

Aiken Running Club (ARC) Code of Ethics and Conduct

Adopted 8/30/16

Aiken Running Club (ARC) strives to create a safe and welcoming environment for all who are interested in participating in running events. This Code of Ethics and Conduct is intended to outline the standards that members of ARC are expected to uphold in order to retain the privileges of membership. Certain behaviors are unacceptable for ARC members, regardless of when or where they occur, if they affect other Club members, the reputation and wellbeing of the Club, or other participants in sporting events. Failure to abide by the guidelines may result in suspension or revocation of membership in the Club as determined by the Board of Directors.

Expectations for Club members include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Exercise Honesty: Members shall be honest in their dealings with the Club and sporting officials. Members shall not knowingly submit false information to the Club or to organizers of sporting events.
2. Train and Race Safely: When participating in Club events, Members will conduct themselves in a way that ensures their personal safety and the safety of others. This includes taking appropriate safety precautions and being cautious of others. Members shall be personally responsible for familiarizing themselves with the rules of the sport.
3. Avoid Abuse: Members shall not engage in behavior that may threaten or appear to threaten other individuals, nor shall members create a hostile environment at Club events or in online forums such as the Club's Facebook pages, Website, Twitter, or other social media. Members shall refrain from inappropriate language or unsportsmanlike conduct toward Club members or other participants at sporting events.
4. No Discrimination: No manner of discrimination, verbal or otherwise, will be tolerated in any function of the Club, be it based on race, nationality, religion, disability, age, appearance, sexual orientation, gender or athletic ability.
5. No Substance Abuse: Members shall not participate in ARC events while impaired by illegal substances. Members choosing to drink at Club social events must do so responsibly.
6. No Illegal Activities: Members shall not cause or participate in any illegal activity as defined by local, state, or federal law while participating in an ARC event.
7. Be Courteous to Others: Members are expected to be courteous and cordial to others (including, but not limited to, Club members, spectators, guests and officials) in any Club or sporting event. In the context of Club activities, members shall not use any form of communication in a derogatory or personally damaging way, nor conduct or condone any programs, activities, publications, speeches, and conduct which are offensive or in poor taste or otherwise considered detrimental to the best interests of the Club.

8. Be Responsible: When signing up for an ARC event for which entry is limited, Members should exercise their best efforts to attend and if unable to attend, should notify the event's organizer.
9. Make Payments Promptly: Members shall make prompt payment to the Club of any outstanding balance, including but not limited to payment of fees for membership, special events, and other clothing or equipment.
10. Respect Club Partnerships: ARC has many partnerships with local and national businesses, some of which may provide members access to exclusive benefits, discounts, and services. Members shall use discretion when dealing with our partners, including any use of discounts and adherence to our partner's policies, to ensure the club maintains good relationships.

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