



Initial Code of Conduct for the Peace Games

Introduction

Whereas the Rules of the Peace Games 2020 (published separately) set out the terms and conditions of contestants' participation, which are legally enforceable, this initial Code of Conduct outlines the standards of conduct or behaviour which all stakeholders should aim at. As such all those with a stake in the International Peace Project²⁰⁰⁰ (IPP) and its Peace Games are invited to commit to, and assist in the development of, this voluntary Code of Conduct. Those contestants who decline to do so will still be able to compete in and potentially win the Peace Games 2020, provided they abide by its Rules. However, it would be helpful if any such contestant were prepared to provide (anonymously) a reasoned statement as to why they choose not to commit to the Code of Conduct. Their statement of refusal would be taken into account in the further development of the Code of Conduct. So it would not be confidential.

Foundational Principle

At the heart of any serious attempt to build more peaceful relationships between peoples and nations is how they evaluate each other's policies and behaviour. Various religions and philosophies have expressed this in a 'Golden Rule' which, in its different forms, means essentially treating others as we would wish to be treated ourselves.

In relation to IPP and its Peace Games (2020 and beyond), applying the Golden Rule means:

- Ensuring fair play by, and between, contestants;
- Ensuring fairness and transparency in IPP's assessment of outline and full/revised bids.
- Ensuring that contestants' bids treat all persons in public life fairly.

Application

Stakeholders, that is all interested parties, are invited to work with the IPP Trustees to develop a detailed Code of Conduct based on the Foundational Principle. Three examples are listed below to help illustrate the issues involved; to be assessed on the material facts (i.e. truth):

1. Contestants will provide all the sources on which their outline bids are based.
2. IPP judges will apply the IPP quality standards to each bid without fear or favour.
3. Contestants will not use the Peace Games to criticise named persons in public life.

The issue here is whether it is possible to create more peaceful relationships between peoples and nations without a foundation of equitable treatment that balances the requirements of justice with those of compassion and mercy? Is the Foundational Principle to be dismissed as hopeless idealism or inevitable realism for the long term? Do the Peace Games offer answers?