

Safer Spaces Policy

Philly Queer Slowdance strives to create a space that is safe, welcoming, and inclusive for everyone, regardless of age, race, gender, sexuality, ability, experience, background, or other identifying features. By attending our event, you are agreeing to help make that happen. Here's how:

It's OK to say "No" to a dance, or any activity, without offering an explanation.

It's OK if someone says "No" to you. Celebrate people taking care of themselves. Take the opportunity to ask someone else to dance!

Understand that certain activities require consent. Make sure you have consent before dancing with someone, changing your embrace, sharing weight (dips, etc), cuddling, photographing them, or initiating explicit conversations.

Any explicit disrespect or disregard of enthusiastic consent will not be tolerated at Philly Queer Slowdance and associated events.

Do not bring firearms or other weapons into this space.

Philly Queer Slowdance does not tolerate any form of harassment. Harassment includes offensive verbal comments (related to gender, age, sexual orientation, disability, physical appearance, body size, race, OR religion), sexual images in public spaces, deliberate intimidation, stalking, following, harassing photography or recording, sustained disruption of events, inappropriate physical contact, and unwelcome sexual attention.

Keep an eye out for each other – let an organizer or volunteer know if you see any behavior going down at Philly Queer Slowdance that doesn't seem awesome.

Sometimes, even when we're trying to be awesome, we wind up doing something that makes someone else feel unsafe or uncomfortable. If you are asked to stop any behaviors, either by an organizer or fellow attendee, you are expected to listen respectfully and comply immediately. If you have ideas about ways we could make our community safer and more inclusive, we want to hear about it!

When possible, dance organizers and volunteers will attempt to work with anyone who violates this code to correct the behavior *before* any punitive steps are taken. Extreme or repeated violations of this code, or refusal to cooperate with organizers or volunteers, may be met with consequences up to and including expulsion from the event without a refund and suspension from future Philly Queer Slowdance events.

Philly Queer Slowdance encourages you to take initiative in respecting, setting, discussing, and defending boundaries. If you feel uncomfortable or unsafe confronting a situation, please talk to

an organizer or volunteer. We take all complaints seriously and are committed to resolving issues to the greatest extent possible. Anyone who reports a safe space violation has the right to request that their information be kept entirely anonymous, and no further action will be taken without the reporter's consent, unless further reports of the same infraction are received.

This policy only applies to behaviors or actions that occur at Philly Queer Slowdance events. This policy is heavily inspired by the [Powerhouse Blues Safer Spaces policy](#).