



Greater Toronto Area Rollergirls

Code of Conduct

The GTA Rollergirls are Toronto's first not-for-profit flat track roller derby league. Adhering to a not-for-profit business model, GTA Rollergirls is a skater-supported league. We each pay monthly dues to cover all league costs, and the financials are open to all members of the league. Each and every skater in GTAR contributes their talents to make roller derby happen from the ground up.

Our love of Roller Derby means we actively promote it as a fast growing and exciting international sport where part-time skaters and athletes alike can come together over their devotion for the sport, regardless of gender. GTAR is an organization that takes care of its members by encouraging them to reach their full potential, both on and off the track. We provide our members (skating and non-skating) with a safe environment in which to grow their on-skate skills, rules knowledge and love of the sport through hard work and hands-on participation in the league.

GTAR strongly endeavors to contribute to the derby community, both internal and external to our league, by sharing with, learning from, contributing to and respecting the greater community of roller derby, primarily through our membership in the Women's Flat Track Derby Association (WFTDA).

General Member Code of Conduct

1. Make sure you have read and are familiar with WFTDA's Code of Conduct and this Code of Conduct document as you will be held accountable for your actions according to these guidelines, or you may be subject to disciplinary action.
2. You must provide the league with updated emergency and personal contact information.
3. You must ensure you have signed the WFTDA Confidentiality Agreement, along with a copy of this Code of Conduct.
4. You must have valid insurance at all times while on skates. A minimum attendance of one (1) practice prior to a bout is required to maintain valid insurance, however the GTAR attendance policy will affect roster eligibility for players.



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5. Members are responsible to pay league dues before or on the 15th of each month. If you are more than \$100 in arrears for dues, you will not be eligible to play in games. More than \$200 in arrears and you will not be eligible to participate on skates in practice.
6. Where there is an unusual or significant hazard in your presence or affecting your participation, you will bring it to the attention of a Board Member or Official immediately.
7. You may not take part in media opportunities in which you would be publicly representing GTAR without support of the Board.
8. All league members should practice good sportsmanship at all times.
 - a. Play by the rules. Never argue with an official. If you disagree, ask your team Captain or Coach to deal with the matter.
 - b. Control your temper. Verbal abuse of officials or other athletes, deliberately distracting or provoking an opponent is not acceptable or permitted in our sport or league.
 - c. Work hard for the league to assist in growth and sustainability
 - d. Treat all league members as you would like to be treated. Do not interfere with, bully or take unfair advantage of another member or you may be subject to the league grievance policy.
 - e. Cooperate with your Coaches, Captains, Teammates, Officials and other participants. Without them there would be no competition.
 - f. Discuss questions/concerns/problems openly and rationally.
 - g. Adhere to any requirements for bouting, promotional opportunities and public events as set out by the Board, Committees, Team Leadership and Officials
9. GTAR should always create a welcoming and supportive environment for every member.
 - a. Treat everyone with respect and do not discriminate.
 - b. Every league member should be given a fair go, receive encouragement and be treated with the same amount of respect that you would expect to receive yourself.



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- c. Visiting Participants, Coaches, Officials and Spectators are also asked to respect our Codes of Behavior. This includes, but is not limited to, our Training Policy and Code of Conduct.

Skaters and Players Code of Conduct

1. Skaters must support a safe environment during practices and bouts. This includes:
 - a. Supply and wear your own skates and protective gear whenever skating in a league training session or event including, but not limited to, knee and elbow pads, wrist guards, mouth guard and helmet. All gear should be appropriate to the sport, in good working order and should not pose a threat to any other player.
 - b. All skates and gear must be "track-safe," which means that their use must not gash, indent or blemish the skating surface or any other surface, and that the skates will not cause injury to property or person(s).
 - c. Providing medical information to the appropriate parties pertaining to your individual ability to participate in training and competition.
 - d. Skaters who are injured or not fit to participate must keep the appropriate parties informed of any injuries sustained in and outside of skating, and in failing to do so, skate at their own risk.
 - e. Respect your fellow league members; injuring another skater when you're not fit to participate will not be tolerated.
2. All Skaters should meet the skills requirements set forth by the Training Task Force before they are allowed to scrimmage, bout, or attend training sessions at a higher level than their assessed ability.
 - a. Skaters should be willing to take direction/suggestions from coaches, team captains or trainers about skills and game rules.
 - b. Skaters should also make an effort to learn new skills and be committed to improving themselves and their league mates as athletes and teammates.
 - c. Skaters should not put themselves in the position of skating above their assessed ability in regards to contact drills or scrimmaging activities, nor should they be engaged in such activities without the appropriate supervision and direction.



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- d. Skaters should respect the opinion of the Training Task Force in regards to their individual capacity to train at certain levels (i.e. If skills are assessed as having fallen below bout-ready standard).
3. Skaters will be required to meet Attendance Requirements and any mandatory meetings as required by the League or their respective team(s).
 - a. Skaters understand that a minimum attendance of 50% for Derby Debutantes players and 60% for G-sTARs players one (1) month prior to each bout is required for roster eligibility.
4. Rostered skaters at GTAR are not permitted to be active dues paying members of any other league. Skaters may guest skate in games with other leagues or attend another league's practice as a guest, but only where it would not conflict with a GTAR event or practice and with permission of their coach. Skaters may also attend other leagues training camps or special events/scrimmages. Players may apply to the Board of Directors for review if they wish to request an exception for special circumstances (eg. participate in two leagues some distance apart because of residence in two regions at different times of the year).
5. Skaters are required to not be under the influence of alcohol or drugs when on skates. It is also inappropriate when representing the league or when actively participating in GTAR activities, unless otherwise deemed appropriate by the Board
6. Skaters are encouraged to choose a derby name and team number that is not already taken, is not offensive and does not reflect poorly on GTAR.

Board Members Code of Conduct

1. Involve members in the planning, leadership, evaluation and decision making related to the League wherever possible.
2. Ensure that equal opportunities for the participation in our sport are made available to all members regardless of ability, sex, size, shape, religion, beliefs or ethnic origin.
3. Ensure that equipment and facilities are safe and appropriate to the ability levels of participating members.



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4. Along with the Training Task Force, ensure that adequate supervision is provided by qualified and competent coaches and officials capable of developing appropriate positive behavior and skill technique.
5. Encourage members to realize their potential athletic ability as individuals, and as team players.
6. Distribute and enforce the Code of Conduct requirements pertaining to league members and other relevant parties.
7. GTAR encourages and promotes the interaction of its members with other leagues, both nationally and internationally. GTAR expects that you will be professional and respectful in your interactions with other leagues and asks that you adhere to the following:
 - a. Interleague communication is undertaken by the appropriate Task Forces and the GTAR Board.
 - b. All correspondence regarding GTAR league-related matters is to originate from an official GTAR email account and not from member's personal email accounts.
8. Respect the roles of the Task Force Heads as elected, and work within the guidelines of these positions, except where requested by Task Force leadership.
9. Enforce fiscal responsibility amongst league entities to ensure financial viability.

Officials Code of Conduct

1. Encourage all participants, promoting positivity and fostering an environment conducive to learning.
2. Be consistent, objective, and courteous in calling all infractions.
3. Condemn unsporting behavior and promote respect for all participants.
4. Ensure that equipment and facilities meet safety standards and are appropriate.
5. Ensure that your behavior is consistent with the principals of good sporting behavior.



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6. Make a personal commitment to keep yourself informed of sound officiating principals, and learning the rules as set out by the most current WFTDA Official Rules document.
7. Demonstrate appropriate social behavior, by not harassing athletes, other coaches or officials, or being intoxicated at any league training or competitive event.

Coaches and Trainers Code of Conduct

1. Be reasonable in your demands on athlete's time, energy and enthusiasm.
2. Teach athletes that the rules of the sport are mutual agreements, which no one has the right to break at the risk of another person's safety.
3. Remember that members participate for fun and enjoyment and that winning is only part of the enjoyment. Teams/Skaters must never be ridiculed for making mistakes or losing an event.
4. Ensure that equipment and facilities meet safety standards and are appropriate.
5. Develop and encourage respect for the ability of opponents as well as for the judgment of officials and other coaches.
6. Commit to keeping yourself informed of sound coaching principals and innovative coaching techniques.
7. Demonstrate appropriate social behavior, by not harassing athletes, other coaches or officials, or being intoxicated at any league training or competitive event.
8. Roster decisions are to be based on the GTAR attendance policy as well as a skater's skill, experience and attitude displayed at practice.
 - a. Coaches are to discuss a players eligibility for bout rosters one (1) month prior to each bout with each skater.
 - b. Should the minimum number of skaters required for a bout roster not be met, coaches (with the approval of the GTAR board) may choose to fill the roster to the minimum legal requirement with skaters of a lower attendance percentage instead of forfeit the bout entirely.



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In general, GTAR league members should work towards portraying the organization in a positive light. Be yourself, be unique, but please be mindful that your actions, when engaged in roller derby or an affiliated event, will reflect on GTAR as a whole. If it is deemed that you have in any way placed the league's reputation, credibility, sustainability, culture, atmosphere and/or overall community at risk you may be subject to disciplinary action.

Any skater/official or member found in violation of this Code of Conduct may have their membership reviewed by the GTAR Board, and action, such as a formal warning or exclusion from league activities may be taken.

Thank you for being part of the Greater Toronto Area Rollergirls.

Date: _____

Signature: _____

Real Name (Print): _____

Derby Name (Print): _____