

Maple Leaf International Muzzle Loading Association

Code of Conduct for Athletes

Definitions

1. The following terms have these meanings in this Code:
 - a) “Individuals” – All categories of membership defined in MLIMLA’s By-laws, as well as, all individuals engaged in activities with the MLIMLA, including but not limited to, clubs, athletes, coaches, officials, volunteers, managers, administrators, directors and officers of the MLIMLA, spectators of MLIMLA events and parents of MLIMLA members.

Purpose

2. The purpose of this Code of Conduct (“Code”) is to ensure a safe and positive environment (within MLIMLA programs, activities and events) by making all individuals aware that there is an expectation, at all times, of appropriate behavior consistent with the values of the MLIMLA.
3. The MLIMLA is committed to providing an environment in which all individuals are treated with respect. The MLIMLA supports equal opportunity and prohibits discriminatory practices. Individuals are expected to conduct themselves at all times in a manner consistent with the values of the MLIMLA that include fairness, integrity, accountability, excellence, accessibility, innovation and respect.
4. Conduct that violates this Code may be subject to sanctions pursuant to the MLIMLA’s Discipline and Complaints Policy.

Application of this Code

5. This Code applies to conduct that may arise during the course of MLIMLA business, activities, and events, including but not limited to: its office environment, competitions, practices, training camps, tryouts, travel and any meetings of the MLIMLA.
6. This Code also applies to the conduct of individuals that may occur outside of the MLIMLA’s business, activities, events, and meetings when such conduct adversely affects relationships within the MLIMLA (and its work and sport environment) and is detrimental to the image and reputation of the MLIMLA. Such applicability will be made by the MLIMLA in its sole discretion

Responsibilities

7. All Individuals have a responsibility to:
 - a) Maintain and enhance the dignity and self-esteem of MLIMLA members and other individuals by:
 - i. Demonstrating respect to individuals regardless of body type, ethnic or racial origin, nationality, national origin, sexual orientation, age, marital status, religion, religious belief, political belief, disability or economic status
 - ii. Focusing comments or criticism appropriately and avoiding public criticism of athletes, coaches, officials, organizers, volunteers, employees and members

- iii. Consistently demonstrating the spirit of sportsmanship, sport leadership and ethical conduct
 - iv. Acting, when appropriate, to prevent or correct practices that are unjustly discriminatory
 - v. Consistently treating individuals fairly and reasonably
 - vi. Ensuring adherence to the rules of shooting and the spirit of those rules
- b) Refrain from any behaviour that constitutes harassment, where harassment is defined as comment or conduct directed towards an individual or group, which is offensive, abusive, racist, sexist, degrading, or malicious. Types of behaviour that constitute harassment include, but are not limited to:
- i. Written or verbal abuse, threats or outbursts
 - ii. The display of visual material which is offensive or which one ought to know is offensive in the circumstances
 - iii. Unwelcome remarks, jokes, comments, innuendo or taunts
 - iv. Leering or other suggestive or obscene gestures
 - v. Condescending or patronizing behaviour which is intended to undermine self-esteem, diminish performance or adversely affect working conditions
 - vi. Practical jokes which cause awkwardness or embarrassment, endanger a person's safety, or negatively affect performance
 - vii. Any form of hazing where hazing is defined as *"Any potentially humiliating, degrading, abusive, or dangerous activity expected of a junior-ranking athlete by a more senior team-mate, which does not contribute to either athlete's positive development, but is required to be accepted as part of a team, regardless of the junior-ranking athlete's willingness to participate. This includes, but is not limited to, any activity, no matter how traditional or seemingly benign, that sets apart or alienates any team-mate based on class, number of years on the team, or athletic ability."*
 - viii. Unwanted physical contact including, but not limited to, touching, petting, pinching, or kissing
 - ix. Unwelcome sexual flirtations, advances, requests, or invitations
 - x. Physical or sexual assault
 - xi. Behaviour such as those described above that are not directed towards a specific individual or group but have the same effect of creating a negative or hostile environment
 - xii. Retaliation or threats of retaliation against an individual who reports harassment to the MLIMLA
- c) Refrain from any behaviour that constitutes sexual harassment, where sexual harassment is defined as unwelcome sexual comments and sexual advances, requests for sexual favours, or conduct of a sexual nature. Types of behaviour that constitute sexual harassment include, but are not limited to:
- i. Sexist jokes
 - ii. Display of sexually offensive material
 - iii. Sexually degrading words used to describe a person

- iv. Inquiries or comments about a person's sex life
 - v. Unwelcome sexual flirtations, advances or propositions
 - vi. Persistent unwanted contact
- d) Abstain from the non-medical use of drugs or the use of performance-enhancing drugs or methods. Any infraction under this Program shall be considered an infraction of this Code and shall be subject to disciplinary action, and possible sanction, pursuant to the MLIMLA Discipline and Complaints Policy.
 - e) Refrain from associating with any person for the purpose of coaching, training, competition, instruction, administration, management, athletic development or supervision of the sport of competitive shooting, who has incurred an anti-doping rule violation and is serving a sanction involving a period of ineligibility imposed.
 - f) Refrain from the use of power or authority in an attempt to coerce another person to engage in inappropriate activities
 - g) In the case of adults, avoid consuming alcohol in situations where minors are present, and take reasonable steps to manage the responsible consumption of alcoholic beverages in adult-oriented social situations associated with MLIMLA events.
 - h) Respect the property of others and not willfully cause damage
 - i) Promote shooting in the most constructive and positive manner possible
 - j) Adhere to all federal, provincial, municipal and host country laws
 - k) Comply at all times with the bylaws, policies, procedures, rules and regulations of the MLIMLA, as adopted and amended from time to time

Athletes

- 8. In addition to paragraph 7 of the Code of Conduct (above), athletes will have additional responsibilities to:
 - a) Report any medical problems in a timely fashion, where such problems may limit the athlete's ability to travel, train or compete
 - b) Participate and appear on time, well nourished and prepared to participate to one's best abilities in all competitions, practices, training sessions, events, activities, or projects
 - c) Properly represent oneself and not attempt to enter a competition for which one is not eligible, by reason of age, classification, or other reason
 - d) Adhere to the MLIMLA's rules and requirements regarding clothing and equipment
 - e) Never ridicule a participant for a poor performance or practice
 - f) Act in a sportsmanlike manner and not display appearances of violence, foul language, or gestures to other players, officials, coaches, or spectators
 - g) Dress in a manner representative of the MLIMLA with focus being on neatness, cleanliness, and discretion. Designated official clothing, if applicable, must be worn when traveling and competing
 - h) Act in accordance with the MLIMLA's policies and procedures and, when applicable, additional rules as outlined by coaches or chaperones

Approved by the MLIMLA Board of Directors on July 9, 2016, reviewed Aug.31, 2021