



Welcome to Island Swing Dance Weekend festival – a celebration of rhythm, movement, and the vibrant LindyHop community in Malta! As we embark on this event, it's essential for us to create an atmosphere of respect, inclusivity, and shared enjoyment. The following Code of Conduct serves as a guiding framework to ensure that every participant contributes to a positive and harmonious experience regardless of dance experience, gender, gender identity and expression, sexual orientation, physical ability, appearance, body size, race, age, religion or any other characteristic.

Harassment

1. Harassment includes, but is not limited to: deliberate intimidation, stalking, unwanted or intrusive photography or videography, inappropriate physical contact (including unsolicited affection), sexual behaviour in public spaces, and unwelcome and unreciprocated sexual attention. When asked to stop any harassing behaviour, participants are expected to comply immediately.
2. Obtain clear and enthusiastic consent before initiating any dance or physical contact.
3. Communicate openly and respectfully with your dance partners to ensure a positive experience for everyone.
4. Be mindful of what you share on social media to maintain a positive representation of the organised event.

Unsafe behaviour

1. Unsafe behaviour includes, but is not limited to: dipping too deeply or without permission, forceful movements that could cause injury to your partner, excessive use of alcohol, and any form of aerials/air steps without explicit consent, or on a social floor (i.e. outside of a performance or jam circle). It is perfectly acceptable to say no to a dance without reason.
2. All dancers are expected to do their best to avoid colliding with others, to apologise if and when such collisions occur, and to ensure that all dancers are safe before continuing to dance.
3. We expect dancers to avoid interfering with others, except when given consent (e.g. in a steal, swap, or switch dance). Interference also includes unsolicited feedback in class or on the social dancefloor.

4. During organised evening events we expect participants to consume alcohol responsibly and only if permitted at the event. Refrain from any substance use that may impair your judgment or abilities on the dance floor.

Appropriate Attire

1. Dress in appropriate attire to ensure that it is comfortable and suitable for dancing.

Personal Hygiene

1. Maintain good personal hygiene to ensure a pleasant dancing experience for yourself and others.

Breaches

Any individual breaching this code of conduct at an event may expect (depending on the severity):

- A verbal warning from an organiser, advising them to change their behaviour.
- A formal warning from an organiser, stating that any further breaches will be grounds for further action.
- Ejection from an individual event (e.g. dance, class etc) or overall event (e.g. dance weekend).
- Banning from this and all future events run by the organisers.
- Reporting of their actions to the legal authorities.

Any action taken is at the discretion of the event organisers.

Issue Reporting

If you experience or witness a breach of this code of conduct, you are empowered to notify an organiser immediately via email or directly, by informing one of the organisers. If you do not want action taken in the moment, but later change your mind, do not hesitate to contact Swing Island Malta at **swingislandmalta@gmail.com**.

The following is what to expect:

- An organiser will talk to you privately in confidence.
- The organiser will then document the issue.
- They will then ask you how you would like the situation to be handled.
- Action will be taken against the individual(s) involved, in line with those listed in the "Breaches" section.

We appreciate your assistance in keeping our events as safe as possible for everyone.

Credit

This document was informed by the work from PobailStomp at <https://github.com/PobailStomp/dance-code-of-conduct/tree/main>