

International Wheelchair Rugby Federation - Code of Conduct

GENERAL PROVISIONS

1. The International Wheelchair Rugby Federation (IWRF) is an athlete-centred organization. Providing an environment in which our athletes can participate in fair competition is a priority of the IWRF. In the interests of excellence in sport and the right to participate in fair competition, all members of the global Wheelchair Rugby family confirm their commitment to abide by the values of the IWRF:
 - *Passion* - The Wheelchair Rugby Family is passionate about the Sport. The Game creates excitement, emotion, and a sense of belonging within the global Rugby Family
 - *Inclusiveness* - The Wheelchair Rugby Family is open and welcoming to all who share the values of the sport; there are opportunities for everyone who wants to be involved.
 - *Athlete Focus* - The Wheelchair Rugby Family recognizes and respects that our athletes, who created and developed the game, are at the centre of the sport.
 - *Respect* - The Wheelchair Rugby Family has respect for athletes, teammates and opponents, coaches, officials, spectators, and everyone involved in the sport.
 - *Integrity* - The Wheelchair Rugby Family acts with integrity, recognizing that honesty and fair play are essential components of success in sport and life.
 - *Support* - The Wheelchair Rugby Family supports all involved in the sport, helping to remove barriers to participation and sharing our knowledge and our passion for the game.
2. The global Wheelchair Rugby family included, but is not limited to, athletes, coaches, team staff, technical officials, classifiers, IWRF Board members, IWRF Committee members, IWRF staff, representatives of member countries, and all others who participate in the sport of wheelchair rugby.
3. The global Wheelchair Rugby family shall endorse the Vision, Mission and Values of the IWRF, and shall respect the codes, policies and rules of the IWRF.
4. The global Wheelchair Rugby family shall demonstrate respect and integrity towards other people at all times whenever participating in or representing the sport of Wheelchair Rugby.

APPLICABILITY

5. This Code applies to all persons participating in IWRF sanctioned events, including but not limited to competitions, conferences, meetings, training events and clinics. This Code also applies to all athletes, coaches, team staff, technical officials, committee members, IWRF staff, and IWRF Board Members when they are engaged in activities related to the business of IWRF.

6. Where a person believes that another person has violated this Code, a complaint should be made to IWRF. The process for hearing and resolving complaints is detailed in the *IWRF Discipline Policy*.

Code of Conduct for Athletes

In addition to the General Provisions of the IWRF Code of Conduct,

- A. All athletes shall participate in IWRF events, competitions and activities with integrity at all times in the true spirit of fair play.
- B. All athletes shall respect their coaches and teammates, and not follow any advice that would violate the codes, policies and rules of IWRF.
- C. All athletes shall respect their opponents and not cause any illegal damage to their equipment or bodily harm to them.
- D. All athletes shall respect the game officials and abide by the rules of IWRF.
- E. All athletes shall respect the IWRF Classification Rules and Process, and must participate fully in it. They must respect the final decision of classifiers, and understand that failure to do so may jeopardize their ability to participate in IWRF events and competitions.
- F. All athletes shall respect the IWRF Anti-Doping Rules. It is recognized that athletes may have significant medical conditions that require treatment, but the use of any medication or supplement whose sole purpose is sport performance enhancement will not be tolerated.
- G. All athletes shall work to to establish a sport environment free of drugs and doping in accordance with the principles of the World Anti-Doping Code.
- H. Athletes shall not support or assist other athletes to gain any illegal or unfair advantage, and shall report any infringement of this principle to the responsible officials.

Code of Conduct for Coaches and Team Staff

In addition to the General Provisions of the IWRF Code of Conduct,

- A. Coaches and team staff shall comply with all codes, policies and rules of IWRF in the spirit of fair play.
- B. Coaches and team staff shall never compromise true sportsmanship or the values of IWRF to obtain personal, team or national advantage.
- C. Coaches and team staff shall observe and follow the IWRF Classification Code, the IWRF Anti-Doping Code, and all IWRF competition rules and regulations; and shall report any irregularity to the responsible officials.
- D. Coaches and team staff must respect the classification process and doping control procedures, and shall ensure that their athletes perform honestly and with integrity.

Code of Conduct for Technical Officials

Technical Officials include technical delegates, referees, classifiers, commissioners, table officials, trainers and evaluators of technical officials, and any other personnel responsible for the enforcement of the rules and regulations of IWRF during wheelchair rugby competitions.

In addition to the General Provisions of the IWRF Code of Conduct,

- A. Technical Officials must perform their duties courteously, competently, consistently, and objectively for all persons regardless of team or national origin.
- B. Technical Officials shall apply the official rules of the IWRF consistently, ensure fair play at all times, and make all decisions with absolute impartiality and objectivity.
- C. Technical Officials should accept assignments only when no conflict of interest exists. In instances that may suggest a conflict of interest, the official must declare it immediately. They must avoid all activities that could create the impression of bias or conflict of interest.
- D. Technical Officials must not abuse their positions or authority to obtain advantage or benefits.
- E. Technical Officials must show respect to all athletes and coaches in the execution of their duties.
- F. Technical Officials are to maintain total confidentiality of athlete medical information.
- G. Technical Officials must show respect to their colleagues and refrain from public disapproval of or disagreement with the actions or decisions of another official, or of IWRF and its representatives.
- H. Technical Officials have a duty to know the current rules, regulations, and interpretations applicable to their functions, and to participate in regular training and development activities to maintain their abilities and knowledge. Technical Officials must attend all scheduled clinics and training sessions that they are assigned to as part of their participation at events.
- I. Technical Officials must be available for their assignments from the time they are required to report until they are released. They must refrain from any activity that would interfere with their mental and physical ability to perform their duties.
- J. Technical Officials must be properly attired at all times during the execution of their duties.

- K. Technical Officials should conduct themselves with the dignity and decorum appropriate to their role as the upholders of the official rules and regulations of IWRF, and promote the values of the IWRF Code of Conduct by their example.

Code of Conduct for IWRF Staff and Committee Members

In addition to the General Provisions of the IWRF Code of Conduct,

- A. IWRF Staff and Committee Members shall promote the IWRF Code of Conduct by leading by example, peer monitoring, and actively providing peer support.
- B. IWRF Staff and Committee Members shall make all decisions with absolute impartiality in the best interests of the athletes and our sport.
- C. IWRF Staff and Committee Members shall respect the democratic election process and not offer any material benefits, directly or indirectly, to the voting constituencies to influence the result of an election.
- D. No material benefits shall be offered to any member to influence the results of any decision or policy made within the IWRF.
- E. IWRF Staff and Committee Members must declare any potential conflicts of interest and avoid all activities that could create the impression of bias or conflict of interest. They shall not act in association with any national or vested interest while they are performing their duties on behalf of IWRF.
- F. IWRF Staff and Committee Members shall not abuse their positions or capacity in obtaining advantages or benefits.

Code of Conduct for IWRF Board Members

In addition to the General Provisions of the IWRF Code of Conduct,

- A. Board Members shall serve the IWRF, demonstrate the importance and value of the IWRF and endorse the Vision, Mission and Values of the IWRF.
- B. Board Members shall comply with and respect the Statutes and Bylaws of the IWRF, and any other regulations or decisions as approved by the General Assembly or IWRF Board.
- C. Board Members shall act honestly in good faith, and in the best interests of the IWRF.
- D. Board Members shall exercise due diligence and skill, and take their tasks and responsibilities seriously, and perform their duties to the best of their personal abilities.
- E. Board Members shall conduct business with integrity, maintain a high standard of professional conduct, and avoid any behavior or action that would tarnish the reputation of the IWRF.
- F. Board Members have a duty of loyalty to the decisions of the Board.
- G. To protect Board Members from any personal liability, they shall not sign any agreement or contract on behalf of the IWRF; shall not sign for the acceptance of any claim on behalf of the IWRF; and shall not sign for the admission of settlement or any liability on behalf of IWRF.
- H. Board Members must declare any potential conflicts of interest and avoid all activities that could create the impression of bias or conflict of interest. They shall not act in association with any national or vested interest while they are performing their duties on behalf of IWRF.
- I. Board Members shall not abuse their positions or capacity in obtaining advantages or benefits.
- J. Board Members shall respect the democratic election process and not offer any material benefits, directly or indirectly, to the voting constituencies to influence the result of an election. This provision shall apply equally to candidates for election to the Board of Directors.

Appendix B-IWRF Oaths

The IWRF Athletes' Oath, Officials' Oath, and Coaches' Oath are an important part of protocol procedures that take place during Opening Ceremonies at IWRF sanctioned tournaments. The Oaths are taken on behalf of all athletes, officials, and coaches participating in the event, and represent a commitment to compete and officiate in the true spirit of sportsmanship.

An athlete, an official, and a coach chosen from the host country will take the respective oaths. The oaths shall be recited in English first, and then repeated in the host countries native language if preferred.

Where appropriate, the name of the event may be recited in place of "this competition" in the texts of the oaths.

Athletes' Oath

In the name of all wheelchair rugby athletes, I promise that we shall take part in this competition respecting and abiding by the rules which govern our sport, and committing ourselves to participate without doping, in the true spirit of sportsmanship.

Officials' Oath

In the name of all wheelchair rugby officials, I promise that we shall officiate in this competition with complete impartiality, respecting and abiding by the rules which govern them, in the true spirit of sportsmanship.

Coaches' Oath

In the name of all wheelchair rugby coaches, I promise that we shall take part in this competition respecting and abiding by the rules which govern our sport. In the spirit of fair play, we will never compromise true sportsmanship or our values to gain personal, team or national advantage.