



OPRA Member Responsibility to the Profession

Ohio Parks and Recreation Association (OPRA) strengthens the parks and recreation profession through advocacy, education and collaboration. Member participation in OPRA is essential to both individual and collective success. It is important to recognize that personal conduct reflects upon each individual member, the agency he/she represents and OPRA, as well as impacts public perception of the profession as a whole.

It is therefore imperative that all members conduct themselves in an ethical, professional and courteous manner. OPRA has adopted a Professional and Personal Code of Conduct by which all members of OPRA, their designated representatives, and non-member attendees at all OPRA meetings and conferences agree to abide by as a condition of membership and/or participation in OPRA and its activities.

OPRA Professional and Personal Code of Conduct

Recognize that OPRA is an organization dedicated to advocate for and promote the parks and recreation profession as well as facilitate professional growth and development, and that each member has a responsibility to help reach these goals.

Maintain the highest level of professional and personal ethical behavior while attending OPRA meetings, conferences and activities; treat all others with the highest level of integrity and courtesy.

Work to instill public confidence in the parks and recreation field, its member agencies, professionals, and corporate and other affiliated partners, avoiding any action conducive to discrediting members of OPRA.

Be mindful of representing one's individual agency/organization/company as well as OPRA and not behave in any way that would harm the reputation of either.

Be respectful and courteous of OPRA members, staff, volunteers, colleagues, corporate partners and other unaffiliated individuals present at all times; refrain from subjecting anyone to unwanted, offensive or potentially harmful behavior.

Demonstrate restraint and self-control if choosing to consume alcoholic beverages (when permitted/appropriate); drinking alcohol is each individual's choice and responsibility.

Avoid harassment, violence, intimidation and discrimination of any kind involving race, color, religion, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, age, disability or, where applicable, veteran or marital status.

Adhere to all applicable federal, state and local laws, OPRA bylaws/policies and the rules/policies of the member's agency/company.

Recognize that no code of conduct can anticipate every situation; therefore, common sense and good judgment should always be applied with regard to ethical and behavioral principles.

Failure to abide by the Code of Conduct will result, for the first offense, in informal censure of an individual by the OPRA Executive Committee, including declining the offending member the privilege of serving in a leadership capacity for the Association. The nature and severity of the offense will be considered to determine the length of time for leadership probation. Continued violations of the Code of Conduct will be subject to review with possible exclusion from participation in OPRA activities and/or expulsion from OPRA. The member's employer may be notified of a change in his/her membership status (i.e. suspended or cancelled).