



Taunton Vale Hockey Club

Taunton Vale HC Code of Conduct

Taunton Vale HC Code of Conduct is the minimum standards of behaviour and conduct expected of all club members (playing, social or volunteers), junior parents, supporters and coach and as such is a condition of membership.

Members, parents and supporters who are unable to adhere to this code of conduct, could find their, or their child's, membership is terminated without a refund of fees.

As a member/supporter:

- Take pride in being part of Taunton Vale HC and of the Hockey community.
- Respect that we are all here for the enjoyment of hockey.
- Promote the reputation of the sport and the club and take all possible steps to prevent them from being brought into disrepute.
- Understand that winning is important, but teamwork and good sportsmanship is a vital part of achieving the win.
- Protect others involved in the sport from verbal or physical abuse and threatening or intimidating behaviour.
- Respect the decisions of the Sports Club management and Hockey Club committee.
- Remember, 'the club' is a collective of all of its members, meaning 'we' are the club, and the club's existence is based on what you and all other members put into it, on AND off the pitch.
- Consider giving time as a committee member, coach, umpire or volunteer. Volunteers are the lifeblood of our entire organisation, don't just step back and expect things to happen. If something isn't getting done, it's either because someone hasn't thought about it, someone doesn't have the time to do it, or nobody is volunteering to do it.
- Take care of the clubs facilities. Volunteers have put in a lot of time and effort to make sure we have some of the best club owned hockey facilities in the country. Pick up litter if you see it, and report any problems to Sports Club staff.

As a player:

- Compete for enjoyment
- Accept success and failure, victory and defeat, with dignity
- Strive to do your best
- Show team spirit and good sportsmanship
- Set a positive example for others, particularly younger members and spectators.
- Play within the rules of the game
- Behave in a manner that takes reasonable measures to protect your own safety and safety of others
- Respect teammates and opponents.
- Respect officials and their decisions*



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- Arrive for a fixture by the agreed time. Inform your captain if you're going to be late.
- Shake hands with opponents and officials at the end of a fixture (whether league or friendly), and make sure when you are the host team, that the opposition are the first to be seated and served match teas.
- Regularly attend the appropriate training session. *Performance coaching will be by invitation only.* Send your apologies to your captain/coach/manager if you can't make it or you're going to be late.
- Train hard and strive to improve. Respect and listen to your coach at training. Do not distract other members and detract from their training session. Save socialising for afterwards.
- Be open to constructive feedback from coaches, captains, managers and each other.
- Make your availability for fixtures known ASAP, and honour your commitment. Do not drop out last minute unless through injury/illness or exceptional circumstances.
- Respond to requests for availability for fixtures and umpiring promptly. Not responding is bad manners.
- Be aware of the sections selection policy and respect the decision of the selection committees – you are a member of the club, not a specific team. You may play for one team in a season; you may be required to play for two or more.
- Purchase and wear the correct club playing kit with pride:
 - White TVHC Y1 playing tops
 - Navy Blue Shorts/Skort
 - White Socks with red tops
- Wear appropriate training kit – *junior members (U18s) are not permitted to wear kit that is affiliated to schools or county hockey associations whilst training with or representing Taunton Vale.*
- Gum shields and mouth guards are compulsory for ALL junior members (U18 and below), and strongly advised for adults.
- Pay the appropriate membership before the stated payment deadline, or within 2 weeks of playing your first game for new members.
- Pay full match fees promptly; players owing 2 match fees will be considered ineligible for selection until debt is paid
- Respect the laws of the land with regard to smoking, drinking alcohol and drug taking whilst on the club premises or representing the club.
- Never participate in a game of hockey whilst under the influence of alcohol or drugs.
- Clear up any rubbish on the side of the pitches and dugouts, and leave the changing rooms as you'd wish to find them.

*a player who receives two yellow cards for dissent within the period of a hockey season will receive an automatic one match ban.



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As a parent of a junior member you will:

- Not use inappropriate language
- Ensure your child is aware of what is expected of him/her as a player (see above)
- Ensure that your child is dropped off and picked up promptly for training and fixtures.
- Contact the relevant parent team manager if you are running late to collect your child.
- Respond promptly to requests from parent team managers (or captains if your child is playing senior hockey) for fixture availability.
- Adhere to the guidelines of being a supporter (see below) when spectating club fixtures.
- Accept the guidance that coaches provide.
- Accept the umpire's decision within matches.
- Stay off the pitch during training and matches unless invited.
- Always encourage, but never force your child to participate.
- Ensure you have provided accurate emergency contact details and relevant information about your child including medical history.
- Consider becoming involved in the club as much as possible either as a coach, umpire, volunteer, member of the junior or fundraising committee or by attending club social events – we strive to be a family friendly club and see junior parents as a vital part of the TVHC family.
- Support the coaches by ensuring your child enjoys their hockey and plays within the rules of the game.
- Encourage fair play.
- Encourage your child to recognise good performance, teamwork and good sportsmanship, not just results.
- Accept success and failure, victory and defeat, with dignity.
- Encourage your child to spectate other club fixtures – junior and senior.

As a supporter/spectator:

- Support Taunton Vale teams enthusiastically
- Do not use inappropriate language
- Respect the coaching staff
- Respect the opposition and show appreciation for their efforts
- Respect the umpire's decision whether you agree with it or not
- Do not heckle the umpires, players (on or off the pitch) or coaching staff
- Do not step onto the pitch during training or a fixture unless invited
- Consider supporting the club's social events as well as fixtures