

# Code of Conduct

## Applicability

This policy applies to all spaces related to KBN College, including the following, as well as their online counterparts (if any):

- Hackathons
- Talks, presentations, or demos
- Workshops
- Parties and social events
- Social media channels, etc.

This Code of Conduct also applies equally to all sponsors, partners, and participants of hackathons, and to all projects created at the hackathon.

## No Plagiarism or Re-Using of Past Work

We encourage you to submit projects only prepared during the hackathon. If you submit projects containing re-used code or previously submitted to another hackathon, you must disclose such use and its extent with the submission. If undisclosed re-used code is found, the organizer may request clarification on similarities and differences between the old and new work and/or disqualify the submission from winning awards.

## Use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) Tools

Participants are permitted to use AI-based tools (e.g., code generation tools, chatbots, or other assistive technologies) during the hackathon, provided the following guidelines are followed:

- All use of AI tools must be disclosed in the project submission, including the specific tools used and the extent of their contribution (e.g., code generation, debugging, ideation).
- AI-generated code or content must not constitute the majority of the project. Participants are expected to demonstrate their own problem-solving, coding, and design skills.
- Participants must not use AI tools to replicate or modify existing projects or solutions without significant original contributions.
- Failure to disclose AI tool usage or over-reliance on AI-generated outputs may result in disqualification from awards, at the discretion of the organizers.
- Participants are responsible for ensuring that AI tools comply with the hackathon's intellectual property and data privacy policies.  
The organizing committee reserves the right to request clarification on the use of AI tools and evaluate their impact on the originality and merit of the submission.

## No Discrimination

Hackathons hosted by KBN College are dedicated to providing a safe and comfortable environment and a harassment-free experience for everyone. No discrimination, on the basis of the following, will be tolerated:

- Gender
- Gender identity and expression
- Age
- Sexual orientation
- Disability
- Physical appearance
- Body size
- Race
- Ethnicity
- Nationality
- Religion
- Political views
- Previous hackathon attendance or lack thereof
- Computing experience or lack thereof
- Chosen programming language or tech stack

## **No Harassment**

We do not tolerate harassment of hackathon participants in any form, including:

- Offensive discriminatory verbal comments
- Public display of sexual material in public spaces
- Deliberate intimidation
- Stalking
- Wilful disruption
- Inappropriate physical contact
- Unwelcome sexual advances
- Taking photographs or audio/video recordings without the subject's consent

## **No Recording Without Consent**

Photography and videography are encouraged, but participants must be given a reasonable chance to opt out. If a participant objects to being photographed or recorded, comply with their request. If disapproval is expressed after capturing a photo or video, delete it from your records and, if shared online, take reasonable steps to retract it. Taking photographs in private areas (e.g., bathrooms or sleeping areas) is prohibited.

## **Creation of a Safe Space**

No sponsors, partners, or participants shall use sexualised images, activities, or other material at the hackathons for any non-permitted purpose. The use of sexualised clothing, uniforms, costumes, or anything creating a sexualised environment is prohibited.

## **Intellectual Property**

You own any developments made by you, and all rights, titles, and interests, including intellectual property rights, belong to you. By submitting your project on KBN College, you grant KBN College a non-exclusive, worldwide, royalty-free license to use, distribute, display, and reproduce your submission only to the extent required to provide services on the KBN College platform. We will never attempt to steal or exploit your creations.

## Health and Safety

Participants are expected to prioritize their health and well-being during the 24-hour hackathon. Organizers will provide designated rest areas for breaks or naps. Participants must:

- Refrain from consuming alcohol, recreational drugs, or substances that impair judgment or disrupt the event.
- Stay hydrated and nourished; food and water will be provided or available for purchase.
- Report medical emergencies or health concerns to the organizing committee immediately.

First aid kits and emergency contact information will be available on-site. Organizers may involve medical professionals or local authorities in case of health-related incidents.

## Overnight Conduct

To ensure a respectful and productive environment during the 24-hour hackathon:

- Use designated quiet zones or sleeping areas for rest. Loud conversations, music, or disruptive behavior in these areas is prohibited.
- Respect others' personal space and belongings in shared areas.
- Unauthorized access to restricted venue areas (e.g., non-hackathon spaces) during overnight hours is prohibited.

Violation of these rules may result in immediate expulsion from the event.

## Project Submission Guidelines

All project submissions must be completed and submitted by the announced deadline. Late submissions will not be considered for awards unless explicitly permitted by the organizers. Participants are encouraged to manage their time effectively, balancing coding, rest, and collaboration for a healthy and productive experience.

## Team Collaboration

Participants must collaborate respectfully with teammates. In case of disputes:

- Attempt to resolve issues respectfully among team members.
- If unresolved, contact the organizing committee for mediation.
- Disruptive or aggressive behavior toward teammates is prohibited.

The organizing committee may disqualify teams or individuals if conflicts disrupt the event or violate this Code of Conduct.

## Venue Etiquette

Participants must:

- Keep the venue clean by disposing of trash properly and maintaining shared spaces.
- Respect all venue property, including furniture, equipment, and facilities.
- Report any damage or issues with venue facilities to the organizing committee immediately.

Any damage caused by a participant may result in liability for repair costs and/or expulsion from the event.

## Data Privacy and Device Security

Participants are responsible for securing their personal devices and data. Organizers are not liable for loss, theft, or damage to belongings or data. Participants must:

- Avoid sharing sensitive project data or credentials with unauthorized individuals.
- Use secure networks (e.g., provided Wi-Fi) and avoid public or unsecured connections.
- Respect the privacy of other participants' projects and avoid unauthorized access to their work.

## Emergency Procedures

In case of an emergency (e.g., fire, medical incident, or security threat):

- Follow instructions from the organizing committee or venue staff.
- Evacuate the venue promptly if directed, using the nearest designated exits.
- Contact the organizing committee or local authorities (emergency numbers provided) for immediate assistance.

Emergency exits, fire extinguishers, and first aid stations will be clearly marked at the venue.

## Rules for Long-Distance Participants

Participants traveling from long distances (e.g., outside the city or state) must adhere to the following:

- **Pre-Event Communication:** Inform organizers at least 7 days in advance of travel plans and estimated arrival time via the registration form.
- **Check-In and Late Arrival:** Check in at the venue by 2 hours before the hackathon starts. For late arrivals, notify organizers at least 4 hours in advance via the designated contact.
- **Accommodation and Rest Areas:** Use designated on-site rest areas for naps or breaks. Personal bedding or sleeping bags are allowed but must be stored in designated areas when not in use.
- **Luggage Storage:** Store luggage in the designated secure area. Label personal belongings; organizers are not liable for loss or damage.
- **Early Departure:** Inform organizers at least 4 hours in advance of early departure and notify your team. Early departures will not affect team eligibility unless the absence significantly impacts the submission.

- **Local Transportation:** Participants are responsible for arranging transportation to/from the venue. Organizers will provide a guide with local transportation options upon request.
- **Cultural and Language Sensitivity:** Adhere to non-discrimination and anti-harassment policies, respecting the cultural and linguistic diversity of all attendees.

## **Always Report**

If you notice any violation of this Code of Conduct, suspicious behavior, or have concerns, contact a member of the hackathon organizing committee immediately. We will assist participants in contacting local security or law enforcement or help those experiencing harassment feel safe. We value your attendance.

## **Consequences of Violations**

If a participant violates this Code of Conduct, the organizer may, at their discretion:

- Expel them from the hackathon with no refund (if applicable).
- Block their access to KBN College resources, including the website.
- Report their behavior to local law enforcement.

## **Acknowledgment**

By participating in the hackathon, all attendees agree to abide by this Code of Conduct. Participants must confirm their understanding and agreement to these terms during registration or check-in. Failure to comply may result in consequences outlined in this policy.