

Pirate King Code of Conduct

Respect the Code, or ye be walkin' the plank!

To keep Pirate Fest fun, fair, and welcoming for all, all Pirate King contestants—and their crews—must follow this Code of Conduct. Violators may be disqualified or asked to leave the event.

THE CODE

1. Honor All Pirates

Treat every scallywag, landlubber, and sea witch with kindness and respect, regardless of age, gender, race, sexuality, ability, or background. Harassment or discrimination **will not be tolerated**.

2. Use Words, Not Cannons

Playful banter is fine, but **threatening, aggressive, or demeaning speech or behavior** is not. No name-calling, yelling, or inappropriate jokes.

3. Consent is the Code

Do not touch anyone's body, costume, or belongings without clear permission.

Ask before hugging, posing for photos, or interacting in character.

Respect “no” the first time—no exceptions.

4. Party Like a Responsible Pirate

Alcohol is allowed where permitted, but **drunkenness is not an excuse for bad behavior**. Anyone may be removed from the contest or the event at the discretion of city staff.

5. Keep the Roleplay Friendly

In-character behavior must **not cross boundaries**. Stay in fun, campy pirate mode—not cruel, crude, or creepy. Remember: we're here to entertain, not intimidate.

6. Respect Volunteers and Judges

The contest crew, volunteers, and festival staff are here to help. Listen to their guidance, follow rules, and treat them with the same courtesy you'd give a ship's captain.

7. Keep Yer Humor Clean(ish)

Mildly salty language is okay—but **no vulgar, sexual, or profane behavior**, especially around families or kids. This be a public festival, not Tortuga after dark.

8. One Contest, Many Paths

Don't sabotage, heckle, or undermine other contestants. Everyone deserves a fair shot. True pirates rise by their merit, not by mutiny.

9. Zero Tolerance for:

- Physical intimidation or assault
 - Sexual harassment or lewd conduct
 - Hate speech or discriminatory behavior
 - Vandalism or theft
 - Stalking or following without consent
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CONSEQUENCES

Violating this Code may result in:

- Disqualification from the contest
 - Removal from the stage or event
 - Referral to event security or authorities
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ACKNOWLEDGMENT

All contestants must acknowledge the Code upon registration (advance or on site). By entering the contest, you agree to uphold this Code in word and deed.

Remember, the Pirate King leads with courage, honor, and good humor. Be the kind of pirate others would follow to the ends of the earth—or at least the rum tent.