



MEMBERSHIP STANDARD

OCA Membership Terms

Terms governing OCA membership, lifetime identity, participation, credentials, and member responsibilities

One person. One OCA identity. A whole lifetime of competition.

Membership connects a person to the Open Competition Alliance ecosystem. These Terms explain what membership means, what it does not guarantee, how OCA identity and records are used, and the standards members agree to follow.

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COMPETITION, WIDE OPEN.

1. Purpose and Acceptance

These OCA Membership Terms establish the baseline terms for individual membership in the Open Competition Alliance. By applying for, accepting, renewing where applicable, or continuing to use OCA membership status, a member agrees to these Terms and to other OCA policies that apply to the member's roles or activities.

OCA membership is designed to support participation across disciplines and roles without forcing a person into one permanent category. A member may compete, organize, officiate, complete training, hold credentials, or participate in multiple parts of the OCA ecosystem under the same identity.

THE MEMBERSHIP IDEA

OCA membership follows the person, not the role. A member's competitive history, training, credentials, sanctioned-event participation, and other OCA records may connect to one continuing OCA identity.

2. Who May Hold OCA Membership

Membership is available to individuals accepted into the OCA membership system in accordance with OCA registration requirements. OCA may establish additional eligibility, consent, age, guardian, verification, or role-specific requirements where appropriate.

Membership does not by itself establish eligibility for every competition, division, credential, official assignment, organizer role, registry, or other OCA program. Those activities may have separate requirements.

3. OCA ID and Lifetime Identity

OCA is built around the principle of one lifetime identity: one person, one OCA ID. The OCA ID is intended to provide a stable identifier across changing roles, disciplines, events, credentials, and years of participation.

Members must not create duplicate identities to evade eligibility rules, disciplinary action, credential status, participation records, or other OCA requirements. An OCA ID is personal to the member and may not be transferred, shared, sold, or represented as belonging to another person.

- Provide accurate identifying and contact information when required by OCA.
- Keep material account information reasonably current.
- Protect account access and promptly address suspected unauthorized use.
- Use the same OCA identity across OCA roles unless OCA directs otherwise for an administrative reason.
- Do not alter, falsify, duplicate, or misrepresent OCA identity records.

4. What Membership Provides

Depending on the OCA systems and programs currently available, membership may provide access to an OCA ID, member dashboard, training records, credential applications, sanctioned-event participation history, results or achievements, registry programs, organizer or official pathways, and other Alliance resources.

Features may evolve as OCA develops. The existence of membership does not require OCA to maintain every feature, registry, course, technology platform, or program indefinitely in the same form.

5. What Membership Does Not Guarantee

Membership is not an automatic license to compete, organize, judge, scorekeep, obtain a credential, receive an event assignment, enter a restricted division, or use OCA branding. Each event, credential, or program may impose additional requirements.

Membership also does not guarantee selection, placement, advancement, rankings, points, awards, event admission, reimbursement, compensation, sponsorship, or access to privately operated sanctioned events.

MEMBERSHIP IS A CONNECTION, NOT A GUARANTEE

An OCA ID can connect opportunities and records. It does not override event eligibility, published rules, organizer capacity, credential standards, sanctions, or lawful safety restrictions.

6. Member Conduct and Fair Play

Members are expected to follow the OCA Code of Conduct whenever their conduct is reasonably connected to OCA membership, OCA roles, sanctioned events, credentials, training, or representation of the Alliance.

Members must compete and participate honestly, treat others with dignity, follow legitimate event procedures, disclose material conflicts where required, avoid harassment and retaliation, protect safeguarding obligations, and avoid conduct that knowingly misrepresents OCA status or records.

7. Competition Participation

Members who participate in sanctioned competition remain subject to the published rules of the event, including eligibility, registration, division, scoring, advancement, tie, penalty, protest, appeal, safety, safeguarding, and result procedures.

A member may disagree with a competitive decision and may use an authorized protest, appeal, or correction process. Membership does not create a right to pressure officials, manipulate scores, bypass published procedures, or obtain a different result because the member is dissatisfied with a good-faith adjudicative decision.

8. Credentials, Certifications, Training, and Roles

OCA training completion, credentials, certifications, licenses, approvals, endorsements, and official roles are separate from basic membership and are governed by their applicable requirements. A member may hold no credential, one credential, or multiple credentials.

Members must represent credentials accurately and may not claim qualifications, titles, roles, or current status that OCA has not granted. Suspended, expired, revoked, withdrawn, or otherwise inactive credentials may not be represented as active.

- Complete required training or renewal obligations where applicable.
- Remain within the scope of actual knowledge, qualification, and authorization.
- Cooperate with legitimate OCA review of credential-related conduct.
- Report material changes affecting eligibility when required by policy.
- Stop using restricted credentials, seals, titles, or verification claims when status changes.

9. Records, Results, and Competition History

OCA may maintain records associated with a member's OCA ID, including training completion, credentials, sanctioned-event participation, placements, results, registry points, achievements, role history, and administrative status where applicable.

Official competition records are based on information submitted or certified through applicable event and OCA processes. When a genuine error is identified, OCA may correct the record and preserve an audit trail or status history as appropriate.

10. Privacy and Public Display

OCA seeks to keep public-facing member information proportionate to legitimate competition, credential-verification, and participation purposes. A member's internal OCA record may contain more information than a public profile or result display.

OCA systems may allow members to keep profiles minimal or to display a broader non-sensitive competition history. Event records, public results, credential verification, and other OCA functions may still require limited public identification even when a member prefers a minimal profile.

11. Use of OCA Name, Branding, and Status

Membership does not grant unrestricted rights to use OCA logos, seals, sanctioning marks, titles, or branding. Members may accurately identify themselves as OCA members where appropriate, but may not imply an endorsement, credential, sanction, partnership, or official role that does not exist.

OCA branding must not be used to imply that OCA endorses a political, commercial, personal, or organizational position that OCA has not approved.

12. Safety, Safeguarding, and Lawful Participation

Members must comply with applicable OCA safeguarding and safety standards, sanctioned-event rules, venue requirements, and lawful instructions intended to protect participants. Conduct involving minors or vulnerable adults carries heightened responsibilities.

OCA membership, training, credentials, or sanctioning do not replace applicable law, emergency response, background screening, professional licensing, insurance requirements, venue rules, or discipline-specific safety obligations.

13. Reports, Reviews, and Cooperation

OCA may receive and review good-faith reports concerning member conduct, competition integrity, safeguarding, credential misuse, retaliation, identity misuse, or other material policy concerns when the matter falls within OCA's reasonable jurisdiction.

Members are expected to cooperate reasonably with legitimate OCA administrative review. OCA may take proportionate interim measures when necessary to protect participant safety, safeguarding, competition integrity, records, or the fairness of an ongoing process.

14. Suspension, Restriction, or Termination of Membership

OCA may restrict, suspend, or terminate membership or related privileges when serious or repeated noncompliance, fraud, material misrepresentation, safeguarding concerns, competition-integrity violations, credential misuse, retaliation, or other conduct makes continued participation inconsistent with OCA standards.

A response may be limited to a particular role, credential, event, or privilege when a narrower measure is appropriate. The form of review and response may vary according to the seriousness of the issue, available evidence, role, risk, and applicable OCA policy.

15. Changes to Membership Status and OCA Programs

A member may stop participating in OCA programs or request account changes through available OCA procedures. Some historical records may remain where OCA has a legitimate need to preserve official event results, sanctioning history, credential status, disciplinary status, audit trails, or other organizational records.

OCA may revise membership systems, benefits, requirements, policies, or program structures over time. Material policy changes should be published through appropriate OCA channels.

16. Relationship to Other Rules and Policies

These Terms operate alongside the OCA Code of Conduct, sanctioning standards, safeguarding and safety policies, credential rules, event rules, registry rules, and other applicable OCA materials. Where a more specific OCA policy governs a particular activity, the more specific requirement should generally control that situation.

Related OCA Materials

- OCA Code of Conduct.
- Competition Integrity and Safeguarding Policy.
- Sanctioned Activity Safety Policy.
- OCA Event Sanctioning Guide.
- Applicable credential, registry, event, protest, appeal, and result-correction rules.

17. Membership Commitment

OCA membership is an invitation to participate in a broad competition ecosystem without losing the standards that make competition worth trusting. Members may be ambitious, experimental, intense, traditional, unconventional, serious, playful, or several of those things at once.

The common requirement is simple: participate honestly, respect the people around the competition, protect safety and safeguarding, use OCA status accurately, and leave the competitive record more trustworthy than you found it.

THE OCA MEMBERSHIP STANDARD

One identity. Honest records. Fair participation. Respect for people. Room to compete at almost anything.

WHO'S GAME?

These Membership Terms establish general OCA membership expectations. They do not replace applicable law or more specific OCA program, event, credential, safety, safeguarding, or competition rules.