

TOUCHDOWN CLUB OF NEW ORLEANS CODE OF CONDUCT

Although some club members may feel that a Code of Conduct is unnecessary, despite our good intentions, at some point or another we say or do things that we later regret. We are sometimes our own worst enemies. A Code of Conduct serves a number of purposes. Since some of us have a different "common sense" perspective than others, the development of the Code of Conduct will generate conversations that build common understanding. Therefore, we feel it is important to put the Code of Conduct in writing so there will be NO EXCUSES. Members falling back on the excuse "It's not in the Code of Conduct!" will only make us add more specific detail. So we ask that you please USE COMMON SENSE; be considerate to members and guests at our functions; follow the Golden Rule.

The Code of Conduct is established to set the guidelines and procedures for acceptable behavior for members, as well as their personal guest(s), while attending The Touchdown Club of New Orleans meetings and events. The Code is designed to protect the integrity of the Club and our working relationship with the management of the Saints.

The Club currently enjoys a very good relationship with the Saints office and coaching staff. All members must do their part to support the club by helping to keep this relationship on track or improve it in any way they can. Don't bite the hand that feeds you! A good relationship with Saints representatives is vital to our club.

Bear in mind that every club member represents the club to some degree and, after disclosing themselves as members, should try to conduct themselves with decorum and politeness when socializing with Saints personnel at or away from club sponsored events. Members witnessing inappropriate conduct by a "fellow member" should immediately do whatever is necessary to resolve the issue with the "fellow member" in a firm but polite manner or by calling the matter to the attention of one of the officers of the Club.

As members of a "social club" supporting a professional NFL team, it is imperative that we remind ourselves and our fellow club members that we, too, must also act "professionally" by respecting not only other club members, but particularly our Saints guests that have kindly volunteered to attend our meetings and sponsored events. The Club encourages and asks members to personally express their gratitude to whomever shows up as our guest speaker(s) and ask that they return as guests again in the future.

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1. Respect the rules and policies of the Club.
2. Appearance/Dress: The Club asks members to maintain a “business casual” dress code (coat required) for Dinner/Annual Meetings. Jeans should never be worn to Dinner/Annual Meetings unless otherwise specified in Club announcements. Other sponsored Club events may require “coat and tie”.
3. Act professionally with decorum and politeness to protect the integrity of the Club. Refrain from conduct that might be viewed as detrimental to the welfare, interests, or character of the Club.
4. Members and their personal guests are expected to behave in a socially acceptable manner treating all members and guests with courtesy and respect regardless of race, color, creed, national origin, ancestry, sex, marital status, disability, religious or political affiliation, age or sexual orientation.
5. Members should never contact the Saints office or any Saints personnel regarding Club functions. Our Club President is the only member authorized to communicate with the Saints office.
6. Allow our Club President (or assigned Club officer) to greet guest speakers upon their arrival to meetings or Club sponsored events, introduce them to attendees, and seat them for dinner. Kindly hold your autograph requests until after our guests speak. Generally, this will be at the conclusion of our dinner meeting.
7. Refrain from pestering or annoying our guest speakers with prolonged questioning or critical remarks.
8. If you are also a member of another organization, you should never solicit our guests to another organization’s functions while you are attending our meetings or events. Furthermore, prior to, during, or following our Club's meetings or events, members should never identify themselves in an official sense as "representatives of another organization" to the Saints players, personnel, or to the News Media in the Club's event photos or articles.
9. Articles for guest autographs should be kept at a minimum of two per member per meeting or event, unless otherwise notations are made to a particular event and should not be intentionally acquired for personal or commercial resale for profit.
10. Personally express your gratitude to whomever shows up as our guest speaker(s) and ask that they return as guests again in the future.
11. Welcome new members to the Club and offer assistance with questions they may have.
12. Support the Club by attending meetings and events.
13. Give assistance to one or more Club Committees - Club members should get involved with club activities.
14. Members are responsible for their personal guest’s behavior.
15. Membership Dues and advance payments for events should be made promptly.
16. Alcohol and Drugs: Abide by local laws. Members and guests should never come to meetings or events intoxicated or under the influence of illegal drugs.
17. Aggressive and/or violent behavior is totally unacceptable and will not be tolerated.
18. Members are required to immediately reimburse the Club for NSF charges on checks deposited for membership dues, event tickets, or any other payment to the Club. Failure to do so will result in loss of membership, cancellation of event tickets, or other penalties designated by the Board of Directors.
19. The Club’s email list should be used ONLY by the Club’s Officers, Committee Members, or the Administrator to keep members informed of Club matters only and should NEVER be used by a member to send emails that are “non-club” related or personal messages that are political or religious in nature.
20. When attending Saints-managed functions, members and their personal guests are expected to follow all instructions, rules, policies, etc., as described by Saints staff members. (see #14)