

# Alberta Roller Derby Association: Code of Conduct Independent Member

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## General Principles Participants of Roller Derby

The Code applies to the following persons; Unattached member, Participant, Official, Coach, Administrator, Volunteer, Spectator, Parent/guardian, Member of the community and Media. You must meet the following requirements in regard to your conduct during any activity held or sanctioned by Alberta Roller Derby Association (ARDA) and in any role you hold within Alberta Roller Derby Association:

- Inclusion of people regardless of their age, gender, sexual orientation, race, culture, or religion.
- Opportunities for people of all abilities to participate in the sport and develop to their full Potential.
- Respect is shown towards others and the broader community.
- Provide a safe and inclusive environment for all.
- Refrain from any form of harassment towards, or discrimination of, others.
- Be fair, considerate and honest in all dealing with others.
- Be professional in, and accept responsibility for your actions.
- Make a commitment to providing quality service.
- Demonstrate a high degree of individual responsibility especially when dealing with persons less than 18 years of age, as your words and actions are an example.
- Be aware of, and maintain an uncompromising adhesion to standards, rules regulations and policies.
- Operate within the rules of ARDA Including guidelines.
- Understand your responsibility if you breach, or are aware of any breaches of this Code of Conduct.
- Do not use your involvement with ARDA to promote your own beliefs, behaviours or practices where these are inconsistent with those of ARDA.
- Avoid unaccompanied and unobserved activities with persons less than 18 years of age, wherever possible.
- Show concern and caution towards others who may be sick or injured.
- Be a positive role model.
- Endeavour to ensure others in your company conduct themselves in a proper and reasonable manner.
- Show positive acts of sportsmanship, discouraging all instances of foul or illegal play, or acts of violence, both on and off the track/rink.
- Lead by positive example, and condemn the use of recreational and performance enhancing drugs and doping practices; their use endangers the health of player/skater and is contrary to the concept of fair play.



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- Celebrate the “good news” stories, and understand that cyber-bullying, which includes negative or demeaning comments, status posts, personal messages or emails, is deemed as a serious form of harassment.

## Code of Conduct –Skater/Player

- Be a good sport. Respect all good competition whether from your team/skaters /players or the opposition and shake hands with, and thank, the opposition skaters/players and officials after the game win, lose or draw.
- Participate for your own enjoyment and benefit.
- Always respect the referee’s decision.
- Never become involved in acts of foul play.
- Honour both the spirit and letter of the competition rules and live up to the highest ideals of ethics and sportsmanship; avoid gamesmanship, and respect the traditions of the game/competition.
- Never engage in disrespectful conduct of any sort including profanity, sledging, obscene gestures, offensive remarks, trash- talking, taunting or other actions that are demeaning to other players/skaters/players, officials or supporters.
- Care for and respect the facilities and equipment made available to you during training and competition.
- Safeguard your health; refrain from using any illegal or unhealthy substances.
- Recognize that many officials, coaches and referees are volunteers who give up their time to provide their services. Treat them with the utmost respect.

## Code of Conduct – Coach

- Actively discourage foul play and/or unsportsmanlike behaviour by skaters/players.
- Show concern and caution towards all sick and injured skaters/players. Follow the advice of a medical practitioner and/or allied health professional to the letter when determining when an injured player is ready to recommence training or playing.
- Teach skaters/players that an honest effort and competing to the best of their ability is as important as victory.
- Maintain appropriate, professional relationships with skaters /players at all times.
- Maintain a thorough knowledge of the Rules of your Sport and keep abreast of current coaching methods; maintain or improve your current accreditation level.
- Always consider the health, safety and welfare of the skaters/players.



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- Teach young skaters/players to realise that there is a big gap between their play and the professional games; do not coach them as if they are professionals.
- Ensure that your coaching reflects the level of the competition being played.
- As coach, conduct yourself at all times in a manner, and in all situations, that shows leadership, respect for your discipline of skating and respect for all those that are involved in the sport – the skaters/players, officials, the spectators, the parents, and the media.

## Referee/Official – Code of Conduct

- Be impartial. Also, be consistent, objective and courteous.
- Place the safety and welfare of the skaters/players above all else; be alert to minimise dangerous physical play, fair or foul, especially in junior competitions.
- Accept responsibility for all actions taken.
- Avoid any situation, which may lead to a conflict of interest, both on and off the track/rink.
- Maintain an appropriate level of fitness for the standard of game at which you are officiating.
- Condemn all and every instance of unsportsmanlike, foul or unfair play.
- Set a good example by the way you dress, speak and act towards skaters/players, coaches, officials, parents and spectators.
- Show concern and caution towards sick and injured skaters/players.
- Officiate to the age and/or experience of the skaters/players.
- Maintain a thorough knowledge of the Rules of your Sport and keep abreast of current officiating methods; maintain or improve your current accreditation level.

## Spectator/Parent – Code of Conduct

- Condemn all violent or illegal acts, whether they are by skaters/players, coaches, officials, parents or spectators.
- Respect the referee's decisions – don't complain or argue about decisions during or after a game.
- Unsportsmanlike language; harassment or aggressive behaviour will not be tolerated.
- Encourage skaters/players to play by the rules and to respect opposition skaters/players and officials.
- Never ridicule or scorn a skater/player for making a mistake – respect their efforts.
- Understand that sport is part of a total life experience, and the benefits of involvement go far beyond the final score of a game.



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- Participate in positive cheering that encourages others/players in the team you are supporting; do not engage in any cheering that taunts or intimidates opponents, their fans or officials.
- At all times, follow the directions of the Event organizer and designated officials.
- Never arrive at a Junior competition under the influence of alcohol, never bring alcohol to a competition and only drink alcohol if it is available, in a responsible manner in the designated licensed are.

## Code of Conduct – Summary of Offences

Note – Clubs/Leagues are responsible for the conduct of their skaters/players, parents/carers of skaters/players, coaches, officials, and spectators.

No person(s) attending a game, function, or event shall:

- Use offensive or obscene language to any participant.
- Enter the area of competition during the course of a game without the prior approval of the Event Organiser.
- Excessively dispute the decision of a referee either during or after a game.
- Assault or act with aggression to any person.
- Behave in a way contrary to the Code of Conduct and/or the spirit of the game.
- Behave in a way, which disturbs the enjoyment of a game, function, or event by any other person/s, or brings discredit to the home team/league.
- Act in such a way as to exhibit racial intolerance, by language or other conduct, to any person
- Refuse to accept the reasonable direction of the Event Organiser, official of the team/league which that person is supporting, or official of the home team/league.

Breaches of the ARDA Code of Conduct may result in penalties, including but not limited to:

- Suspension of a game
- Termination of a game (including potential forfeiture of competition points)
- Suspension of a participant on a temporary or permanent basis
- Suspension of a team/league on a temporary or permanent basis. These penalties are in addition to any penalty, which may be imposed by the team/league's judiciary.

