



MONADNOCK ROLLER DERBY CODE OF CONDUCT

IDENTITY:

Monadnock Roller Derby is a registered NH nonprofit. We are a league of skaters and community members dedicated to the sport and spirit of roller derby. Our members come in all shapes, sizes, colors and flavors. We have multiple jobs, roles, challenges, and gifts, but above all, we are tribe.

MISSION STATEMENT:

Our mission is threefold: Challenge ourselves to get back up, as many times as it takes; Challenge one another to be our best, because no one survives alone; Create a safe and supportive space for all members to learn, grow, and smash their fears.

CODE OF CONDUCT:

All members of Monadnock Roller Derby (adult and junior players, parents, referees, and volunteers) agree to the following:

- Reading and understanding the League's By-Laws, Member Handbook, Working Committee notes, and other relevant League documents.
- Staying current with League communications.
- Speaking up whenever we have questions, concerns, constructive criticism, creative suggestions, or other input that benefits the conduct of League business. The League and its members can only act on information they have, so clear and consistent communication among all members is paramount.
- Refraining from participation in media opportunities in which we would be publicly representing Monadnock Roller Derby without the expressed support of the League.
- Conducting ourselves in a professional and ethical manner in any League activities, including online.

Additionally, skaters and officials (adult and junior, rostered or not) agree to abide by the following:

- The first rule of roller derby: Don't be a jerk. Recognize that our moods, motivations, and conduct have a powerful effect on our life as a team, positive or negative. Everyone has "those" days, so when we find ourselves or a teammate in a bad place, we address it, taking time out as necessary. Skating should be healthy, stress-relieving, and fun.
- Playing by the rules. Never argue with officials; in bout and scrimmage situations, it is the Captain's responsibility to address problem calls.
- Adhering to dress codes for competition, promotion/media, and public events as set by the Board.
- For adult skaters, timely payment of monthly membership dues. Members who do not make payment for two (2) consecutive months AND who do not contact a member of the Board to arrange a work exchange will have their membership revoked and will not make the roster. (See the Member Handbook and/or contact a Board member for questions.) Payment is due on the first Wednesday of each month (when league meetings are held). Payment is expected regardless of how many practices are attended.
- Co-creating a safe space at practices, bouts, off-skates events, and any other League activities. "Safe space" includes but is not limited to the following:

Physical/personal safety:

- Supplying our own (bought or borrowed) skates and protective gear; this includes but is not limited to knee pads, elbow pads, wrist guards, mouth guard, and multi-use (preferably certified) helmet. All gear must be appropriate to the sport, in good working order, and must not pose a threat to any other player. When in doubt, refer to USARS and/or WFTDA regulations.
- Ensuring all skates and gear are "rink-safe," meaning their use does not risk damaging or blemishing any surface. At some venues, this requires covering hard pad surfaces with felt or cloth.
- Immediately bringing to the attention of the coach, trainer, referee or League officer, any hazard affecting safe practice or play.
- Meeting WFTDA skills requirements before being allowed to scrimmage, bout, or attend training sessions at a higher level than our ability.
- Respecting the judgment of coaches, trainers, and officials with regard to training and skill level, e.g., in cases where skills are assessed as falling below competition standard. Showing willingness to take direction from coaches, trainers, referees, or team captains regarding game rules, strategies, and skills.
- Making the effort to learn new skills and improve ourselves at athletes and teammates, regardless of level or ability.
- Providing any medical information to coaches and officials relevant to our individual ability to participate in training and competition.
- Injured or compromised skaters have the right (and responsibility) to participate according to their personal comfort level. Players must keep the coaching team informed of any conditions that may affect their skating ability; in failing to do so, players skate at their own risk.

- Under no circumstances will skaters be under the influence of alcohol or drugs when on skates, nor when representing the League or participating in League activities. An exception may be made at after-parties and social activities, which are informal gatherings and not League-sanctioned. Individuals, not the League or its officers, are responsible for their own conduct at all times.

Social/emotional safety:

- Creating a welcoming and supportive environment for every member. This means treating everyone – fellow players, opponents, volunteers, refs, the public – with respect, regardless of difference; upholding a team ethos; practicing good sporting behavior; acknowledging that we each have something to contribute and something to learn; and affirmative communication, including active listening.
- Choosing a derby name and number that are original (not taken by another player in the League or in another league with whom we are likely to compete); not offensive (i.e., obscene, discriminatory, hateful, or otherwise inappropriate for a public audience), and does not reflect poorly on Monadnock Roller Derby.
- Though it can be taken for granted, we explicitly commit ourselves to a drama-free environment. Members will discuss concerns openly and with positive intention. Verbal attacks on other athletes or officials, deliberately distracting or provoking an opponent, and other unbecoming behavior is not acceptable in the sport of roller derby and will not be tolerated in our league.
- Working hard for ourselves and our team and league; treating all players as you would like to be treated; refusing bully behavior; co-operating with our coaches, captains, teammates, and other participants; and generally embodying the team spirit.

Monadnock Roller Derby League Board:
contact@monadnockrollerderby.com