



Galway Hooker Sailing Club
proud affiliate of



Code of Conduct

General Principles

Galway Hooker Sailing Club (GHSC) is a not-for-profit volunteer led organisation that works collaboratively to promote a love of the Galway Hooker through the sailing and restoration of Galway's traditional boat. Personal time, expertise and dedication by many members is required to ensure the enduring nature, development and smooth running of the club.

Code of Conduct

The code of conduct has been developed to assist club members and members of the public to understand the standards of conduct that are expected of them. The term 'Members' includes all membership categories listed in the **GHSC Constitution**. Any member bringing a guest assumes responsibility for that guest. Members, guests and visitors have a duty to promote and support the key principles of the Club, as outlined in this Code of Conduct and to maintain and strengthen the integrity of the Club.

Please report any breaches of the code of conduct in writing to the Committee either by email: secretary@galwayhookersailingclub.ie or post to : Galway Hooker Sailing Club, 13 Claddagh Quay, Galway, H91HH5F. Details of the Committee can be found on www.galwayhookersailingclub.ie

If there is a breach of the code of conduct, procedures will be followed as per the code of conduct.

- Members will show courtesy and respect to all others at all times both on and off the water.
- Members will observe all rules and regulations as set out by the club and not act in a way that creates risk to themselves or others.
- Members will demonstrate care and respect towards all facilities of the Club including but not limited to;
 - all boats owned, on loan or shared with the Club
 - all premises used by the Club and all public and shared locations used such as Claddagh Quay and with respect to local heritage.
- GHSC aims to continue a long tradition of sailing and in doing so maintain and strengthen relationships with the local community.
- GHSC does not tolerate harassment, discrimination, bullying, threatening behaviour or swearing during shore or water-based activities.
- GHSC strives to be inclusive in all its activities as defined in the **GHSC Equity Diversity and Inclusion Policy**.

Any breach of this Code of Conduct will be reviewed by the Committee and appropriate disciplinary action will be taken.

Key Elements

The code of conduct for GHSC incorporates a spirit of respect towards all participants and includes the following:

1. Conduct

Every member has a responsibility to promote and support the key elements of the code of conduct by involvement in club affairs. Through their actions, it will maintain and strengthen trust and confidence in the integrity of the club. This means acting ethically, appropriately and with courtesy whilst representing the club both on and off the water. It also means acting in a considerate manner towards all.

2. Behaviour

As a member of GHSC it is your duty not to engage in behaviour that could constitute an act of disorder, misbehaviour, law breaking, and discrimination or could be construed as harassment or bullying on or off the water.

This means for example, not engaging in emotional, physical, sexual or verbal abuse including swearing. It also means not participating in any illegal activity, including possession or consumption of illegal substances, the supply of alcohol or tobacco to minors, stealing or destruction of club or private property of any kind. Conduct which is gross, obscene or loud in nature or any activity that brings the club into disrepute is inappropriate and will not be permitted.

No persons shall be under the influence of alcohol or any other substance during any formal Club shore or water based training or sailing session.

3. On and Off Water Participation

Members, skippers and crew members participating in on water events whether they be in a club event, representing the club or sailing privately, are expected to display respect for all others participating in the event or who are on the water. Members must not act in a way that creates risk to themselves or others. Members are also advised that participation in any event at the club may carry a risk to life or property. By taking part in club activities, members accept those risks. This means that members must at all times observe the rules and regulations as set out by the club from time to time.

4. Child Protection

Parents/carers or parent substitutes shall be responsible for the conduct of persons in their care under 18 years of age at all times. Members, office bearers and volunteers who instruct or assist children in any club endorsed sailing instructors course shall be bound by the principles of Safeguarding and child protection as described in the **GHSC Safeguarding Statement**.

5. Access to information

It is the obligation of all members to maintain the integrity and security of all the club's confidential documents and information. This means when dealing with personal information, it is in keeping with the Privacy Act & GDPR. No member data should ever be shared outside of the Club drives or emails accounts.

6. Disciplinary actions

Any refusal or neglect by a member to comply with the code of conduct, or if a member engages in any conduct deemed by the committee to not be in keeping with the code of conduct, shall render a member liable for disciplinary action. It does not matter whether such behaviour occurs on the club premises or as a member of the club outside club premises.

Complaints and or reports associated with the code of conduct against any member or members must be made in writing and sent to one or more of the;

- Commodore
- Secretary
- Youth Officer
- Disability & Social Inclusion Officer

On receipt of the complaint, it will be handled as described in the **GHSC Disciplinary Procedure**.

This Code of Conduct is valid from May 2022 and will be reviewed every 2 years. Any documents, policies or procedures referred to in this Code of Conduct can be found at any or all of the following locations;

- Files section in SPOND,
- Our club website www.galwayhookersailingclub.ie
- On request from any Committee Member

Last reviewed : 6th March 2025