

EMPRESS CODE OF CONDUCT

Last Updated: May 24, 2026 *Applies to all players, substitutes, coaches, team captains, managers, and affiliated spectators.*

1. Organizational Authority

EMPRESS operates as a privately administered competitive gaming organization and retains exclusive authority over all matters relating to league governance, disciplinary action, tournament structure, rule enforcement, and competitive integrity.

EMPRESS does not manage internal team operations. Responsibility for team logistics; including roster management, scheduling, and substitute acquisition is fully delegated to appointed Team Captains and Managers.

All rulings made by EMPRESS staff are **final, binding, and not subject to appeal.**

2. Eligibility & Participation

Rule: All participants must be eligible to compete before playing in any EMPRESS match.

Definition: To be eligible, a participant must:

- Meet the minimum age requirements under applicable law and Riot Games policy.
- Be registered in EMPRESS under a single primary Riot Games account.
- Meet the division rank requirements listed in the EMPRESS Tournament Handbook.
- Have received prior approval from EMPRESS staff.

Participation in EMPRESS is voluntary and subject to staff approval at all times. EMPRESS reserves the unrestricted right to approve, deny, suspend, or revoke participation at any time without obligation to provide justification.

Sanctions:

- Playing while ineligible (wrong rank, unregistered account, unapproved substitute): **Match forfeit** for all games played by the ineligible player.
 - Team Captain knowingly fielding an ineligible player: **Team disqualification.**
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3. Conduct & Sportsmanship

Rule: All participants must conduct themselves in a professional and respectful manner at all times while associated with EMPRESS — including in-game, in voice chat, on Discord, and on any external platform when representing the league.

Definition: The following are strictly prohibited:

- Harassment, hate speech, or slurs targeting race, gender, nationality, sexual orientation, disability, or any other characteristic.
- Threats, intimidation, or targeted toxicity toward any player, staff member, or spectator.
- Doxxing, impersonation, or sexual misconduct of any kind.
- Any behavior deemed by EMPRESS staff to be harmful to the integrity or reputation of the league.

Sanctions:

- First offense (general toxicity, disrespect): **Formal warning** issued to the player and their Team Captain.
 - Second offense / escalated first offense: **Player suspended for a number of matches decided by EMPRESS staff. Teams responsible for finding eligible substitutes.**
 - Severe offense (slurs, threats, doxxing, sexual misconduct): **Immediate and permanent ban** from EMPRESS. Team disqualification at staff discretion.
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4. Competitive Integrity

Rule: All matches must reflect genuine competitive effort, played under official Riot Games conditions. Any attempt to gain an unfair advantage or manipulate results is strictly prohibited.

Definition: Violations of competitive integrity include, but are not limited to:

- **Cheating:** Use of aimbots, wallhacks, macros, scripts, or any third-party software not available to all players through the standard Riot Games client.
- **Smurfing:** Competing on any account other than a participant's registered primary account in order to misrepresent rank or identity.
- **Account Sharing:** A registered account being used by anyone other than its registered owner during tournament play.
- **Boosting:** Having another player artificially inflate a registered account's rank to meet eligibility requirements.
- **Match Fixing:** Any deliberate effort to produce a result that does not reflect genuine competitive play.
- **Collusion:** Any private agreement between competing parties to affect standings, bracket outcomes, or prize distribution.
- **Intentional Throwing:** Deliberately underperforming to manipulate match outcomes.

- **Stream Sniping:** Using any live broadcast or outside information source to gain real-time knowledge of enemy positions or actions during a match.

EMPRESS may request account verification, VOD review, or statistical analysis at any time to investigate suspected violations.

Sanctions:

- **Cheating (confirmed):** Immediate and permanent ban of the offending player. All wins obtained during their participation may be reviewed and overturned. The team may continue only with a valid, approved substitute.
 - **Account sharing / smurfing / boosting:** Match forfeit for all games played in violation. Offending player disqualified. Repeat or coordinated violations: **Full team disqualification.**
 - **Match fixing / collusion (confirmed):** Immediate disqualification of all involved players and teams. All matches forfeited.
 - **Stream sniping — first offense:** Round or map forfeit at admin discretion. **Second offense:** Full match forfeit and player disqualification.
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5. Team Captain & Manager Responsibilities

Rule: Team Captains and Managers bear full responsibility for their team's operations and compliance with EMPRESS rules.

Definition: Team Captains and Managers are solely responsible for:

- Team creation and roster management.
- Recruiting and approving substitutes who meet rank and eligibility requirements.
- Scheduling scrim, and matches that are not broadcasted.
- Ensuring all players are registered, approved, and eligible before competing.
- Replacing players who leave, are banned, become inactive, or are unavailable.

EMPRESS is **not** responsible for finding or assigning substitutes under any circumstances. Failure to maintain a valid roster does not constitute grounds for rescheduling or special accommodations.

Sanctions:

- Failure to field a full, eligible roster: **Match forfeit** (see Section 7 for attendance details).
 - Repeated failure to maintain a valid roster: **Team removal from the league** at staff discretion.
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6. Substitutions & Roster Compliance

Rule: All substitute players must be approved by EMPRESS staff before participating in any match.

Definition: To be a valid substitute, a player must:

- Meet the division rank requirements in the EMPRESS Tournament Handbook.
- Be approved by EMPRESS staff **prior** to competition.
- Compete using their own registered primary Riot account.

Sanctions:

- Fielding an unapproved substitute: **Match forfeit.**
 - Team Captain knowingly fielding an ineligible substitute: **Formal warning.** Repeat offense: **Team disqualification.**
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7. Scheduling & Attendance

Rule: Teams must be present and ready to play within the designated match window provided by EMPRESS. Team Captains are responsible for ensuring full team attendance.

Definition: "Ready to play" means all 5 players are present in the designated lobby with no unresolved technical issues. EMPRESS is not obligated to accommodate roster issues, player absences, or internal team conflicts.

Sanctions:

- **5 minutes late with no communication to staff:** Formal warning.
 - **10 minutes late or no-show without prior notice:** Match forfeit.
 - **15 minutes late with prior notice:** Map forfeit.
 - **Two or more no-shows across the season:** Team disqualification from the tournament.
 - **Failure to respond to scheduling matters in a timely manner:** Staff discretion.
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8. Disputes & Staff Communication

Rule: All disputes must be submitted privately to EMPRESS staff through the ticket channel. Players and teams may not take disputes into their own hands publicly.

Definition: A dispute is any disagreement about a match result, rule interpretation, scheduling, or conduct. Public disputes, callouts of staff decisions, or any attempt to undermine EMPRESS authority, including on social media, Discord, or within matches, is prohibited.

Sanctions:

- Filing a dispute improperly (spamming staff, arguing publicly): **Warning.**
- Publicly attempting to undermine staff authority or rulings: **Suspension or ban** at staff discretion.
- Threatening or harassing EMPRESS staff: **Immediate and permanent ban.**

All EMPRESS rulings are final.

9. Streaming, Media & Content Rights

By participating in EMPRESS, all participants grant EMPRESS the perpetual, royalty-free right to stream, record, broadcast, and distribute gameplay footage, voice communications, usernames, and likenesses for promotional and commercial purposes. No compensation is implied or owed.

10. Limitation of Liability

EMPRESS is not liable for:

- Team disbandment or internal player disputes.
- Missed matches due to roster failures or player unavailability.
- Penalties applied to Riot Games accounts.
- Technical issues affecting gameplay or connectivity.

Participation in EMPRESS is voluntary and entirely at personal risk.

11. Termination

EMPRESS reserves the unrestricted right to terminate any participant's involvement at any time, without notice, justification, or compensation, for any reason including but not limited to violations of this Code of Conduct.

12. Acceptance

By participating in EMPRESS, all individuals confirm they have read, understood, and agreed to comply with every term outlined in this Code of Conduct. Non-compliance constitutes a breach of agreement and grounds for immediate removal from the league.

EMPRESS staff retain sole discretion in all matters of interpretation, enforcement, and sanctioning.