



Irish Pipe Band Association Code of Conduct for Trustees

By reading this document and accepting the role of a charity trustee of the Irish Pipe Band Association, all charity trustees agree to the following responsibilities:

General Conduct

- Trustees are required to act with honesty and integrity and exercise good judgement which may include seeking professional advice on appropriate matters on which charity trustees do not have relevant expertise.
- Trustees are required to act in the best interests of the charity at all times.

Independence

- Trustees are required to act independently, particularly in relation to assets, legal and regulatory obligations.
- Trustees should conduct themselves with integrity and in a manner which does not damage or undermine the reputation of the charity or its volunteers and employees.
- More specifically Trustees:
 - should not place themselves under any financial or other obligation to outside individuals or organisations that might seek to influence them in the performance of their duties;
 - must avoid actual impropriety and any appearance of improper behaviour.
- Trustees must not act in order to gain financial or other benefits for themselves or for any persons connected to them such as their family, their friends, or any organisation that they own, manage or work for.
- Trustees should avoid accepting gifts and hospitality that might reasonably be thought to influence them in carrying out their role as charity trustee. Any gifts or hospitality received in any connection to Irish Pipe Band Association should not have a saleable monetary value and should be declared to the Board.

Trustee Roles

Trustees should:

- Understand and perform their roles and responsibilities to the best of their abilities at all times.
- Be prepared to provide adequate time and commitment as required to fulfil the role of charity trustee, adequately preparing for meetings and participating in committees and special events when required.

Meetings

Trustees should:

- Aim to attend all meetings, contribute appropriately and effectively, and avoid dominating the contributions of others.
- Always respect the authority of the Chairperson of the board, and the Chairperson of any meeting.
- Bring a fair and open-minded view to all discussions of the board, maintain a respectful balance between speaking and listening, treating different views with respect, and ensuring that all decisions are made in the best interests of the charity.
- Bring a genuinely independent perspective to enhance decision-making, given that trustees share responsibility for board decisions.
- Ensure their contributions are informed and impartial when presenting views on topics in meetings while listening to and respecting the input and experience of other charity trustees.

Volunteers within the Irish Pipe Band Association

Trustees should:

- Aim to support volunteers in carrying out their duties and always, in terms of their conduct, serve as an example of how everyone in the charity should conduct themselves in order to reflect the values of the charity.
- Work considerately and fairly with everyone in a way that respects diversity, different roles and boundaries and avoids giving offence.
- Accept and respect the difference in roles between the board on the one hand and volunteers on the other, ensuring that the board and volunteers effectively and cohesively for the benefit of the Irish Pipe Band Association and develop a mutually supportive and loyal relationship by:
 - respecting management arrangements and avoiding any actions that might undermine such arrangements;

- not interfering in the performance by volunteers of duties delegated to them within the Irish Pipe Band Association while ensuring that volunteers working for the association are held to account through the Chairman, Secretary or appropriate delegated individual or committee, as appropriate.

Legal Requirements and Policies

Trustees must:

- Act in accordance with the Irish Pipe Band Association's Constitution, Rules and Policies and must ensure, to the best of their ability, that, the IPBA complies with all applicable laws including charity law, health and safety law and data protection law.
- Promote and preserve the obligations of confidentiality about sensitive board matters. However, the requirement for confidentiality may not apply if it becomes necessary for the trustee to inform the Charities Regulator or any other statutory body about any matter, which could threaten the future of the Irish Pipe Band Association's or could represent a breach of any law with which the IPBA is required to comply.
- Abide by the Irish Pipe Band Association's Conflict of Interest and Loyalties Policy and ensure the Irish Pipe Band Association's Conflict of Interest and Loyalties register is completed and updated as required.
- Abide by any equality, diversity, safeguarding, health and safety, bullying and harassment policies and any other policies agreed by the board.
- Ensure that claims for out of pocket expenses are made in accordance with agreed procedures.

Where an Irish Pipe Band Association's trustee is found to be in breach of the standards outlined by the NEC in this Code of Conduct he or she will be asked to meet with the National Executive Council to assess his or her suitability for the role. A substantive breach of the Code of Conduct, as determined by the National Executive Council, by a trustee may result in the trustee's tenure being terminated.

This Code of Conduct for trustees, should be reviewed at yearly intervals or as appropriate.

A continual term of office for a trustee will be five years at any one time.

Cumann Buidhean Píobaire na hÉireann

Trustee (1) Signed

Name Con Ó Conaill

Date

Trustee (2) Signed

Name Brian MacMahon

Date

Trustee (3) Signed

Name Seamus Russell

Date

Trustee (4) Signed

Name Dave Burke

Date

Cumann Buidhean Píobaire na hÉireann

Trustee (5) Signed

Name Ann Sheehan

Date

Trustee (6) Signed

Name Noel O'Mahony

Date

Trustee (7) Signed

Name Paddy Cronin

Date