

West Hampstead Hockey Club

Code of Ethics and Behaviour



Last reviewed: December 2025

Our Code of Ethics and Behaviour exists to protect everyone within the game of hockey and outlines the behaviour expected from **all West Hampstead Hockey Club (WHHC) members**. By members we include players, coaches, umpires, supporters or anyone associated with WHHC in any way.

England Hockey is responsible for setting the standards and values that apply at every level. [The Spirit of Hockey](#), outlines the expected levels of behaviour for everyone involved in hockey. WHHC fully supports and adopts England Hockey's Spirit of Hockey, Code of Conduct.

This code aims to provide members of WHHC with clear expectations of the behaviours they are expected to display. The committee has overall responsibility for upholding this code, and breaches will be handled in line with our [Disciplinary & Welfare process](#), however all members also share in the responsibility of ensuring its adherence.

West Hampstead Hockey Club's Code of Ethics and Behaviour conduct applies at all times when representing WHHC, wearing club kit or at Clarion School and Cumberland Lawn Tennis Club grounds.

Expected Minimum Standards of Behaviour and Conduct

- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of others.
- Respect umpires, officials, coaches, players and spectators.
- Treat everyone equally and not discriminate. Bullying and aggressive behaviour will not be tolerated.
- Never use foul, sexist, homophobic, abusive, racist or any prejudicial language or tolerate it from others.
- Appreciate all performance levels and skilful play by all participants.
- Conduct yourself in a manner that takes all reasonable measures to protect your own safety and the safety of others.
- Promote the reputation of WHHC and take all possible steps to prevent it from being brought into disrepute while setting a positive example for others.
- Never participate under the influence of drugs or alcohol.

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- Never bring or consume illegal substances in any part of our playing grounds, CLTC & HCC premises or when representing WHHC at any playing venue.
- Never bring or consume alcohol in any part of our playing grounds.
- Never smoke or vape when participating in hockey, at home or away grounds.
- Never bring dogs and/or other pets except guide dogs to any part of our playing grounds, CLTC & HCC premises.
- Never enter or remain on the pitch outside of our allocated booking times.
- Never provide under 18s with alcohol and/or illegal substances.
- Be respectful when writing any match reports or comments on social media accounts and uphold WHHC reputation.
- Attend any disciplinary meetings as requested by WHHC.
- Comply at all times with all local, regional and national laws when representing WHHC, wearing club kit or at Whitefield School and Cumberland Lawn Tennis Club grounds.
- Abide by all WHHC standards, policies, procedures and codes [insert link]
- Abide by all CLTC & HCC standards, policies, procedures and codes [link]
- Abide by the [England Hockey Code of Ethics and Behaviour](#)
- Abide by the England Hockey [Safeguarding and Protecting Young People in Hockey Policy and Procedures](#) and [SafeGuard](#) Guidelines. Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility.
- Abide by the England Hockey [Equality, Inclusion & Diversity Policy](#)
- Abide by the [England Hockey Anti-doping Rules](#)

Captains

In addition to the Expected Minimum Standards of Behaviour and Conduct, Captains are expected to adhere to the below standards:

- Ensure the selection policy is followed.
- Ensure key administrative duties are conducted in a timely manner.
- Ensure First Aid kit is stocked and available at every game.

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- Proactively seek to resolve issues within the team when they arise, and if necessary escalate to the relevant committee members.
- Consider the well being and safety of participants before the development of performance.
- Protect others involved in the game from verbal or physical abuse and threatening or intimidating behaviour.
- If necessary, approach the umpire on behalf of your players if they have queries relating to umpire decisions.
- Help us keep our pitches clean and tidy by ensuring your team leaves them as we found them.

Player Conduct

In addition to the Expected Minimum Standards of Behaviour and Conduct, Players are expected to adhere to the below standards:

- Participate within the rules and regulations of the game.
- Accept success and failure, victory and defeat, with dignity.
- All players must take responsibility in ensuring they are up to date with the rules, understand and adhere to them.
- All players must respect officials and publicly accept their decisions. Abuse of an umpire whether verbal or physical will not be tolerated.
- Never argue with an umpire. If you have a query, ask your captain to approach the umpire on your behalf.
- Players should pay their membership and match fees in accordance with the selection policy.
- Players should ensure they arrive at matches on time.

Coach Conduct

In addition to the Expected Minimum Standards of Behaviour and Conduct, Coaches are expected to adhere to the below standards:

- Consider the well being and safety of participants before the development of performance.
- Show patience and understanding towards players who may be learning the game.

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- Develop an appropriate working relationship with performers, based on mutual trust and respect.
- Ensure a sensible balance between performance and the emotional, physical, social and development needs of the players.
- Make sure all activities are appropriate to the ability and experience of those taking part.
- Follow all guidelines laid down by the national governing body and WHHC.
- Show respect for match officials and opposition.
- Hold the appropriate, valid qualifications and insurance cover.
- Never exert undue influence over performers to obtain personal benefit or reward.
- Never condone rule violations or the use of prohibited substances.
- Respect the decisions of umpires and teach others to do the same.

Umpire Conduct

In addition to the Expected Minimum Standards of Behaviour and Conduct, Umpires are expected to adhere to the below standards:

- Ensure the safety of all players, officials and spectators within the confines of the pitch.
- Ensure both teams play within the rules and the spirit of the game.
- Be honest, consistent, objective, impartial and courteous when applying the rules of the game.
- Show patience and understanding towards players who may be learning the game.
- Arrive for games on time, and as best as possible ensure games run to schedule.
- In completing reports, set out the true facts and not attempt to justify or embellish any decisions.