

AQUIDNECK ISLAND ROBOTICS, INC.

MEMBERSHIP CODE OF CONDUCT

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This document is part of a series of policies and procedures used by Aquidneck Island Robotics, Inc. (AIR). Please contact the AIR Board of Directors with questions and concerns.

1 MEMBER CODE OF CONDUCT

All participants (youth and adult) are expected to demonstrate the character traits of respect, responsibility, sportsmanship, as well as two key concepts from *FIRST*: **Gracious Professionalism** and **Coopertition**.

GRACIOUS PROFESSIONALISM

From www.firstinspires.org:

Gracious Professionalism is part of the ethos of *FIRST*. It's a way of doing things that encourages high-quality work, emphasizes the value of others, and respects individuals and the community.

With **Gracious Professionalism**, fierce competition and mutual gain are not separate notions. Gracious professionals learn and compete like crazy, but treat one another with respect and kindness in the process. They avoid treating anyone like losers. No chest thumping tough talk, but no sticky-sweet platitudes either. Knowledge, competition, and empathy are comfortably blended.

In the long run, **Gracious Professionalism** is part of pursuing a meaningful life. One can add to society and enjoy the satisfaction of knowing one has acted with integrity and sensitivity.

COOPERTITION

From www.firstinspires.org:

Coopertition produces innovation. At *FIRST*, **Coopertition** is displaying unqualified kindness and respect in the face of fierce competition.

Coopertition is founded on the concept and a philosophy that teams can and should help and cooperate with each other even as they compete.

Coopertition involves learning from teammates. It is teaching teammates. It is learning from Mentors. And it is managing and being managed. **Coopertition** means competing always, but assisting and enabling others when you can.



RESPECT:

- the adult volunteer mentors of AIR teams as well as the volunteers and sponsors at competitions.
- your fellow team members personal space, their rights and their property.
- ideas from all team members
- the tools, parts, equipment and other resources provided to each team.
- the workspace and restroom facilities where each team meets.

2 ADULT VOLUNTEER CODE OF CONDUCT

The main responsibility of an AIR volunteer is to provide a safe, educational and positive environment/experience for our student members. In addition to the guidelines in section 1, adult volunteers must:

- Represent AIR in a professional manner in all dealings, respecting diversity of people, ideas and organizations and carrying out all program decisions in accordance with AIR policies and procedures.
- Accept the role of volunteer as a means of unselfish service to AIR and the local community, with no expectations to benefit materially from program activities and understand that no employer/employee relationship is being created.
- Conduct oneself in a courteous, respectful manner; refrain from the use of abusive, obscene or discriminatory language; exhibit good sportsmanship; and provide positive role models for youth.
- Exhibit dignified behavior and cooperate with other volunteers, parents, guardians and youth.
- Recognize and support the organizational chain of command, referring all unresolved questions to the AIR Board of Directors. Consult with appropriate AIR leadership prior to any action or statement which might significantly affect or obligate AIR.
- Keep PII/PHI and sensitive information confidential, realizing that failure to do so may place a child or others including AIR at risk of liability and litigation.

3 GROUNDS FOR DISMISSAL

There are many actions that could lead to dismissal of a member by the AIR Board of Directors, including, but not limited to:

- Violation of the AIR Code of Conduct
- Possession of prohibited items (illegal drugs, weapons, etc.) at an AIR function
- Physical, verbal or sexual harassment
- Violation of state/federal law
- Negatively representing AIR or an AIR team publicly (social media, internet forums, news outlets, etc).

Dismissal from AIR is not taken lightly. The AIR Board of Directors has final authority on dismissal of members.