

## **Code of Conduct OF SOWAL HOMESCHOOLERS CORPORATION**

SoWal Homeschoolers (SWH) exists to support and enrich home educating families in NW Florida through faith-rooted educational, social, recreational, charitable, and community building opportunities. SWH maintains a bible-based standard of conduct, including the command to treat others as one would want to be treated.

This Code of Conduct establishes expectations for behavior to ensure a safe, respectful, and Christ-centered environment for all participants.

SWH maintains a zero-tolerance policy for:

- Violence
- Threats
- Harassment or intimidation
- Any behavior that endangers participants or disrupts programs or activities

### **ARTICLE I – GENERAL STANDARDS OF CONDUCT**

Members shall conduct themselves in a manner that reflects respect, integrity, and cooperation. All members are expected to:

- Treat others with dignity and respect at all times
- Act in good faith and in the best interest of the SWH community
- Support a positive and cooperative environment
- Refrain from conduct that is disruptive, harmful, or contrary to SoWal Homeschoolers purpose
- Respect SWH's biblical mission, values, and standards.

All participants shall refrain from:

- Profane language
- Coarse or vulgar speech
- Sexually suggestive language or behavior

These standards apply to all SWH settings, including in-person interactions, written communication, and digital or group communication platforms.

## **ARTICLE II – PARTICIPATION AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

All participants are expected to:

- Act with integrity when at SWH events, activities, and meetings
- Communicate promptly when unable to meet obligations
- Follow all established rules, procedures, and guidelines
- Contribute to a cooperative environment
- Comply with all safety, supervision, and conduct policies of SWH
- Complete a background screening prior to participation

## **ARTICLE III – MEDICAL**

Basic first aid supplies will be available during SWH activities.

In the event of a medical emergency, designated SWH health and safety coordinators are authorized to seek emergency medical assistance and remain with the participant until appropriate care is assumed by medical professionals or a parent/guardian.

To maintain a healthy environment for all participants, individuals exhibiting symptoms of contagious illness should not attend SWH activities. Parents are responsible for ensuring their children are symptom-free prior to participation.

## **ARTICLE IV – CONFLICT RESOLUTION**

SWH seeks to resolve conflict in a manner consistent with Scripture. All members agree to follow the biblical model of reconciliation found in Matthew 18:15–17.

Concerns should be addressed privately and respectfully whenever possible, and escalated to the Board when necessary for resolution. The Board of Directors shall have authority to address disputes in a manner consistent with the best interests of the Corporation.

## **ARTICLE V – VIOLATIONS AND DISCIPLINE**

Violations of this Code of Conduct may result in corrective action, including but not limited to:

- Family Meeting for infraction
- Verbal or written warning
- Temporary suspension of participation in SWH activities
- Removal from membership, subject to Board approval

The Board of Directors shall determine appropriate action based on the nature and severity of the violation.

#### **ARTICLE VI – ACKNOWLEDGMENT**

All members acknowledge that participation in the SWH constitutes agreement to abide by this Code of Conduct and to support the SWH mission, values, and governance structure.

Please note, any concerns about child safety or incidents of inappropriate behavior should be reported immediately to co-op leadership for appropriate action. Please remember that we are ALL mandated reporters of abuse ([1-800-962-2873](tel:1-800-962-2873)).