CODE OF CONDUCT

United States Precision Rifle Association

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# Introduction

The interpretation of the Code of Conduct shall be the same as the interpretation of the Constitution of the United States Precision Rifle Association.

# Preamble

This code of conduct indicates the standard of behaviour expected of a USPRA Member. It is a formal statement of the values and ethical standards that guide individuals in sport. It is a set of principles, and norms to which sporting people can be held accountable when participating in sport.
This can also be used as a point of reference when dealing with disciplinary procedures against members.

# Introduction

With the number of bad behaviours and illegal actions we have experienced in other sports in the past, a mechanism on how to eliminate these actions has been sought. This is why a code of conduct has been drawn up to hold all sports persons accountable for their actions in and with regard to sport.

# Values Statement

The Purpose of this code is:

* 1. To outline incorrect and unacceptable actions/behaviours within sport and to encourage ethical behaviour within sport, so that when the code is contravened the appropriate disciplinary action can with consistency be taken, thus responding to offences and preventing re-occurrence.
	2. To help to resolve conflict.
	3. To make ethical behaviour infringement easy to identify.
	4. To enhance the ethical reputation of sports persons.
	5. To promote respect for human dignity, rights and social justice.
	6. Provide a framework for all sporting persons to conduct their sporting activities according to the following ethical principles:
		1. Respect the rights, dignity and worth of every human being.
		2. Being fair, considerate, honest and respect for the law.
		3. Being trustworthy and professional, accepting responsibilities for their action.
		4. Refraining from any racial, gender, verbal, physical or emotional abuse or harassment.
		5. Always making a positive contribution and refraining from destructive criticism.
		6. Always acting in the interest of American sport.

# Applicability

* 1. The code shall apply to all Members of USPRA.
	2. The code shall apply to any and all Members/Participants/Athletes/Spectators who participate/attend/visit/spectate in any competition/event/training or practice, which is held by, or under the auspices of USPRA.
	3. The code shall apply to any Administrator/Councillor/Staff or their assigns involved in the administration of USPRA.
	4. The code shall apply to any coach/instructor involved in coaching a team/individual/group for any event/competition/training, which falls under the auspices of the USPRA.
	5. The code shall apply to any Technical Official involved in overseeing, officiating or training at any competition/event/training or practice which falls under the auspices of USPRA.

# Success Of A Code Of Conduct

This code of conduct can only be successful if:

* 1. The Athletes, Participants, Officials, Coaches, Instructors and Administrators familiarize themselves with the content of the Code.
	2. USPRA and Members frequently refer to this Code of Conduct for guidance.
	3. This Code of Conduct is included/captured in the USPRA rules/constitution.
	4. Anyone who fails to conform their conduct to the following code of conduct will be subject to disciplinary action according to the USPRA constitution and/or disciplinary procedures.

# Morality

Before going against the Code of Conduct, a person should ask the following questions:

* 1. Is it legal and constitutional?
	2. What does the code of conduct say?
	3. How would it look in tomorrow’s newspaper?
	4. How does it make me feel?
	5. Whom else this could affect?
	6. Would I be embarrassed if others knew I took this course of action?
	7. Is there an alternative action that does not pose an ethical conflict?
	8. What would a reasonable person think?
	9. Does it comply with the USPRA’s rules and regulations?
	10. Is it against the USPRA’s professional standards?
	11. Will it reflect negatively on the USPRA or me?
	12. Can I sleep at night?
	13. If I feel it might be a questionable decision, why?
	14. How can my decision or conduct be perceived?

The following section headings contained in this code are for reference purposes only and shall not affect the meaning, interpretation or applicability of this code.

# All Members / Staff / Visitors / Coaches / Spectators / Officials

I will:

* 1. Respect the Constitution, ‘Rules and Regulations’, Codes, Policies and Terms of USPRA, PRS, and IPRF.
	2. Respect the rule of law of the United States.
	3. Respect others, and their right to participate in their shooting activities.
	4. Respect all administrators, technical officials, range officers and staff, and their decisions.
	5. Refrain from the use of profane, insulting, demeaning, harassing or otherwise offensive language or behaviour in or outside of competition.
	6. Display high standards of behaviour that promote a positive image for shooting sports and firearm conduct.
	7. Strive to maintain a sense of self-control and dignity at all times.
	8. Thank Range/Facilities Owners, Range Officers, Officials and Staff after taking part in sport.
	9. Remember to maintain a sense of integrity.
	10. Respect the Facilities and Equipment.
	11. Respect other’s cultures and beliefs.
	12. Show common courtesy towards Administrators, Coaches, Spectators, Technical Officials, Press, Sponsors and other Members or Visitors.
	13. Help others to resist corrupting pressures.
	14. At no time; make, give, issue, authorise or endorse any public statement which will have or design to have, an effect prejudicial or detrimental to the best interest of USPRA, IPRF, Shooting Sports, Firearm Conduct or Sport in general.
	15. Never advocate or condone the use of drugs or other banned performance enhancing substances.
	16. Never knowingly provide under age participants with alcohol, drugs or other intoxicating substances.
	17. Reject corruption, drugs, racism, violence and other dangers to the sport.
	18. Denounce those who attempt to discredit the sport.
	19. Honour those who defend the sports good reputation.
	20. Not tolerate unacceptable conduct toward officials, members, visitors, athletes, spectators or myself.

# Participants / Competitors / Athletes

I will:

* 1. Respect the rules and participate in the spirit of the competition.
	2. Respect my competitors and other participants.
	3. Be gracious in victory and defeat and remember that winning isn’t everything.
	4. Compete fairly.
	5. Thank officials and opposing competitors after every competition.
	6. Communicate and co-operate with registered medical practitioners in the diagnoses, treatment and management of medical problems and respect the concerns of these medical people have when they are considering my future health and wellbeing and when they are making decisions regarding my ability to continue to compete or train.

# Team Members

I will;

* 1. Give my team-mates positive inputs and feedback.
	2. Thank officials and opposing teams after every competition.
	3. Do my best to try to be a true team player.
	4. Participate in all team testing and satisfy all team program-testing objectives. (Drug and High Performance)

# Technical Officials / Range Officers

I will:

* 1. Make sure that every person has a reasonable opportunity to perform to the best of his or her ability, within the limits of the rules.
	2. Avoid or put an end to any situation that threatens the safety of persons.
	3. Strive to maintain a healthy atmosphere and environment.
	4. Be consistent and objective in calling all infractions, regardless of my personal feelings toward individual or a team.
	5. Handle all conflicts firmly but with dignity.
	6. Accept my role as a role model for fair play.
	7. Be open to discussion and contact with the members/visitors/spectators before and after competitions/events/training or practice.
	8. Remain open to constructive criticism and show respect and consideration for different points of view.
	9. Obtain proper training and continue to upgrade my technical and officiating skills.
	10. Consistently display high personal standards and project a favourable image of the sport while officiating.
	11. Uphold the international standards.
	12. Refrain from the use of profane, insulting, harassing or otherwise offensive language or behavior in the conduct of my duties.
	13. Never advocate or condone the use of drugs or other banned substances.
	14. Conform to USPRA and/or federation’s code of conduct when officiating in sport.
	15. Show common courtesy towards participants/players/members/visitors, administrators, coaches, spectators, other technical officials, press and sponsors.

# Coaches / Instructors (Inc Personal Training)

I will:

* 1. Treat everyone fairly within the context of his or her activity, regardless of gender, place of origin, colour, sex, religion, political belief or economic status.
	2. Ensure that confidentiality of participants is maintained.
	3. Teach the students/athletes how to manage conflict and stress and use good judgment in tough situations.
	4. Be generous with praise and give positive inputs and feedback.
	5. Encourage a constructive attitude toward competition and practice.
	6. Provide an equal opportunity for all to learn skills and further themselves.
	7. Encourage individuals to continue their participation in sport shooting and firearm training/practice.
	8. Be reasonable when scheduling training and practices.
	9. Teach students/athletes to play fairly and to respect the rules, officials and opponents.
	10. Ensure that all students/athletes get equal instruction, support and participation time.
	11. Not ridicule or yell at students/athletes for making mistakes or for performing poorly.
	12. Within the limits of my control I will make sure that equipment and facilities are safe and match the students/athlete’s ages and abilities.
	13. Remember that students/athletes need a coach/instructor they can respect and thereby set a good example.
	14. Obtain the proper training and continue to upgrade my coaching skills.
	15. Refrain from public criticism of fellow coaches, students, athletes, officials and volunteers especially when addressing the media.
	16. Communicate and co-operate with registered medical practitioners in the diagnoses, treatment and management of the students/athlete’s medical and psychological problems.
	17. Consider the students/athlete’s future health and well-being as foremost when making decisions regarding an injured students/athletes ability to continue participating or training.
	18. Recognize and accept when to refer students/athletes to another coach or sport specialist, and allow the students/athletes goals to take precedence over my personal goals.
	19. At no time become intimately and/or sexually involved with any student/athlete.
	20. Never advocate or condone the use of drugs or other banned performance enhancing substances.
	21. Never provide under age students/athletes with alcohol, or encourage its use.
	22. Refrain from the use of profane, insulting, harassing or otherwise offensive language or behaviour in the conduct of my duties.
	23. In the case of minors, communicate and co-operate with the student’s/athlete’s parents or legal guardians, involving them in management decisions pertaining to their child’s development.
	24. Conform to the USPRA Code of Conduct.
	25. Show common courtesy towards students, athletes, participants, administrators, spectators, technical officials, other coaches, press and sponsors.

# Administrators / Councillors / Staff

I will:

* 1. Do my best to ensure that all athletes are given an equal opportunity to participate, regardless of gender, ability or ethnic background.
	2. Discourage any sport program from becoming primarily an entertainment for the spectators.
	3. Ensure that all equipment and facilities are safe and appropriate to the participant’s / athlete’s ages and abilities.
	4. Make sure that the age and maturity levels of the children are considered in program development, rule enforcement and scheduling.
	5. Remember that participation is done for the participants /athlete’s own sake and ensure that winning is kept in perspective.
	6. Ensure that this code of conduct is distributed, understood and agreed upon by coaches, instructors, members, visitors, athletes, spectators, staff and officials.
	7. Ensure that coaches and officials are capable of promoting fair play as well as the development of good technical skills, and encourage them to become certified.
	8. Promote and develop the Shooting Sports by sharing knowledge and experience.
	9. Administer all issues relating to the sport in the best interest of the sport and not for my personal gain.
	10. Educate and ensure high standards of risk management are maintained.
	11. Educate Athletes to respect other cultures and beliefs.
	12. Keep Athletes and Officials updated on protocol of other countries where they may compete.
	13. Show common courtesy towards Participants / Players, other Administrators, Coaches, Spectators, Technical Officials, Press and Sponsors.

U.S. National TEAM ELIGIBILITY FORM

I accept the invitation to be on the USPRA National Team.

1. I have read and agree to abide by USPRA Code of Conduct.
2. I understand that in the event that I violate the USPRA Code of Conduct, I can be brought before the USPRA Disciplinary Committee in accord with the USPRA Judicial Code.
3. In the event of my being selected, I will ensure that I will be able to attend the 2024 International Precision Rifle World Championships.
4. In the event of ill health of myself, or any other circumstance that might prevent me from attending the Championships, I undertake to inform the USPRA Executive Committee immediately.
5. I understand that unless there are extreme or exigent circumstances, If I have to cancel within 6 months of the World Championship match start date or cannot make the World Championship match, I will forfeit my right to be on any USPRA Team for the next two years.
6. I will make myself available to attend any training, team building and/or competitions to be held prior to the Championship.
7. I agree to actively participate in a manner which reflects true sportsmanship and help build team spirit.
8. I am aware of the financial implications of attending the championships and I am in a position to finance my attendance of this championship.
9. I agree to purchase the official US National Team jersey, and furthermore I agree to wear these colors proudly and always put the needs of my Nation and my Team ahead of my own.
10. I accept that the decision of the selectors is final and that no further discussions will be entered into.
11. I agree to abide by the decisions made by the Team Captain, and the USPRA Executive Committee.
12. I have read and agree to abide by the USPRA Social Media Policy.
13. I understand that in the event that I violate the USPRA Social Media Policy, I can be brought before the USPRA Disciplinary Committee in accord with the USPRA Judicial Code.

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Signature |  | Print Name |  | Date |

Please complete and send to info.uspra@gmail.com