

Owen Sound Field Naturalists Code Of Conduct

The following Code of Conduct shall apply to the President, all Directors, Members, Guests and Volunteers (herein after referred to as “Member” or collectively “Members”) of the Owen Sound Field Naturalists (the “OSFN”).

Preamble

OSFN strives to maintain an environment where all Members feel safe and respected when interacting with, or on behalf of, OSFN and or when participating in OSFN activities.

Purpose

The purpose of this Code of Conduct (the “Code”) is to provide Members with guidelines as to the expected standards of comportment when dealing with other Members or representing OSFN.

Code

Members shall at all times treat others with respect and dignity, being mindful to not harass, bully, or make unwanted advances towards others. Members shall communicate without derision or denigration. Members shall behave in a manner that is not disruptive or harmful to others, or OSFN activities. Members shall ensure a safe environment for all OSFN activities and in connection therewith shall abide by all OSFN bylaws and all applicable civil laws, rules and regulations.

Inclusivity

OSFN acknowledges that its Members come from a broad spectrum of lived experiences and from a wide and culturally diverse population including but not limited to race, Religion or sexual orientation. Members shall comply with the Ontario Human Rights Code and shall not discriminate against people based on a protected ground in a protected social area, as defined within the Ontario Human Rights Code.

Confidentiality

Members shall not disclose any OSFN information that the Directors have deemed confidential. Members shall not use or access any personal information regarding another Member without first having that Member’s direct consent.

Conflict of Interest

If any Member has or believes there may be a conflict between the interests of the OSFN and their personal interests, the Member shall declare the conflict to the Directors. Such Member shall excuse themselves from any vote taken by the Directors, and the Member shall abide by the terms of any resolution declared by the Directors.

OSFN Outdoor Activities

Members taking part in an OSFN outdoor activity understand the importance of local flora and or fauna and will minimize any negative impact. Unless consent has been granted by the private property owner, Members shall not trespass onto private property and Members are encouraged to remain on sanctioned trails.

Attendance and Reporting

Directors shall make every effort to attend OSFN board meetings and are expected to have reviewed all relevant materials provided to them in advance. Any Director or Member who has additional duties including but not limited to, the President, Treasurer, Secretary, Membership Coordinator, shall exercise their duties thoroughly and any reports or statements produced in connection therewith shall be accurate and may be relied on by the other Members and OSFN.

Failure to Comply

Any Member failing to comply with any of the terms of the Code may be asked to leave the OSFN venue or withdraw from the OSFN activity. If in the opinion of the Directors, the failure is significant then the Directors may revoke membership of that individual with OSFN.

November 13, 2023