



February 28, 2013 Global Webinar

Chapter Leader Handbook –
Mandatory Rules AND Code of Ethics
discussion



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- Core purpose
 - Be the thriving global community that drives visibility and evolution in the safety and security of the world's software



1.3 The Purpose of the Chapter Handbook

The purpose of the OWASP Chapter Handbook is to provide chapter leaders with a central place to find information about starting a chapter, organizing a chapter meeting, handling their chapter finances, and many other topics that come up in the course of running a chapter. While there are a few hard and fast rules that chapter leaders must follow, this handbook is primarily composed of suggestions and best practices that have worked for other successful chapter leaders. That said, what works for some chapters may not work for others, and this handbook should not limit the scope of possibilities for running a strong and thriving chapter.

Company
Logo



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- Mandatory Chapter Rules
 1. Organize free and open meetings
 - Chapter meetings must be free for everyone to attend, regardless of whether the attendee is a paid member, and open to anyone



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2. Hold a minimum of 2 local chapter meetings or events each year.
 - While this is the minimum number of chapter meetings which you need to hold, 4 meetings a year is recommended to maintain an active chapter.



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3. Give official meeting notice through the wiki, chapter mailing list, and the OWASP calendar
 - Chapter meetings must be posted to the OWASP wiki (on the chapter's page) and a meeting announcement must be sent out to the OWASP mailing list (i.e. owasp-CHAPTERNAME@lists.owasp.org) to notify the OWASP community of each upcoming meeting as well as being listed on the OWASP Global Events Calendar.



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4. Abide by OWASP principles and the code of ethics.



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- Principles
 - Free & Open
 - Governed by a rough consensus & running code
 - Abide by a code of ethics
 - Not – for – profit
 - Not driven by commercial interests
 - Risk based approach



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— Code of ethics

- Perform all professional activities and duties in accordance with all applicable laws and the highest ethical principles
- Promote the implementation of and promote compliance with standards, procedures, controls for application security
- Maintain appropriate confidentiality of proprietary or otherwise sensitive information encountered in the course of professional activities
- Discharge professional responsibilities with diligence and honesty
- To communicate openly and honestly
- Refrain from any activities which might constitute a conflict of interest or otherwise damage the reputation of employers, the information security profession, or the Association
- To maintain and affirm our objectivity and independence
- To reject inappropriate pressure from industry or others
- Not intentionally injure or impugn the professional reputation or practice of colleagues, clients, or employers
- Treat everyone with respect and dignity
- To avoid relationships that impair – or may appear to impair – OWASP's objectivity and independence



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5. Protect the privacy of the chapter's local contacts

- The privacy of chapter members and meeting attendees should be protected at all times. You should not disclose names, email addresses, or other identifying information about OWASP members or meeting attendees. Only aggregate statistics can be referenced. If a meeting sponsor is utilized that organization might consider doing a raffle in exchange for business cards.



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6. Maintain vendor neutrality (act independently)

- In order to preserve OWASP's non-profit status and open, non-commercial principles, it is important that no commercially – oriented “sales pitch” talks are given at OWASP events, be it chapter meetings or conferences. Such talks are not only against OWASP principles, they also blur the line between OWASP and commercial entities, thus diluting the OWASP brand name and agnostic status globally.



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- Discussion Topics on OWASP Code of Ethics
 - Confidentiality – What, in a “radically transparent” organization does confidentiality mean?
 - Conflict of interest – At what point does reference to OWASP or participation in the OWASP community become a real or perceived conflict of interest?
 - Is there a line that separates open and honest communication from intentionally injuring or impugning ... colleagues, clients, or employers?
 - What does a “relationship that impair[s] – or appear[s] to impair – OWASP’s objectivity and independence” look like?