

Piling 2020 Conference Proceeding Publication Ethics and Publication Malpractice Statement



The Proceedings of the Piling 2020 Conference were prepared based on the professional standards expected by the British Geotechnical Association (BGA).

The points included below relate to the Piling 2020 Conference Proceedings and the ethical standards expectations during the review and publication of the Conference Proceedings.

Duties of Editors

Fair play and editorial independence

The editors evaluated submitted manuscripts exclusively on the basis of their merit and relevance to the Piling 2020 conference and the Conference Proceedings, without regard to the authors' race, gender, sexual orientation, ethnic origin, citizenship, religious belief, political philosophy or institutional affiliation. Decisions to publish are not determined by the policies of any other agencies outside of the Conference itself. The Editors have full authority over the entire editorial content of the Conference Proceedings.

Confidentiality

Editors and Technical Theme Leaders will not disclose any information about a submitted manuscript to anyone other than the corresponding author, reviewers, potential reviewers, other editorial advisers, and the publisher, as appropriate.

Disclosure and conflicts of interest

Editors, Technical Theme Leaders and Reviewers will not use unpublished information disclosed in a submitted manuscript for their own purposes. Privileged information or ideas obtained by editors as a result of handling the manuscript will be kept confidential and not used for their personal advantage. Editors and Technical Theme Leaders will recuse themselves from considering manuscripts in which they have conflicts of interest resulting from competitive, collaborative, or other relationships/connections with any of the authors, companies or institutions connected to the papers; instead, they will ask another member of the editorial board to handle the manuscript.

Publication decisions

All submitted manuscripts being considered for publication undergo peer-review by at least one reviewer who is expert in the field. The Technical Theme Leaders are responsible for deciding which of the manuscripts are submitted to the conference and published in Conference Proceedings.

Involvement and cooperation in investigations

Editors (in conjunction with the publisher and/or society) will take responsive measures when ethical concerns are raised with regard to a submitted manuscript or published paper. Every reported act of unethical publishing behaviour will be looked into.

Duties of Reviewers

Contribution to editorial decisions

All manuscripts for the conference are peer reviewed; this assists Technical Theme Leaders in managing this process and making decisions. The peer review process also assists authors in improving their manuscripts.



Promptness and Confidentiality

Manuscripts received for review are confidential documents.

Any invited referee who feels unqualified to review the research reported in a manuscript or knows that its prompt review will be impossible should immediately notify the editors and decline the invitation to review.

Standards of objectivity

Reviews should be conducted objectively and observations formulated clearly with supporting arguments so that authors can use them for improving the manuscript.

Disclosure and conflicts of interest

Any invited referee who has conflicts of interest resulting from competitive, collaborative, or other relationships or connections with any of the authors, companies or institutions connected to the manuscript and the work described therein should immediately notify the Technical Theme Leader to declare their conflicts of interest and decline the invitation to review so that alternative reviewers can be contacted.

Duties of Authors

Reporting standards

Authors of original research should present an accurate account of the work performed and the results, followed by an objective discussion of the significance of the work. The manuscript should contain sufficient detail and references to permit others to replicate the work.

Originality and plagiarism

Authors should ensure that they have written and submit only entirely original works, and if they have used the work and/or words of others, that this has been appropriately cited. Publications that have been influential in determining the nature of the work reported in the manuscript should also be cited.

Multiple, duplicate, redundant or concurrent submission/publication

Papers describing essentially the same research should not be published in more than one once. Hence, authors should not submit for consideration a manuscript that has already been published.

Authorship of the manuscript

Only persons who made a significant contribution to the manuscript should be listed as authors and all authors should have reviewed the final draft of the manuscript prior to submission. All authors must have approved the final version of the manuscript and agreed to its submission for publication.

Acknowledgement of sources

Authors should ensure that they have properly acknowledged the work of others, and should also cite publications that have been influential in determining the nature of the reported work.

Hazards and human or animal subjects

If the work involves chemicals, procedures or equipment that have any unusual hazards inherent in their use, the authors must clearly identify these in the manuscript.

Peer review

Authors are obliged to participate in the peer review process and cooperate fully by responding promptly to the Technical Theme Leaders requests and clarifications.