

AMERICAN QUIZBOWL LEAGUE

OFFICIAL CODE OF CONDUCT

Second Edition, First Revision: Last Updated June 16, 2021

The American Quizbowl League desires a healthy environment for competition. Therefore, the following Code of Conduct has been adopted to facilitate that goal. All persons at an AQBL-sponsored Event are bound by this code; other Events using AQBL questions or any other Event may (or may not) use it as they see fit.

We expect all persons at each Event to treat others with respect and courtesy, display good sportsmanship, and be impeccable representatives of their school or institution.

Specific prohibited actions are listed in the official AQBL Rules. However, Rule 11.4.14, reading, under the list of prohibited actions, "Harassing others in any way", requires a clear definition.

Therefore, for the purposes of interpreting Rule 11.4.14, Harassment shall be defined as:

1. Unwelcome contact, public or private, to other participants after the receiving party has requested it to cease; or
2. Unwanted physical contact; or
3. Attempting to stalk or follow another participant; or
4. Unwelcome contact of a sexual nature; or
5. Unwanted contact of a discriminatory nature.

Please note that other actions commonly included in various Codes of Conduct, such as Excessive Insults, Interruptions of Gameplay, issuing Threats, and the sharing of explicit images are prohibited in other sections of the Official AQBL Rules, but they do not fall under Rule 11.4.14. All the other rules in Section 11 govern this Code of Conduct as well, including the Proportionality rule, the Honest Disclosure rule, and the Ban and Sanction rules.

If you are subject to the above behavior at an AQBL Event, you should inform an Administrator of the AQBL or the Tournament Director immediately. Administrators will determine whether an action is prohibited by the Code of Conduct and, if they determine it is, will take actions consistent with the Official Rules the Event is using.

Such reports are anonymized. However, all accusations of this nature (and, in fact, accusations of any misconduct whatsoever) are thoroughly investigated prior to any action being taken. As part of that investigation, we may, at our sole discretion, contact the accused party or their parents, coaches, or school for a statement or defense prior to the levying of any punishment. In

addition, should a player be subject to sanctions, the sanctions will generally be communicated to the party in question, in addition to a description of what triggered the sanctions. Should you feel that, with this in mind, making a report would put you under threat of physical harm or retaliation, you should inform us of such a concern and we will take as many steps as possible to mitigate it.

We are happy to assist participants with other measures to increase their sense of security and comfort during an Event upon request.