

Poole Hockey Club's Coaching & Team Captain Expectations



Poole Hockey Club (PHC) is committed to fostering a supportive and inclusive environment where players of all ages and skill level can develop their hockey abilities, enjoy the sport and achieve their full potential. As a coach or team captain at PHC, you play a crucial role in this mission.

This document outlines the specific expectations we have of our coaches and team captains to ensure a positive experience for all members of our club. It should be read in conjunction with [PHC's overarching Code of Conduct](#), which applies to everyone in the club.

Core Values

PHC expects all coaches and team captains to embody and promote the club's core values:

- **Respect** – for players, parents, officials, other coaches and team captains.
- **Integrity** – demonstrate honesty, fairness and sportsmanship.
- **Passion** – exhibit enthusiasm and dedication to the sport of hockey.
- **Excellence** – strive for continuous improvement and high standards.
- **Community** – foster a sense of belonging and teamwork within the club.

Responsibilities

Player Development

- **Skill Development** – focus on developing the technical and tactical skills of all players.
- **Personal Growth** – encourage players to develop confidence, discipline and a positive attitude.
- **Talent spotting** – identify U18 talent and progress them through relevant squads at appropriate times. Encouraging, where applicable and in conjunction with Junior Coaching Coordinator, progressing through the relevant talent pathway e.g. Dorset County and the South Coast Talent Academy.
- **Inclusivity** – ensure all players receive equal attention and opportunities during sessions, regardless of their skill level.

Coaching Sessions

- **Preparation** – plan and structure in advance to ensure sessions are organised, effective and engaging.
- **Variety** – incorporate a mix of games, skills and activities to maintain player interest and enthusiasm.
- **Safety** – prioritise player safety by teaching recognised techniques and ensuring the training environment is free from hazards.

Match Day Responsibilities

- **Preparation** – ensure players are well-prepared for matches, understanding their roles and the game plan.
- **Conduct** – when attending matches, model appropriate behaviour and sportsmanship during games (on and off the pitch).
- **Feedback** – where possible, provide constructive feedback to players post-match to help them learn and improve.

Communication

- **U18s Parents and Guardians** – maintain open, respectful and timely communication with parents regarding schedules, expectations and player progress.
- **Players** – communicate clearly and positively with players, providing guidance and encouragement.
- **Club Officials** – collaborate with club officials and attend meetings as required.

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Professional Development

- **Training** – participate in ongoing relevant education and training programs.
- **Feedback** – be open to feedback and actively seek ways to improve.
- **Networking** – engage with others to share knowledge and best practices.

Ethical Standards

- **Fair Play** – promote fair play and the spirit of competition.
- **Role Model** – act as a positive role model for players demonstrating respect, responsibility and integrity.
- **Confidentiality** – respect the confidentiality of player information and club matters.

Club Policies

- **Compliance** – adhere to all club policies particularly those related to safeguarding, health & safety and behaviour.
- **Documentation** – ensure all required documentation (e.g. coaching certifications, background checks) is current and submitted to the club.
- **Attendance** – be punctual and reliable, attending coaching sessions, matches and meetings.

Conclusion

By meeting these expectations, coaches and team captains at Poole Hockey Club will contribute to a positive, effective and enjoyable environment for all members. We appreciate your commitment to upholding the high standards of our club and helping our players thrive both on and off the field.