

Principles for a Safe Space



Introduction

These championships belong to everyone. We want every competitor, coach, spectator, judge and volunteer to be present safely — as themselves, free from fear of harassment or disrespectful treatment.

These principles apply to all persons on the competition grounds, regardless of role or position.

Physical Integrity

- **Ask before touching.** Every person's body is their own. Handshakes, hugs or physical guidance always require the other person's consent — even between people who know each other.
- **Photography and sharing images.** Filming and photographing competition runs and general activity on site is permitted as normal. However, individuals must not be photographed at close range — especially in changing, warm-up or rest areas — without their consent, and images must not be shared in a way that could feel offensive or intrusive. Photographing persons who are changing their paddling gear is strictly prohibited.
- **No comments on appearance or body.** Comments relating to appearance, weight, gender, ethnicity or sexuality — even when intended as compliments — are not acceptable at this event.
- **Harassment is prohibited.** Sexual advances, unwanted touching, intimidation, following someone or repeatedly unwanted attention constitute harassment. This applies everywhere: on the water, on the riverbank, in accommodation, on social media and at social events.

Shared Responsibility

- **Everyone is responsible for their own behaviour.** Intoxication, familiarity or competitive pressure are not justifications for disrespectful behaviour and do not reduce the perpetrator's responsibility.
- **Intervene, support, report.** If you witness or experience inappropriate behaviour, you have the right and the opportunity to act: step in, support the person targeted, or report to a member of the safety team (yellow vest). Reports can also be made anonymously via the QR code provided.

Consequences

Breaches of these principles may result in a warning, removal from the competition area or withdrawal of accreditation. In serious cases, the matter may be referred to the national federation or the authorities. Decisions are made by the Safety Officer together with the competition management, after hearing those involved.

Contact

If you experience or witness a situation that breaches these principles, please contact:

- **Head of safety:** Tomi Tuomasjukka, +358 50 433 9049 (call, text, WhatsApp)
- **Anonymous report form:** QR code attached — no justification required, contact details optional.