



OCS Race Teams: Code of Conduct

The purpose of this policy is to clearly define our expectations for all Race Team sailors, parents, and coaches and to ensure the health, safety, and rights of all participants in the Olympia Community Sailing Race Team program. By accepting the privilege and responsibility of participating in this program, all participants agree to comply with the following **Code of Conduct**.

When participating in sailing activities, we (sailor, parents, and coaches) agree:

1. To participate in all scheduled activities, competitions, and practices unless we have communicated with the coach/leader ahead of time.
2. To follow the decisions and directions communicated by coaches and parent chaperones promptly and effectively at all times.
3. To treat all team members, competitors, coaches, adult chaperones, and program staff with courtesy, honesty, and respect. We forbid any negative comments directed at individuals or teams.
4. To never engage in unsportsmanlike conduct, physical contact, harassment, bullying, or abusive behavior. This includes inappropriate language and swearing.
5. To treat all equipment with care and respect and report any damage, problems, or concerns to the captains and coaches.
6. To treat all property and facilities with respect and always clean up before departure from all activities.
7. To fulfill all duties as a team member, act as courteous hosts to visiting teams, and volunteer to run fun and competitive regattas.
8. No drugs or alcohol: the possession, sale, or use of alcohol or drugs is not tolerated and these rules prohibiting such activities are in force for the entire season - 7 days a week, 24 hours a day - at any location. Violation of this rule can result in permanent expulsion.
9. No firearms are allowed at any practice, regatta, or team event at any time.
10. Any misconduct concerning the above activities that is considered serious in nature will be handled by the appropriate OCS committee members, who will decide the appropriate discipline. The coach(es) may have input but will *not* have the final say. Serious misconduct typically results in permanent expulsion or an equivalent discipline of the sailor and/or family as decided by the committee.

The sailor agrees when traveling to team events:

1. I will comply with all rules and policies of the event hosting organization.
2. I will attend and be on-time to all event activities required for team members.
3. I will win without boasting and lose without excuse.
4. I will practice good sportsmanship at all times, race hard, and do my best within the rules.
5. I will travel to and from all regattas and event activities with the team or group. **Exceptions can only be made with approval of the supervising coach or chaperone.*
6. I will stay with the group at all times unless I have been given permission to leave from a supervising coach or parent chaperone (in which case I will provide complete details as to my whereabouts, return time, and contact information while I am away).
7. I will bring adequate funds to cover all personal expenses while traveling, including meals not provided in the event package.
8. I will help teams rig/de-rig and load/unload boats at every event and will thoroughly clean up any equipment, facilities, or areas we have used prior to leaving.

Parents and Guardians confirm:

1. My child has read, understands, and promises to comply with the code of conduct detailed above.
2. I will support my child’s participation in this program by cooperating with the requests and directions of the coaches and program directors.
3. I will ensure my child has the appropriate clothing and adequate funds to provide for personal expenses/meals when traveling with the team.
4. I will take financial responsibility for my child’s actions when participating in sailing activities and traveling with the team.
5. We will support the team by volunteering with fundraising and chaperoning.
6. I will respect the time of our coaches, parents, and team members and will be on-time when dropping off or picking up my child from all team activities.

Disciplinary Action & Recourse for Repeated Poor Behaviour

This code of conduct shall apply to all participants at all times. Participants are expected to comply with both the letter and the spirit of these rules and violation of any rule will result in consequences. Disciplinary action for failure to comply will be at the discretion of the supervising coach and the OCS Board, and may include one or more of the following:

- *Suspension of the sailor’s right to participate in any given event*
- *Withdrawal of the sailor from an event and immediate return home at parent’s expense*
- *Restriction from further participation in OCS activities for the remainder of the season*
- *Expulsion from the OCS program permanently*

Coaches are encouraged to keep notes, and documentation of behavior that is not keeping with the code of conduct. If there is repeated behavior, reported incidents, or a pattern of behavior and incidents the Sailor and their Parents will be notified and a “strike” may be issued. The following may be implemented to reconcile ongoing behavioral concerns or issues after each “strike”

- Temporary suspension of practices, regattas or a season
- A behavioral contract/agreement made with OCS - that if broken will result in a predetermined outcome (ie temporary suspension, permanent suspension, etc.)
- Three strikes may result in permanent suspension

Sailors compete under the auspices of their respective High Schools, and are subject at all times to their respective school’s policies applicable to students and athletes, including all policies prohibiting alcohol, tobacco, and other drug use. See Rule 8. *OCS has the right to inform schools of any breach of conduct.*

I have read and understand this **Code of Conduct** and agree to comply with all of its rules:

Participant Name	Participant Signature	Date
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Parent/Guardian Name	Parent/Guardian Signature	Date
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