does not include any transport to the hosting country or accommodation.

The participation fee for 2026 includes the cost of the following:

- Transport between Haikou, Meilan airport and the recommended accommodation.
- Transport and transfer between the host school, venues, and accommodation.
- Lunches, dinners, snacks, drinks, and water on the competition days for all members of the school team.
- Opening and Closing Ceremonies and Welcome and Gala Dinners.
- Social activities
- Hire of sporting and event facilities
- Required medical/ambulance attendance
- Sports management and officials
- Sound systems/AV equipment, spectator seating etc.
- Official programmes/marketing materials.
- Trophies/medals for first, second and third place in each event.
- Essential costs required to support the COBIS Games and associated activities.

Participating schools must arrange prompt payment of invoices by the dates specified in the Terms and Conditions.

### Accommodation

Participating schools must **not** book accommodation until the delivery of the Games has formally been confirmed. This is subject to at least 7 schools making the non-refundable deposit payments. COBIS will make this announcement as soon as all payments are received.

Participating school teams are recommended to stay at [The Novotel Haikou](#) or the [Pullman Haikou](#). These are good quality hotels in great locations.

The host school has recommended [Crest collection Meilan](#) and [Hilton Meilan](#) as alternative hotels for spectators.

## Transportation

Participating schools must **not** make any arrangements to travel to Haikou until the delivery of the Games has formally been confirmed. This is subject to at least 7 schools making the non-refundable deposit payments. COBIS will make this announcement as soon as all payments are received.

Transport to Haikou is the individual responsibility of all participating schools. All participating schools flying to the Games will be asked to inform the host of their flight details by 1<sup>st</sup> February 2026.

Schools should use Haikou, Meilan Airport, Hainan.

Participating schools should ensure that enough time is given for participation in the Welcome Dinner and Closing Ceremony when booking flights (school teams should arrive by noon on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> March 2026 or earlier and depart on Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> March 2026).

Each school will be provided with information on the arrangements for bus allocation as well as pick-up and collection arrangements prior to arrival. If required, teams will be asked to share a bus. The supervision of students on the bus is the responsibility of the staff in charge of each school team. The size of the bus provided will be big enough to transport the school team only. For safeguarding reasons, spectators will not be allowed to travel on the team transportation buses for the entirety of the Games.

## Visas

Haikou is a visa free destination for many countries. This is dependent on the first point of entry into China being Hainan. It is not possible to combine other visa free travel policies in China to avoid transit visa requirements when seeking to use visa free policies to enter Hainan. This is because transit within China is domestic rather than international transit. Further details are available from [Policy Interpretation National Immigration administration](#)

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外国人区域性入境免签政策主要包括:

一、59国人员入境海南30天免签政策。俄罗斯、英国、法国、德国、挪威、乌克兰、意大利、奥地利、芬兰、荷兰、丹麦、瑞士、瑞典、西班牙、比利时、捷克、爱沙尼亚、希腊、匈牙利、冰岛、拉脱维亚、立陶宛、卢森堡、马耳他、波兰、葡萄牙、斯洛伐克、斯洛文尼亚、爱尔兰、塞浦路斯、保加利亚、罗马尼亚、塞尔维亚、克罗地亚、波黑、黑山、北马其顿、阿尔巴尼亚、美国、加拿大、巴西、墨西哥、阿根廷、智利、澳大利亚、新西兰、韩国、日本、新加坡、马来西亚、泰国、哈萨克斯坦、菲律宾、印度尼西亚、文莱、阿联酋、卡塔尔、摩纳哥、白俄罗斯等59个国家人员持普通护照，因旅游、商贸、访问、探亲、就医、会展、体育竞技等短期来华事由（工作、学习事由除外）可免办签证入境海南，活动范围为海南省行政区域，入出境口岸为海南省所有对外开放口岸，停留时间不超过30天。

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The regional entry visa-free policies for foreigners mainly include:

1. 30-day visa-free entry policy for personnel from 59 countries to Hainan. Citizens from 59 countries, including Russia, the United Kingdom, France, Germany, Norway, Ukraine, Italy, Austria, Finland, the Netherlands, Denmark, Switzerland, Sweden, Spain, Belgium, Czech Republic, Estonia, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia, Slovenia, Ireland, Cyprus, Bulgaria, Romania, Serbia, Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, Macedonia, Albania, the United States, Canada, Brazil, Mexico, Argentina, Chile, Australia, New Zealand, South Korea, Japan, Singapore, Malaysia, Thailand, Kazakhstan, the Philippines, Indonesia, Brunei, the United Arab Emirates, Qatar, Monaco, Belarus, can enter Hainan without a visa for short-term purposes such as tourism, business, visits, family visits, medical treatment, exhibitions, sports competitions (excluding work and study purposes). The activity area is the administrative region of Hainan Province. The entry and exit ports are all the open ports in Hainan Province. The stay period shall not exceed 30 days.

## Venues

The Opening and Closing Ceremonies and the basketball, athletics and football events will take place at Harrow Haikou School. The Welcome Dinner and Gala Dinner venues will be confirmed once participation numbers have been confirmed.

## Safety and Security

The care and wellbeing of students and staff is COBIS' top priority, and the host will do all they can to ensure participants' safety. To this end, all facilities and services used will have suitable policies in place and the Games Safeguarding Policy will be made available to all participating schools.

The safety of all students ultimately lies with their accompanying teachers and schools should have appropriate plans in place. Participating schools must nominate a Safeguarding Lead.

NOTE: Insurance of individual participants is the responsibility of each participating school, and a policy must be purchased.

## Spectators

The participating schools may choose to bring spectators to the COBIS Games. COBIS should be informed of the number of spectators before the commencement of the COBIS Games.

Spectators are invited to the Opening Ceremony, individual sporting events, the medal ceremonies, and the closing ceremony. Spectators are not allowed to travel on the team transportation buses. Spectators will not be allowed to take part in evening entertainment.

The host school has recommended Crest collection Meilan and Hilton Meilan as alternative hotels for spectators.

The host will accommodate spectator attendance at the Games where possible. However, spectators will be responsible for any costs involved.

## Officials and Marshalling

Officials and marshals will be members of staff from Harrow Haikou, in addition to external referees for basketball and football.

## Student Sports Kit

Participating schools must provide their students with a standard kit. The lead teacher is responsible for all student belongings. School colours should be shared with COBIS and the host school by 7<sup>th</sup> January 2026 to avoid possible colour clashes.

Students must remove all jewellery while competing in the Games.

## Initial 'Kick-off' Meeting for Team Leaders of Participating Schools and Officials

A compulsory initial 'kick-off' meeting will be planned by the host for the leaders of all participating schools and other officials. This will take place prior to the Games beginning, once all teams have arrived. The meeting will go through all necessary logistical aspects of the Games, as well as a chance to address any last-minute questions or issues. The host will communicate all rules and regulations prior to the participating teams' arrival.

## Awards/Trophies

Awards and trophies will be presented on the day of the competition or at the closing ceremony and will be organised so that they do not interrupt the flow of competition.

- Each event has its own trophy and medals.
- Event trophies may be kept by the winning schools.
- The COBIS Games Champion's trophy will be awarded on the final day of events. This trophy is held by the winning school until the next COBIS Primary Games, where it is returned during the Opening Ceremony.

## Event Results

Event results will be recorded by the host and communicated to spectators and team members as quickly as possible during each event. The total points carried to the COBIS Games Champion's trophy (see **COBIS Daily Championship Points**) will also be made available.

## COBIS Daily Championship Points

All schools at the end of each day will receive 'COBIS Championship points'; these are calculated by reversing the standing order and multiplying by 10. For example, if five schools took part, the following model would be applicable:

1 <sup>st</sup> position	50 points
2 <sup>nd</sup> position	40 points
3 <sup>rd</sup> position	30 points
4 <sup>th</sup> position	20 points
5 <sup>th</sup> position	10 points

The Championship Points gained from each day will then be totalled to rank all participating schools.

## Medals and Trophies

### Athletics

In each athletics event, the competitors who finish 1st, 2nd and 3rd in each final will receive gold, silver and bronze medals at the presentation at the end of the day's competition or closing ceremony. In the Closing Ceremony, trophies will be given out to first, second, and third placed schools with the most points from each event, both boys and girls.

A further trophy will be given to the top three schools which will be a combination of girls and boys scores together.

### Football and Basketball

Medals will be given out to the team members of 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> placed schools, along with a team trophy for both the girls and boys. A further Most Valuable Player (MVP) trophy will be awarded to 1 boy and 1 girl per school in both football and basketball. (this will be decided by coaches after each event)

In the closing ceremony further trophies will be given out to the top three schools with the most points, which will be a combination of girls and boys scores.

### COBIS Championship points

At the end of the three days, the overall points will be added up and the schools in 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place will each be awarded medals, with the winner being awarded the COBIS Games Champion's trophy.

If two or more schools finish on the same number of Championship Points at the end of the Games, the following criteria will be applied in order:

1. The school with the most 1st-place finishes across all events.
2. If still tied, the school with the most 2nd-place finishes.
3. If still tied, the school with the fewest rule infractions or disqualifications.
4. If still tied, the schools will share the position.

### COBIS Fair Play Award

This will be awarded to the school that over the three days of competition has competed with the best spirit, sportsmanship and camaraderie. Team coaches/lead teacher from each school will be able to cast one vote each, per day, as to who should win this trophy. Schools will be asked to cast a vote at the end of each day. This award will be presented during the Closing Ceremony. In the event of a tie, the award will be shared.

Votes may be deducted for team officials, players or spectators who are in breach of the COBIS Codes of Conduct.

### **Competition Format**

Competition Format is subject to change, based on the number of participating schools.

#### Athletics

Athletics will be a round robin format, whereby students will compete in track, throwing and jumping events. Students will score on individual scores in all events based on their fastest time and longest distance. Points will be calculated as an individual at the end of all the events.

Team totals will be the average score which will be calculated using the following formula.

Total 10 combined highest individual scores + points awarded from relays. Points for the relays will be awarded as per below:

<b>Ranking</b>	<b>1st</b>	<b>2nd</b>	<b>3rd</b>	<b>4th</b>	<b>5th</b>	<b>6th</b>
<b>Points</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>16</b>

#### **In the event of a tie the following tiebreaker will be decided:**

Team with the greatest number of 1st place finishes per team.

Team with the greatest number of 1-3rd place finishes per team.

Students will be split in their teams and genders, being given a time-limit to complete their designated event. Students should have a minimum of 3 attempts, if time permits a student may complete additional attempts at the discretion of the event coordinator. Track events are an exception where students will only have one attempt for 200m and 800m, and a maximum of 2 attempts per 100m.

## Round Robin:

**Track events:** 100m, 200m 800m  
**Throwing events:** Shot put, Turbo Javelin  
**Jumping events:** Long jump

### Throw event details:

**Shot Put** Girls 1kg; Boys 2kg  
**Javelin** 400g Turbo Javelin for both boys and girls.

### Team event:

**Team event (team points):** 4 x 100M relay

## Event Protocol

### Long Jump

- Each competitor may take up to two practice jumps before the official start of the event.
- The order of jumping will be decided randomly before the event begins and will remain the same for all three rounds.
- The jumper must take off from the edge of the take-off line. If any part of the foot crosses the front edge of the line, the jump will be declared a foul and not measured.
- Each jump is measured from the nearest mark made in the sand by any part of the body to the take-off line. Measurements are rounded down to the nearest whole centimetre.
- Each competitor will take three competitive jumps. There is no final round.
- Officials will measure and call out each legal jump immediately. Results will be recorded on the event sheet.
- Only one jumper is permitted on the runway at any time. Other competitors must wait behind the safety line until called by the marshal.

### Turbo Javelin

- A run up will be allowed with no restrictions.
- Competitors must not step on to or over the throwing line or the attempt will be ruled as a no throw.
- The measurement will be taken from where the tip of the javelin first lands (within the allocated vector) and back to the line.
- If the javelin lands tail first, this throw will not be recorded. If it lands flat this throw will be counted.
- The javelin will also not be recorded if it does not land in the designated throwing area.
- The javelin must be thrown with an overhead action.

### Shot Put

- The shot shall touch or be in close proximity to the chin and the hand shall not be dropped below this position during the action of putting nor should the shot be brought behind the line of the shoulders.
- Measurement is made from the point of landing closest to the circle from where the shot is 'put'

## Track Events

### Event Overview

Track events include the 100m, 200m, and 800m individual races in the round robin, as well as the 4x100m relay. All races are timed events with one attempt per runner (except the 100m, where a second attempt may be permitted if time allows).

There will potentially be a 100m final whereby each school can choose 1 girl and 1 boy to represent their school. This will be confirmed once the number of participating schools is known.

### Starting Procedure

- Starting blocks will not be used. All races will begin from a standing start.
- The start commands are:
  - “On your marks” — athletes take position behind the line.
  - Starting signal (whistle) — the race begins.
- A false start occurs if an athlete leaves their mark before the starting signal. The athlete will be given one warning for the first false start; a second false start by the same athlete will result in disqualification.

### Lane Allocation

- For 100m and 200m events, lane assignments will be pre-determined randomly and remain fixed for that race.
- The 800m event will be run as a staggered start, with athletes breaking into the inside lane after the first bend when safe to do so.
- The 4x100m relay will be run in lanes for the entire race.

### Timing and Measurement

- All times will be recorded using a manual stopwatch
- Results will be recorded to the nearest 0.1 second.

### Relays

- The baton should be passed before the end of the exchange zone. A dropped baton may be retrieved, provided no other team is impeded.
- A baton exchange outside the zone may result in disqualification.
- Each team must provide the order of runners to the marshal before the start of each race (in the case of the 4x100m relay).

### Conduct

- Athletes must remain in their lane for the duration of 100m and 200m races.
- For 800m, athletes must not impede others when merging after the first bend.
- Athletes must not obstruct, jostle, or interfere with another competitor. Any infringement may lead to disqualification.

### Safety

- Spikes, if worn, must be no longer than 6mm and approved by the event officials.
- Athletes should stay hydrated and report any injury or discomfort to the marshal immediately.

### Results Protocol

- Officials will record all finishing positions and times at the finish line.
- Results will be announced as soon as confirmed by Event Coordinator
- Championship points will be awarded according to the COBIS scoring system.

### **Results Protocol**

#### Throwing & Jumping events

In the event of ties in throwing and jumping results, the second best and third best throw for competitors will be used. Where there is still a tie, If the tie cannot be separated, the athletes will share the same position

#### Track events (100m, 200m, 800m)

If two or more athletes achieve the same winning time for 1<sup>st</sup> 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> in a track event, the athletes will share the same position.

#### Relay (4x100m)

In the event of a tie in the 100m sprint and the 4x100m relay, the result will be determined by judges' decision, video recording or shared placement. The decision of the Event Coordinator is final.

### **Football**

#### **Tournament Format and Scoring**

Football may be played either as a league followed by play-offs or with schools in two pools followed by cross-over play-offs. The format of the competition will be determined by the number of participating schools.

To determine the overall positions in each pool the points allocated will be:

Win - 3 points, Draw - 2 points, Defeat - 1 point

In the event of a tie break the tie will be broken by:

1. Head-to-head result
2. Points difference (goal difference) (between tied teams)
3. Points against (between tied teams)
4. Points scored (between tied teams) If there is still a tie:
5. Points difference (goal difference) (between all teams)
6. Points scored (between all teams)
7. Points against (between all teams)

#### **Rules**

- Pitch dimensions: 35 x 35m approximate dimensions
- Size 4 ball

- Length of games – 2 x10 mins with 5 minute half-time (Max 6 Games in day)
- Goal size 5 x 2m
- If a score goes above a six-goal margin a mercy rule will be applied. If the 'mercy rule' is applied, the score will stop at which point the six-point margin is achieved.
- In the event of a tie in a knockout game, the match will go immediately to a 3-person penalty shoot-out. The 3 takers can be anyone from the playing squad.

## **Basketball**

Official Basketball FIBA rules can be accessed at <http://www.fiba.com/> All FIBA rules to apply in terms of personal performance e.g. contact (offensive and defensive), travelling, and double dribble etc but with the following variations in terms of the game:

### **Tournament Format and Scoring**

Basketball may be played either as a league followed by play-offs or with schools in two pools followed by cross-over play-offs. The format of the competition will be determined by the number of participating schools.

To determine the overall positions in each pool the points allocated will be:

Win - 3 points, Draw - 2 points, Defeat - 1 point

In the event of a tie break the tie will be broken by:

1. Head-to-head result
2. Points difference (point difference) (between tied teams)
3. Points against (between tied teams)
4. Points scored (between tied teams) If there is still a tie:
5. Points difference (goal difference) (between all teams)
6. Points scored (between all teams)
7. Points against (between all teams)

### **Rules**

- Size 6 ball
- Game Duration: 2 x 15-minute halves (this is subject to change dependant on the number of schools attending). 1 time-out per team per half, does not carry over.
- Clock: Running clock (clock will stop on free-throws)
- Free throws: there will be one attempted free-throw for any shooting foul, this shot will be worth the total number of free throws given. (E.g. foul on lay-up would be 2 free-throws, player gets one free-throw worth 2 points).
- Qualified referees and table officials will be used, there will be 2 referees on court, and 2 referees on the table.
- All players selected for the 'COBIS Games' squad are eligible to sit on the bench and play in the match.
- Half-court defence only, no full-court press.
- Teams should play person to person defence. Zonal defence should not be encouraged.
- 'Backcourt violation' to be enforced - on the loss of possession, teams must retire over the halfway line. If a team makes a bad pass within their own half, the opposition cannot contest for the ball.
- A '25-point mercy rule' to be applied. If the 'mercy rule' is applied, the score will stop at which point the 25-point margin is achieved.
- If a game is tied, overtime will be used as follows: 2 minutes overtime, beginning with a jump ball. If at the end of overtime scores are still level, a further period should be played with 'next basket' wins.

## Changes to the Programme or Rules

COBIS has the right to make changes to the programme, rules or any other aspect of the COBIS Games as it deems fit and or necessary for clarity or safety. Any changes will be communicated to all participating teams at the same time for fairness.

## Evaluation of Games

Each time the Games takes place, lessons are learned both from the aspects that have gone well and those that can be improved upon. This evaluation process is used to help the host of the next Games.

COBIS and the host school value participant feedback.

## Event Schedule

The event schedule is subject to change. Where weather necessitates athletics will be moved to accommodate.

<b>Wednesday 11 March-Saturday 14 March 2026</b>			
<b>Day</b>	<b>ETA at School</b>	<b>Key Activities</b>	<b>Estimated Departure</b>
Wednesday (optional)	2.30pm	Opportunity to visit local temple, cultural activities and optional charity swimming competition	6.30pm
Thursday	8am	Opening Ceremony, athletics and welcome dinner	8pm
Friday	8am	Football (boys) / Basketball (girls)	6.30pm
Saturday	8am	Football (girls) / Basketball (boys), closing ceremony and gala dinner	8pm

## Sightseeing and cultural activities

On Wednesday afternoon schools wishing to visit Harrow Haikou will have an option to travel to school at 1pm via a local temple or other cultural site of interest selected by the host school. During the swimming competition students and staff not attending the swimming event will have the opportunity to participate in cultural activities such as Chinese calligraphy, papercutting and handicrafts. The cultural activities will end at 5pm.

## Optional Charity Swimming Event

The charity swimming will be a mixed distance charity competition with the amount raised by sponsors dependent on the distance completed by schools collectively. The event will run from 3pm to 5pm excluding changing time.

The event is a mixed, free style event with awards for 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> among schools participating.

Additional awards for the greatest distance within a school team for a boy and a girl. Fastest 50m for front crawl, backstroke and breaststroke for a boy and a girl.

The total distance will be recorded by Harrow Haikou staff. Each individual school will record fastest time over 50m for front crawl, backstroke and breaststroke for a boy and a girl.

Awarding and recognition for the charity swimming activity will take place at the opening ceremony.

Participation is initially capped at 5 schools. Participation will be on a first come first served basis at registration. Schools should indicate when registering their intention to participate. The students participating in swimming need not be from the COBIS Games squad but are bound by the same age restrictions.

### **COBIS Student Events Code of Conduct**

The COBIS network is made up of a global community, and it is of utmost importance to COBIS that each and every person who participates in a COBIS Student Event, whether virtual or in-person, has a positive and rewarding experience. To that end, we invite all attendees and participants to help us realise a safe, respectful, and positive experience for everyone.

COBIS believes that children, young people and vulnerable adults should never experience abuse of any kind. We have an unfaltering commitment to promote the welfare of all children, young people and vulnerable adults to keep them safe. We are committed to reducing risk connected to all safeguarding and child protection matters.

We recognise that the welfare of children, young people and vulnerable adults is paramount in the work we do and the decisions we take, and we are dedicated to providing a harassment-free and inclusive experience for everyone, regardless of gender identity and expression, sexual orientation, disabilities, neurodiversity, physical appearance, body size, ethnicity, nationality, race, age, religion, or other protected category.

By participating in a COBIS Student Event, individuals agree to abide by the Code of Conduct as outlined below. Participating schools must ensure that all students, teachers, accompanying staff, and spectators have read and acknowledged the relevant code. Participants who exhibit any behaviour that contravenes this may be immediately removed from the event in question and may be suspended from future COBIS events. Please refer to the [COBIS Student Events Incident Policy](#) for further information.

If you experience or witness any unacceptable behaviour, or behaviour that contravenes this Code of Conduct, you must inform your teacher, a member of the COBIS team, or an event official as soon as possible.

### **COBIS Code of Conduct**

#### Students

By participating in a COBIS Student Event, individuals agree to abide by the Code of Conduct as outlined below. Participants who exhibit any behaviour that contravenes this may be immediately removed from the event in question and may be suspended from future COBIS events.

- Demonstrate empathy, tolerance, respect, and kindness towards others.
- Be respectful of differing opinions, viewpoints, experiences, and cultural sensitivities.
- Be considerate and respectful to all participants, attendees, hosts, officials and COBIS staff.
- Do not engage in unacceptable behaviour, including but not limited to demeaning, discriminatory, or harassing behaviour, materials, or speech, whether in-person or online.
- Take part for enjoyment and strive for personal excellence.

- Graciously accept constructive feedback
- Compete by the competition conditions and rules.
- Accept responsibility and apologising to those affected by our mistakes, and learning from the experience
- Learn to value honest effort, skilled performance and improvement.
- Cooperate with the officials, teachers, and teammates (if applicable).
- Do not argue with the officials' decisions.

In the case of team events:

- Work hard for the team as well as for yourself.
- Treat all teammates and opponents with kindness and respect.

In the case of in-person events:

- Develop and demonstrate awareness and respect for local customs, laws, expectations and cultural context.
- Respect the venues, hotels and transport vehicles.
- Keep living spaces tidy.
- Do not disturb others in the hotel.

#### School Staff: Teachers, Coaches, and Chaperones

- Demonstrate empathy, tolerance, respect, and kindness towards others.
- Be respectful of differing opinions, viewpoints, experiences, and cultural sensitivities.
- Be considerate and respectful to all participants, attendees, hosts, officials and COBIS staff.
- Do not engage in unacceptable behaviour, including but not limited to demeaning, discriminatory, or harassing behaviour, materials, or speech, whether in-person or online.
- Follow the rules with regards to event participation.
- Develop respect among your students for the ability of opponents, as well as for the judgment of officials.
- Encourage your students to engage with and respect the global COBIS network.
- Compliment participants on their efforts.
- Condemn behaviour that contravenes the Code of Conduct.
- Ensure that your behaviour is consistent with the Code of Conduct.
- Do not criticise, or argue with, the officials' judgments and decisions.

For in-person events:

- Maintain a standard of dress appropriate to the representation of your school.
- Ensure your students are adequately supervised at all times.
- Develop and demonstrate awareness and respect for local customs, laws, expectations and cultural context
- Refrain from smoking and/or vaping when supervising students.
- Refrain from consuming alcohol at any time.

#### Spectators of in-person events

- Demonstrate empathy, tolerance, respect, and kindness towards others.
- Be respectful of differing opinions, viewpoints, experiences, and cultural sensitivities.
- Be considerate and respectful to all participants, attendees, hosts, officials and COBIS staff.
- Do not engage in unacceptable behaviour, including but not limited to demeaning, discriminatory, or harassing behaviour, materials, or speech, whether in-person or online.

- Demonstrate appropriate social behaviour. Remember children are taking part for enjoyment. Do not let your behaviour detract from their enjoyment.
- Develop and demonstrate awareness and respect for local customs, laws, expectations and cultural context.
- Let officials conduct events without interference. Do not argue with the officials.
- Support skilled performances, positive engagement, and team play with generous applause. Demonstrate respect for opposing schools' students, staff, and spectators.
- Respect the officials and team leaders; if they ask you to do something, please do so.
- Encourage participation by your (and all) students.
- Be courteous in your communication with all students, school staff, event officials, event administrators and other spectators.

### Unacceptable Behaviour

Unacceptable behaviour includes, but is not limited to:

- Intimidating, harassing, abusive, discriminatory, derogatory, or demeaning speech, materials, or conduct by any participant or spectator
- Violence, threats of violence, or violent language directed against another person
- Sexist, racist, homophobic, transphobic, or otherwise discriminatory jokes and language
- Personal insults, particularly those related to gender, sexual orientation, race, religion, nationality, or disability
- The use of sexualised language or imagery, and sexual attention or advances of any kind
- Trolling, insulting or derogatory comments, and personal or political attacks, whether verbal, written, or electronic.
- Any boisterous, lewd, or offensive behaviour or language, including but not limited to using sexually explicit or offensive language, materials or conduct, or any language, behaviour, or content that contains profanity, obscene gestures, or racial, religious, or ethnic slurs
- Public or private harassment
- Other conduct which could reasonably be considered inappropriate in a school setting

### **Breach of the Code of Conduct**

#### Team Members – Students and School Staff

A breach of this Code of Conduct, in the opinion of Event and/or COBIS officials, may result in the student or staff member being banned from the remainder of the event. In the case of in-person events, it may also result in the student or staff member being sent home by the first available transport. The school will be notified, and the school will have responsibility for notifying the parents (where relevant). Any additional expense incurred will be the responsibility of the school. Further disciplinary action may be considered depending on the seriousness of the breach.

#### Spectators

A breach of this Code of Conduct, in the opinion of Event and/or COBIS officials, may result in the individual being banned from the remainder of the event and future COBIS events. Any additional expense incurred will be the responsibility of the individual concerned. Further action may be considered against the school and by the school depending on the seriousness of the breach.

As per the [COBIS Membership and Services Terms & Conditions](#), if a school is found to be in breach of the Student Events Code of Conduct, their membership status will be reviewed and COBIS reserves the right to remove the school from membership and/or ban the school from future Events.

These event Terms and Conditions should be read in conjunction with the COBIS Membership Terms and Conditions (with specific reference to Schedule 14), which is linked [here](#). By agreeing to these event Terms and Conditions, you agree to also be bound by the relevant sections of the COBIS Membership Terms and Conditions. Should your school not adhere to the Membership Terms and Conditions, your membership with COBIS may be subject to review as determined by the COBIS Board.

COBIS reserves the right to publish updated guidance and terms and conditions regarding the Games.

In partnership with: