

OVERLORD SHOW – Disciplinary Code for Exhibitors, Reenactors and Participants.

Amended 2026

1. Purpose

This is a large public event involving historic vehicles, reenactment groups, living history displays, pyrotechnics, vehicle movements, and significant public attendance.

This Code exists to help ensure that the event remains:

- Safe
- Enjoyable
- Well organised
- Respectful to exhibitors, volunteers, staff, and visitors alike

The vast majority of issues at the show are resolved informally through communication and cooperation. This document sets out the standards expected of exhibitors and reenactors, along with the process available to Show Management where behaviour or conduct becomes an issue.

This Code applies to:

- Vehicle exhibitors
- Reenactors and living history groups
- Display contributors
- Individuals granted exhibitor or reenactor access

This document should be read alongside the **Overlord Show Exhibitor Standing Orders**. Compliance with both documents is a condition of attendance.

2. General Expectations

All exhibitors and reenactors are expected to:

- Behave in a safe, respectful, and cooperative manner
- Follow reasonable instructions from marshals, stewards, security, and Show Management
- Treat volunteers, staff, exhibitors, and members of the public courteously
- Help maintain a positive atmosphere throughout the event

Marshals and coordinators are present to help the show run safely and smoothly. Participants are expected to work constructively with them at all times.

3. Safety Requirements

3.1 Vehicle Movement

Vehicle movement is one of the highest-risk activities at the show. All drivers must:

- Follow marshal directions
- Observe designated movement routes and timings
- Drive at walking pace unless otherwise authorised
- Exercise particular care around pedestrians and crowded areas

Dangerous, reckless, or unauthorised driving may result in immediate intervention by Show Management.

3.2 Weapons, Pyrotechnics, and Displays

All weapons, blank firing weapons, pyrotechnics, and demonstrations must:

- Comply with UK law
- Comply with show rules and approvals
- Be handled safely and responsibly at all times

Unsafe handling or unauthorised use may result in disciplinary action or removal from activities.

3.3 Alcohol and Intoxication

Participants involved in vehicle movement, weapons handling, or other safety-critical activities must not be under the influence of alcohol or any substance likely to impair judgement or safe operation.

Excessive intoxication or behaviour creating risk to others may result in intervention by Show Management.

4. Behaviour and Conduct

4.1 Professional and Respectful Conduct

Exhibitors and reenactors are ambassadors for the event and are expected to:

- Behave respectfully toward visitors and fellow participants
- Avoid conduct likely to bring the show into disrepute
- Support a welcoming and family-friendly environment

4.2 Respect for the Site

Participants are expected to:

- Keep pitches and camping areas reasonably tidy
- Respect the site, facilities, infrastructure, and surrounding land
- Dispose of waste responsibly

4.3 Cooperation with Marshals and Staff

Marshals, stewards, and coordinators are appointed to help manage the event safely and efficiently. Participants are expected to cooperate with reasonable instructions and raise concerns respectfully through the appropriate channels.

Where disagreements arise, these should be handled calmly and constructively.

Repeated refusal to follow reasonable safety or operational instructions may result in formal action under this Code.

4.4 Concerns, Complaints, and Escalation

Participants are welcome to raise concerns or disagreements with Show Management. However, this should be done respectfully and through the appropriate channels.

Attempts to avoid compliance by dismissing marshal instructions or attempting to pressure volunteers or staff are not appropriate and may lead to further intervention by Show Management.

4.5 Withdrawal from Activities or the Event

Participants are free to leave the event at any time outside of public opening hours. However, the Show Management asks that disagreements are handled constructively and without threats or ultimatums, particularly where safety decisions are involved.

During public opening hours, vehicle movement restrictions and marshal instructions must continue to be followed for public safety reasons.

The show relies on cooperation and mutual respect between organisers, volunteers, exhibitors, reenactors, and visitors alike.

4.6 Participation and Event Capacity

The Overlord Show operates with limited exhibitor and reenactor capacity each year, and demand for places regularly exceeds the space available.

Continued participation therefore depends on maintaining the standards of conduct, safety, and cooperation expected at the event.

5. Disciplinary Procedure

Most issues can be resolved informally through discussion and cooperation. Where this is not possible, the following process may be used.

The Show Management reserves the right to move directly to a higher stage where behaviour is serious or immediate safety concerns exist.

Stage 1 – Verbal Warning

A verbal warning may be issued by:

- A Senior Marshal
- Area Coordinator
- Show Management

This is intended to:

- Explain the issue
- Clarify expectations
- Resolve concerns informally wherever possible

Where an individual is part of a reenactment group or club, the group leader may also be asked to assist in resolving the matter and ensuring future compliance.

Stage 2 – Final Written Warning

A Final Written Warning may be issued by Show Management where:

- Earlier intervention has not resolved the issue, or
- Conduct is sufficiently serious to require formal intervention.

The warning will normally:

- Outline the issue or incident
- State the expected improvement or corrective action
- Make clear that continued misconduct may result in removal from the event

A record may be retained for consideration in future applications.

Where appropriate, group leaders may also be informed.

Stage 3 – Removal from Site

Show Management may require an individual, vehicle, or group to leave the event where behaviour:

- Creates a significant safety risk
- Is aggressive, threatening, or abusive
- Seriously disrupts the running of the event
- Continues despite previous intervention

Security staff may assist where necessary.

Stage 4 – Post-Event Review and Sanctions

Following the event, Show Management may review serious incidents or repeated behavioural concerns.

This may result in:

- Conditions on future attendance
- Temporary suspension from future events
- Refusal of future applications
- Restrictions on particular activities or displays

Any decisions will normally take into account:

- The seriousness of the incident
- Previous conduct
- Actions taken to resolve the issue
- Cooperation shown during the event

6. Group Leader Responsibilities

Group leaders and coordinators play an important role in helping the event run safely and smoothly.

They are expected to:

- Ensure members are aware of show rules and expectations
- Support marshals and Show Management where issues arise
- Assist in resolving behavioural or safety concerns involving their members
- Encourage safe and respectful conduct throughout the event

Where repeated issues arise within a group, Show Management may discuss future participation directly with the group leadership.

6A. Participants Under 18

Where a participant involved in an issue is under the age of 18:

- A verbal warning or explanation may be given directly to the minor where appropriate
- Any further action will normally involve the parent, guardian, or supervising adult
- The responsible adult is expected to ensure ongoing compliance with show rules

Where immediate safety concerns exist, Show Management or security may intervene directly until the responsible adult is present.

7. Security and Show Management Authority

Security staff operate under the direction of Show Management and may assist with:

- Safety issues
- Crowd control
- De-escalation of incidents
- Enforcement of removal decisions where necessary

The Show Management's decisions regarding operational safety and event management are final during the event.

8. Reporting Issues

Concerns or incidents may be raised with:

- Senior Marshals
- Vehicle Movement Coordinators
- Reenactor Coordinators
- Show Management

Where possible, reports should include:

- Time and location
- Individuals involved
- Description of the issue
- Any witnesses or supporting information

9. Appeals and Future Participation

Participants may contact Show Management after the event regarding disciplinary decisions or future attendance concerns.

The Show Management Committee will review matters fairly and consider any relevant information provided.

10. Acceptance of this Code

Acceptance of this Code, along with the Exhibitor Standing Orders, is a condition of attendance at the Overlord Show.

By attending the event, exhibitors and reenactors agree to:

- Follow reasonable instructions relating to safety and event management
- Behave respectfully and responsibly
- Cooperate with marshals, staff, and Show Management
- Support the safe and successful running of the event