

LAKE MICHIGAN PERFORMANCE HANDICAP RACING FLEET, INC. A Wisconsin Not-For-Profit Organization (DBA MWPHRF)

Council of Handicappers Code of Conduct Policy Statement

As a member of the MWPHRF Council of Handicappers (Council) you must make a reasonable effort to abide by the Lake Michigan Performance Handicap Racing Fleet's (DBA MWPHRF) policies. This is the essence of the obligations of any not-for-profit organization's members.

As a Council member of the MWPHRF Performance Handicap Racing Fleet, you must:

1. Be active.
2. Receive no material profit.
3. Avoid conflicts of interest.
4. Exercise judgment.
5. Comply with any applicable government regulations.

Be Active

You should attend meetings. Attendance is the basic method of becoming and remaining informed about the organization — how the organization functions, its purpose and any specific responsibilities assigned to you. Attendance also demonstrates commitment, responsibility, and diligence.

Receive No Material Profit

Council members can only receive reimbursement for reasonable expenses and costs incurred in carrying out their Council responsibilities.

Avoid Conflicts of Interest

As a Council member, you owe a duty of loyalty to the Council which takes precedence over your personal interests. Conflicts may be:

Self-Dealing. You should avoid transactions with the Council where you have a personal or business interest beyond your interest as a Council member. If such transaction should occur,

1. you should make full disclosure to the Council,
2. refrain from voting,
3. leave the Council chamber, and
4. not be counted in determining the existence of a quorum.

Organizational Opportunities. In all matters of interest to the Council, you must put its interest ahead of your own and function in a non-partisan manner in discharging your responsibilities.

Privileged Information. You must never use information received while serving the Council if the personal use of such information would be detrimental in any way to the MWPHRF Council of Handicappers and/or MWPHRF organization. Any actions that might impair the reputation of the Council must be avoided.

Duty of Loyalty. As a Council member, you are required to be loyal to the interests of the organization rather than to the financial or other interests of you, individually, or another person or another organization. Any adverse interests will be subject to review and, possibly, removal from the MWPHRF Council of Handicappers

Exercise Judgment

As a Council member you have a duty to care for the organization's affairs in good faith and with, at least, a degree of diligence, care, and skill which ordinarily prudent people would exercise under similar circumstances in like positions. Your good faith is not enough. Council members must act collectively with knowledge and after adequate deliberation to make careful, educated, and honest decisions. If you do not act in such a manner, your actions may be deemed as "gross negligence".

Good faith is characterized by honesty, integrity and faithfulness to your duties and obligations and with no intent to take advantage of the organization.

Reporting Council Actions

The MWPHRF Council of Handicappers speaks with one voice reflected in minutes of its meetings, its correspondence, newsletters, bulletins on its web site, or other appropriate communiqués. Discussion outside of Council meetings by members to report or otherwise describe to the public incomplete actions of the Council regarding the assignment of handicaps, reviews of provisional handicaps, or appeals of handicaps in process often provides distorted and incorrect information. This kind of behavior does the MWPHRF sailing constituency and the organization itself a disservice.

Compliance

Several local, state, and federal laws and regulations apply to the Council and/or the MWPHRF organization.

Conclusion

The standard of conduct for Lake Michigan Performance Handicap Racing Fleet, Inc. (DBA MWPHRF) Council members is to act in good faith, with the care an ordinarily prudent person in a like position would exercise under similar circumstances and in the best interests of the Council; in two words, care, and loyalty.

By agreeing to serve as a member of the Council, a Council member agrees to be bound by the Bylaws and this Code of Conduct. Each Council member is held to a higher standard than volunteers in other not-for-profit organizations as each Council member has access to the Council's proprietary information and the detailed affairs of the organization.

Each individual member of the Council of Handicappers must commit to MWPHRF's mission. This mission is the cornerstone of the MWPHRF Councils every decision.

Continued participation with MWPHRF constitutes acceptance of this Code of Conduct.

Unanimously approved by the MWPHRF Council of Handicappers – 05.07.2024
