
OVERBROOK POLO CLUB

GENERAL MEMBER RULES & CODE OF CONDUCT

Applies to members, players, guests, grooms, family members, and invitees while participating in or attending Club activities.

Overbrook Polo Club is committed to a safe, competitive, welcoming polo environment. Membership and participation carry a responsibility to protect the horses, players, spectators, property, and reputation of the Club. These rules supplement applicable USPA rules, tournament conditions, posted facility rules, and directions from Club management or officials.

1. Respectful Conduct & Sportsmanship

- Members shall treat players, officials, staff, volunteers, grooms, spectators, landowners, sponsors, and guests with respect.
- Abusive, threatening, harassing, discriminatory, retaliatory, or intentionally disruptive conduct is not acceptable.
- Disagreements should be handled calmly and privately. Public arguments, personal attacks, repeated hostile messaging, or behavior that disrupts play or Club operations may result in discipline.
- Good sportsmanship is expected before, during, and after play. Decisions of umpires and Club officials shall be respected, with questions raised through appropriate channels.

2. Safety First

- Every participant is responsible for acting in a manner that reasonably protects people, horses, vehicles, trailers, and property.
- Players must use appropriate polo safety equipment and comply with applicable USPA safety rules and Club-specific requirements.
- Reckless riding, unsafe horse handling, deliberate dangerous play, or knowingly participating when unfit to do so is prohibited.
- Members shall immediately report dangerous field conditions, damaged equipment, loose horses, injuries, or other significant safety concerns to Club management.

3. Horses & Animal Welfare

- Horses must be fit, sound, appropriately conditioned, and suitable for the level of play in which they are entered.
- Abuse, neglect, excessive use, or intentional mistreatment of any horse is prohibited.
- Owners and handlers are responsible for the control, care, supervision, water, tack, transport, and security of their horses.
- Club management or officials may remove a horse from play when there is a reasonable safety or welfare concern.

4. Field, Facility & Property Use

- Fields, barns, parking areas, pavilions, lanes, and other Club property must be used only for their intended purpose and in accordance with posted or communicated instructions.
- Do not enter closed fields, drive on restricted turf, move Club equipment, or use facilities outside approved times without permission.
- Members are expected to leave common areas clean and to remove trash, manure, hay, and personal items from designated areas when required.
- Any damage to Club property should be reported promptly. A member may be responsible for damage caused by the member, the member's horse, vehicle, trailer, guest, employee, or invitee.

5. Practice, Tournament & Scheduling Etiquette

- Players should register or confirm participation by the requested deadline and provide accurate player, handicap, and horse information.
- If a player cannot attend after committing, the player or team captain should notify the appropriate organizer as soon as reasonably possible.
- Late arrivals, repeated no-shows, or last-minute changes that materially disrupt scheduled play may affect future scheduling or participation privileges.
- Team captains are responsible for communicating schedules, substitutions, out-dates, and Club requirements to their players.

6. Guests, Children, Pets & Spectators

- Members are responsible for the conduct of their guests and should ensure guests understand relevant safety and facility rules.
- Children must be appropriately supervised around horses, vehicles, trailers, playing areas, and equipment.
- Pets must be controlled at all times and may be restricted from playing areas, horse areas, or events when necessary for safety.
- Spectators and guests must remain in designated areas and follow instructions from Club personnel.

7. Alcohol, Drugs & Impairment

- No person may ride, play, drive, handle horses, or perform a safety-sensitive Club activity while impaired by alcohol, illegal drugs, or any substance that makes participation unsafe.
- Any alcohol at Club events must be consumed responsibly and in accordance with applicable law and event rules.
- Disorderly or unsafe behavior connected with alcohol or substance use may result in immediate removal from the property or activity.

8. Payments, Dues & Club Obligations

- Members are expected to keep dues, entry fees, practice fees, stabling charges, and other agreed Club charges current.
- Unless otherwise approved by Club management, required fees must be paid by the stated deadline in order to participate.
- Members should promptly raise billing questions directly with the Club rather than withholding payment without communication.

9. Communication, Reputation & Social Media

- Club communications should remain respectful, accurate, and focused on resolving issues constructively.
- Members should not knowingly make false statements about other members, officials, sponsors, employees, or the Club.
- Photos or videos taken at Club activities should be used with reasonable respect for privacy, safety, sponsors, and event restrictions.
- Nothing in these rules is intended to prevent a member from making a good-faith safety report, legal complaint, or other protected communication.

10. Violations & Club Discipline

- Depending on the seriousness and circumstances of a violation, the Club may use a verbal warning, written warning, removal from an activity, suspension of playing or facility privileges, or termination of membership/participation privileges.
- Immediate action may be taken when Club management reasonably believes conduct presents a safety risk, threatens another person or animal, causes significant disruption, or may damage Club property.
- The Club may consider the seriousness of the conduct, prior incidents, willingness to correct the issue, and the need to protect safe and orderly Club operations.
- Nothing in this Code limits additional remedies or requirements contained in membership agreements, waivers, tournament conditions, USPA rules, or applicable law.

MEMBER ACKNOWLEDGMENT

I acknowledge that I have read and understand the Overbrook Polo Club General Member Rules & Code of Conduct. I agree to follow these rules, applicable Club policies, and the directions of Club management and officials while participating in Club activities or using Club facilities.

Member / Participant Name

Date

Signature

Club note: This Code of Conduct is an operational membership policy and is separate from any liability waiver, release, tournament conditions, or other agreement required by Overbrook Polo Club.