Code of Conduct

Change Log

NAME	DATE	CHANGE	VERSION
Braden T., Will H., Chris W., Grant M.	01/01/25	Comprehensive CoC Revision.	1.0

Code of Conduct

Southwest Virtual Airlines (SVA) is dedicated to fostering a welcoming, respectful, and engaging environment for all members. As a not-for-profit community of aviation enthusiasts, we hold ourselves to high standards of conduct. This Code of Conduct outlines the expectations for behavior across all SVA platforms, activities, and interactions.

By participating in SVA, members agree to uphold the values of respect, professionalism, inclusivity, and integrity. Violations of this Code may result in disciplinary actions, up to and including termination of membership and legal action where applicable.

1. **General Principles**

    1.1 Respect and Inclusivity: Treat all members with dignity and respect, regardless of their background, experience level, or perspectives. Harassment, discrimination, or bullying of any kind is strictly prohibited.

    1.2 Professionalism: Conduct yourself in a manner that reflects positively on SVA, especially when representing the organization on external platforms, events, or collaborations.

    1.3 Community Focus: All interactions should contribute to the enjoyment and growth of the flight simulation hobby and the SVA community.

2. **Behavior and Communication**

    2.2 Respectful Communication: Use courteous and professional language in all forms of communication, including Discord, LUVCARS chat, emails, and social media. Avoid offensive, inflammatory, or divisive comments.

    2.3 Prohibited Content: Refrain from posting or sharing:
    - **2.3.1**   Political, religious, or controversial content.
    - **2.3.2**   Graphic, violent, or explicit material.
    - **2.3.3**   Spam, advertisements, or promotions unrelated to aviation or SVA.

    2.4 Constructive Dialogue: Provide feedback and criticism in a respectful and constructive manner. Focus on solutions rather than assigning blame.

3. **Use of SVA Resources**

    3.1 Aviation-Focused: Use SVA platforms solely for aviation-related discussions and activities. Non-aviation content is discouraged unless approved by the leadership team.

    3.2 Copyright Compliance: All SVA materials, tools, and resources are copyrighted. Unauthorized sharing, reproduction, or modification without explicit permission is prohibited.

    3.3 Media Contributions: Any media shared on SVA platforms (e.g., screenshots, videos) may be used by SVA for promotional or branding purposes**.**

4. Privacy and Security

4.1 Member Privacy: Respect the privacy of fellow members. Do not share personal information, private messages, or sensitive details without consent.

4.2 Data Integrity: Avoid engaging in activities that compromise the security of SVA systems, such as unauthorized access or sharing of proprietary information.

5. Harassment and Discrimination

5.1 Zero Tolerance: Harassment, including verbal abuse, intimidation, or inappropriate comments based on race, gender, religion, sexual orientation, or other personal characteristics, is not tolerated.

5.2 Safe Environment: Report any instances of harassment or discrimination to SVA leadership immediately for investigation and resolution.

6. Legal and Ethical Compliance

6.1 Lawful Conduct: Comply with the laws and regulations of your country and the jurisdiction where you access SVA resources.

6.2 No Illegal Activity: SVA platforms must not be used for illegal activities. SVA cooperates fully with law enforcement investigations when required.

6.3 Fair Use of Resources: Do not exploit SVA resources for personal profit or to advance unauthorized ventures.

7. Mentorship and Learning

7.1 Knowledge Sharing: Encourage collaboration by sharing insights, resources, and expertise to help others grow within the flight simulation community.

7.2 Supportive Environment: Experienced members are encouraged to mentor and support new members, fostering a culture of continuous learning.

8. Conflict Resolution

8.1 Report Issues Promptly: Members should report conflicts, rule violations, or concerns to SVA leadership through designated channels.

8.2 Resolution Process: SVA leadership will investigate reports promptly and impartially. Confidentiality will be maintained to the max extent possible.

8.3 Appeals: Members subject to disciplinary actions may appeal decisions following the established appeals process outlined by SVA leadership.

9. Enforcement and Disciplinary Actions

9.1 Investigation: Violations of this Code will be investigated thoroughly. Leadership will determine appropriate actions based on the severity of the offense.

9.2 Consequences: Disciplinary actions may include:

- **9.2.1** Verbal or written warnings.
- **9.2.2** Temporary suspension from SVA platforms or activities.
- **9.2.3** Permanent removal from the organization.
- **9.2.4** Legal action where applicable.

9.3 Leadership Discretion: SVA leadership reserves the right to take immediate action in severe cases to protect the community.

10. Continuous Improvement

10.1 Code Updates: This Code of Conduct will be reviewed periodically to ensure it aligns with the evolving needs of SVA. Members are encouraged to provide feedback for improvements.

10.2 Commitment to Values: Upholding this Code is essential to maintaining a vibrant, respectful, and inclusive community. Members are reminded of their responsibility to adhere to these principles at all times.

By engaging with SVA, you acknowledge and agree to this Code of Conduct. Together, we can create a thriving, respectful community that reflects the best of the aviation simulation hobby.

Legal notice

Southwest Virtual Airlines (SVA) and its partners are not affiliated with Southwest Airlines or any other real-world airline. Southwest Virtual Airlines is a fully owned non-for-profit entity of the SWAVA Corporation. Southwest Virtual is an organization instituted to enhance the enjoyment of the flight simulation hobby and is not interested in engaging in for-profit business activity. Southwest Virtual Airlines utilizes the logo of Southwest Airlines under license from Southwest Airlines. This usage is governed by a licensing agreement that ensures compliance with intellectual property rights. The inclusion of the Southwest Airlines logo is for simulation purposes only and does not imply any direct affiliation or endorsement by Southwest Airlines.

Privacy Policy

Southwest Virtual Airlines adheres to a straightforward privacy policy for the Virtual Airline (VA). We do not collect personal information from our Pilots for third-party use. Pilots applying to Southwest Virtual Airlines must use their real names and disclose their actual age. The collected information is solely utilized for the hiring and membership process. Demographic data from Pilot applications is securely stored to tailor programs for our Pilots. Southwest Virtual Airlines limits the use of personal information to VA purposes only, ensuring the confidentiality of such data on our web servers. The display of certain information on the password-protected pages of the Southwest Virtual Airlines website is limited to the Pilots' name, join date, and country of residence. This information is accessible only to the Southwest Virtual Airlines Executive Staff and is not shared with any private entities or individuals, in compliance with the Data Protection Act 1988.

Links to Other Sites

Southwest Virtual Airlines advises users that its website contains links to external sites and is not responsible for the privacy practices of those sites. Users are encouraged to review the privacy statements of each site collecting personally identifiable information. This privacy statement is applicable exclusively to information gathered on the Southwest Virtual Airlines website.

Piracy

Southwest Virtual Airlines strictly prohibits the distribution of pirated software or any unauthorized intellectual property. We are dedicated to combating piracy and will take decisive action against any member engaging in such activities. Violators will be immediately placed on administrative leave, and details of any piracy transactions will be promptly reported to the relevant software developer and/or authorized distributor. Southwest Virtual Airlines maintains a zero-tolerance policy towards the unauthorized distribution of intellectual property.