



Code of Conduct

Queer Pickleball Club (QPC) is dedicated to fostering a welcoming, inclusive, and enjoyable environment for all members and guests. We value sportsmanship, respect, and fair play. This Code of Conduct outlines the expected behavior of all participants to ensure a positive experience for everyone.

Respect and Sportsmanship:

Respect for All: Treat all individuals, including fellow players, opponents, officials, and spectators, with respect and courtesy, regardless of skill level, age, gender, race, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, or any other personal attribute.

Fair Play: Adhere to the official rules of pickleball and play with honesty and integrity. Refrain from cheating, conduct, or any behavior that undermines fair play.

Positive Communication: Use respectful and constructive language. Avoid offensive, abusive, or discriminatory language or behavior. This includes communication in person and online.

Conflict Resolution: If a dispute arises, attempt to resolve it calmly and respectfully. If necessary, seek assistance from a designated QPC Council member.

Acceptance of Decisions: Respect the decisions of players, officials and designated QPC Council members.

Safe and Inclusive Environment:

Safety First: Prioritize the safety of yourself and others, adhering to principles of the Occupational Health and Safety Act (OHSA). Be mindful of your surroundings and take necessary precautions to prevent injuries. Report any safety hazards or injuries to a designated QPC Council member immediately.

Inclusive Participation: Create an inclusive environment where everyone feels welcome and valued. Encourage participation from individuals of all skill levels and backgrounds.

Harassment and Discrimination: Zero tolerance for any form of harassment, discrimination, or bullying. This includes verbal, physical, or online harassment.

Appropriate Attire: Wear appropriate athletic attire, glasses, and footwear suitable for pickleball.

Equipment Safety: Ensure your equipment is in good working order and does not pose a safety hazard to others. Use equipment safely and responsibly.

First Aid: QPC will maintain a first aid kit and ensure that designated QPC Council members are aware of its location and basic first aid procedures.

Accessibility:

AODA Commitment: QPC is committed to providing accessible programs, activities, and events in accordance with the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA).

Communication: We will strive to communicate with members and guests in ways that take into account their individual needs.

Assistive Devices: Assistive devices, service animals, and support persons are welcome.

Accessible Facilities: We will make reasonable efforts to ensure that our facilities and services are accessible to individuals with disabilities.

Training: QPC will provide training to QPC Council members, and to members when needed, on accessible customer service and other AODA standards.

Club Property and Facilities:

Respect for Property: Treat club property and facilities with care and respect. This includes courts, nets, equipment, and shared spaces.

Cleanliness: Help maintain a clean and organized environment. Dispose of trash properly and leave the facilities as you found them.

Equipment Usage: Use club equipment responsibly and return it to its designated location after use.

Court Etiquette: Follow established court etiquette, including waiting your turn, respecting court boundaries, line calls, and minimizing distractions.

Participant Information and Privacy:

Adherence to Bylaws: All participants agree to abide by the club's bylaws, especially regarding the handling of participant information.

Data Protection: Respect the privacy of fellow members and refrain from sharing personal information without consent.

Communication: Use club communication channels (e.g., social media, email, website, messaging groups) responsibly and for club-related purposes only.

Media and Photography: Obtain consent before taking or sharing photos or videos of other members. Respect individual preferences regarding media usage.

6. Enforcement and Consequences:

Reporting Violations: Report any violations of this Code of Conduct to a designated QPC Council member. QPC will ensure that reporting mechanisms are accessible to all members.

Investigation: The QPC Council will investigate all reported violations fairly and impartially. QPC will adhere to all applicable OSHA guidelines for the safety of its members. All investigations will be kept confidential to protect the privacy of those involved.

Disciplinary Action: Depending on the severity of the violation, disciplinary action may include warnings, suspension of playing privileges, or expulsion from the club.

Appeals: Members have the right to appeal disciplinary decisions in accordance with the club's bylaws. The QPC Council will establish a formal appeals process document, which will be made available to all members.

7. Amendments:

Review and Updates: This Code of Conduct will be reviewed and updated periodically to ensure it remains relevant, effective, and compliant with applicable legislation.

Member Input: The club welcomes member feedback and suggestions for improvements to this Code of Conduct.