**Code of Conduct**

**Board of Directors**

# Preamble

The Code of Conduct applies to all members of the Ontario Fencing Association (the “OFA”). It applies to OFA members at all competitions, all events hosted by provincial clubs and organizations and at all other times when participating or otherwise engaged in the sport of fencing both within and outside the Province of Ontario.

While members are expected to obey the rules of any fencing organization under which a competition or other event is held, where there is a conflict between the OFA Code of Conduct and another organization’s rules, the OFA member is expected to obey the OFA Code of Conduct.

# Principles

All members of the OFA are expected to maintain and promote the following principles at all times.

SPORTSMANSHIP and AMBASSADORSHIP

* Be good ambassadors for the OFA and their club or university team
* Uphold the highest level of good sportsmanship
* Propound the spirit of fair play, cooperation and respect for others at all times and to act as good role models for others

RESPECT

* Respect the rules of fencing as directed by the OFA, the Canadian Fencing Federation (the “CFF”) and the International Fencing Federation (the “FIE”)
* Respect and work cooperatively with all other fencers, coaches, referees, tournament directors and spectators
* Respect the public so as not to put the reputation of the fencing community into disrepute

SAFETY

* Ensure a safe environment for all those present including proper maintenance of fencing equipment
* No horseplay or inappropriate use of fencing equipment in particular weapons
* Do not engage or participate in and do not support or encourage any pranks, jokes or other activities which could endanger or embarrass another
* Do not engage or participate in any illegal activities or consume illegal substances including underage drinking

DISCRIMINATION and HARASSMENT

* Adhere the OFA Harassment Policy at all times
* Adhere to the OFA Social Medial Policy at all times
* Do not engage or participate in and do not support or encourage discrimination against anyone on the basis of gender, age, race, religion, sexuality, disability or for any other reason

As leaders of the sport with a high degree of ethical responsibilities, the Board must observe the highest standards in order to retain the trust of the members. The Board provides the public face of the organization; its behaviour, and that of individual board members must be exemplary. Members of the Board are expected to adhere to the following values:

* Respect the rights, dignity and worth of all persons with whom they engage on behalf of the OFA;
* be responsible for, first and foremost, the welfare of the OFA functioning primarily as a member of the Board of Directors, not as a member of any other particular constituency;
* conduct oneself openly, professionally, lawfully and in good faith in the best interests of the OFA;
* behave with decorum appropriate to both circumstance and position;
* be fair, equitable, considerate and honest in all dealings with others;
* exercise due diligence in upholding one's fiduciary responsibility to the Membership of the OFA;
* respect the confidentiality appropriate to issues of a sensitive nature;
* ensure that all Members are given sufficient opportunity to express opinions, and that all opinions are given due consideration and weight;
* respect the decisions of the majority and resign if unable to do so;
* commit the time to attend meetings and to be diligent in one’s preparation for and participation in discussions at such meetings;
* have a thorough knowledge and understanding of all OFA governance documents including, but not limited to, the following documents:
  + By‐Laws
  + Policies and procedures
  + Completed confidentiality forms; and,
* meet the highest standards of integrity and suitability, including but not limited to such considerations;
* promote and support these principles by leadership and example.

Recommended for approval:

Lucie Hamelin, President Date

Ontario Fencing Association

Approved by the Board of Directors: