



Manchester Roller Derby

Code of Conduct

Manchester Roller Derby (MRD) is a co-ed league committed to providing, where appropriate, people of all genders, ages and abilities with the opportunity to play roller derby. This code of conduct has been put in place to facilitate this process.

Any member found to be in breach of this code will be subject to the MRD Grievance Procedure.

1. Safety:

All members of the club must be committed to creating a safe sporting environment at all times. This includes:

Always wearing appropriate safety equipment. Helmets, knee pads, elbow pads and wrist guards must be worn by skaters and referees throughout training sessions. Skaters must also wear mouthguards during contact drills or where deemed appropriate by the coach (i.e. the person responsible for taking the drill).

Skaters must not wear clothing or accessories which pose a danger to themselves or to other members.

Injured or ill skaters are advised to seek medical advice before participating in training sessions or bouts.

Injured or ill skaters should inform the coach of their condition before or at the start of training sessions.

The coach reserves the right to prevent a skater from participating if the coach believes that the skater would be a danger to themselves or to other skaters.

Skating at MRD is only open to members who are 18 years or older.

2. Team Ethos:

All members must be committed to creating a welcoming and supportive environment for every member. This includes:

Treating everyone with respect;

Welcoming and encouraging newer skaters;

Allowing injured skaters to participate at a level at which they feel comfortable and which the coach deems appropriate and safe;

Refraining from using threatening or abusive language and/or behaviour towards or about members of MRD, members of other leagues, referees, the general public and venue staff;

Remembering that they are representatives of MRD;

Promoting a positive image of MRD both to other leagues and to the general public.

3. Training:

Skaters must be fully prepared to participate in training sessions to the best of their ability.

This includes:

Arriving at training sessions on time:

Skaters must be ready to start (i.e. on the track wearing full kit and protective equipment) at the allotted start time of training sessions;

If skaters are often late for sessions, this will be noted by the coach, captain and/or training manager and will be taken into account when assessing 'Attitude' for roster selection / graduation to teams;

If a skater arrives late for a training session, they will not be permitted to join the drill until the coach informs them that they can do so (if a drill is in progress the skater may not be allowed to join this drill).

Making every effort to participate fully in training sessions (e.g. not being under the influence of alcohol or drugs).

Informing the coach (i.e. the person in charge of the drill) if they need to leave the drill or the session

Keeping the training venue clean and tidy (i.e. picking up all empty water bottles after practice and ensuring all equipment is carefully stored).

Skaters must adhere to WFTDA/MRDA rules and regulations during practice and scrimmage. They will not be cleared to scrimmage until the MRD Head Referee is satisfied that they have passed minimum skills assessment and their health does not compromise safety. Coaches and referees will not allow someone to skate if they are a risk to themselves or to others. This relates to all MRD teams, including Rookie Monsters and Zero to Heros.

4. Attendance:

Skaters should be aware that all 3As are taken into consideration for rostering, not just attendance. That said, the better the attendance, the better that attitude and ability can be assessed. Final decisions on rosters are made by: Captain, Vice Captain and Coach, and approved by the League Head Referee and Training Manager.

To be eligible to be rostered for bouts team attendance should be met as determined in the '3A's for Rostering' guideline.

Once selected for a bout, skaters will be expected to attend as many training sessions as possible leading up to this bout.

When putting themselves forward for roster selection, skaters must report booked holidays or prior commitments (that will prevent attendance at training sessions leading up to the bout) to the Team Captain.

Injured skaters are encouraged (wherever possible) to help at training sessions.

Injured skaters who help during training sessions will be awarded 0.5 attendance mark.

Skaters are able to gain 0.5 of an attendance mark when they complete bouts as a guest skater, training with another league or attend boot camps when MRD practice sessions are scheduled.

For more information please consult the AAA Policy for Rostering.

League members will be required to pay weekly or monthly subscriptions (“subs”) which are collected on the first session attended in a given week, with a week being defined as a non-rolling week running from Sunday to Sunday. Subs can also be paid via standing order. (see ‘Monthly Payment of Subs’ document – current version).

Members who officiate only are not be required to pay subs.

5. Democracy:

MRD is run by the members for the members. Everyone has an equal vote in the running of the organisation.

Any breach of this Code of Conduct (whether at bouts, after parties, or other roller derby-related events) will be subject to the MRD Grievance Procedure.