Invercargill Rowing Club Code of Conduct when representing the club

The primary role of the Invercargill Rowing Club is to offer coaches and members the opportunity to be involved in the sport to the highest level of their ability. This requires all members to be focused on the preparation and competition that comes with being part of the sport and not let conduct appear at any time that could inhibit our performance or bring our club or rowing in general into disrepute.
This Code of Conduct applies in all activities where members are representing the club, including but not limited to, fund-raising, training, and regattas.

I. General Conduct (Applicable to All Members)
These rules apply equally to **Youth** and **Adult** rowers, coaches, and support staff.

1. **Respect:** Respect all members of the club, members of other clubs, and the general public.
2. **Property:** Respect the property of the club, all members, other clubs, and the public.
3. **Substance Use (Illicit):** The use of illegal drugs and smoking/vaping is strictly unacceptable and will not be tolerated.
4. **Language:** Profane or abusive language, either on or off the water, is unacceptable and reflects poorly on the club.
5. **Club Reputation:** Do nothing that could bring club members, the club, or rowing in general into disrepute.

II. Guidelines for Youth Rowers (Underage Athletes)
These rules focus on the specific safety and behavioural expectations for athletes under the legal drinking age.

1. **Alcohol: No alcohol is to be consumed by any underage athlete, under any circumstances.**
2. **Attendance/Whereabouts (Away Regattas):** Absence without leave from the trip manager at away regattas is unacceptable. Your whereabouts must be known to the trip manager at all times.
3. **Curfew:** All established curfews are to be strictly observed.
4. **Vehicles:** No athlete may take their own vehicle to any event unless approved by the trip manager. If approved, they may not carry any passengers other than those explicitly sanctioned by the trip manager.

III. Guidelines for Adult Rowers & Members (Ages 18+)
These rules address the standards expected of adult members, particularly in relation to the presence of youth rowers.

1. **Alcohol (General):** When participating in club activities **without underage athletes present**, moderate and responsible alcohol consumption may be permitted.

2. **Alcohol (In Contact with Minors): Adult members must not consume alcohol if they are in a supervisory role or in the presence of underage rowers whose parents/guardians are not present.** (This addresses the club's requirement to maintain a professional and safe environment for minors.)
3. **Alcohol (Coaches):** Adult rowers/members who are acting as a coach or in an official supervisory role **should not consume alcohol** while on duty or actively involved in training/competition with athletes of any age.
4. **Attendance/Whereabouts (Away Regattas):** Absence without leave from the trip manager at away regattas is unacceptable. Make sure your whereabouts are known at all times.

Disciplinary Action

Failure to abide by the Code of Conduct will involve disciplinary action. This action may include:

- Immediate return home from away regattas (at the member's own expense, without refund of regatta fees and costs).
- Disciplinary meeting with an appropriate club representative or representatives and, where appropriate, parent(s).
- Loss of any sponsorship.
- Suspension from training or regattas.
- Withdrawal from a crew.
- Expulsion from membership (without refund of fees).