

DRHC Code of Conduct

DRHC is fully committed to safeguarding and promoting the wellbeing of all its members.

The club believes that it is important that members, coaches, administrators and parents associated with the club should always show respect and be encouraged to be open at all times including sharing any concerns or complaints that they may have about any aspect of the club with a member of the Exec or in the case of junior players, in the first place, with the Chair of the Junior Committee.

This document acknowledges and is built upon the Code of Ethics and Behaviour (also titled 'Respect') as published by EH and at DRHC we intend to operate within this code in all its actions. The link to the EH document can be accessed via the EH website (www.englandhockey.co.uk/respect).

Playing members

As a playing member of DRHC you are expected to abide by the general rules and codes of conduct of the club and by the following club rules.

- All playing members must learn the rules of hockey and play the game within the laws and in the spirit of the game.
- All playing members must respect colleagues, opponents and officials. Do not make derogatory comments or gestures about your colleagues or opponents. Never try to intimidate the opposition by threats or excessive triumphalism.
- Be polite to umpires and respect their decisions. **Do not show dissent.**
- Inappropriate behaviour on or off the pitch, such as losing one's temper or throwing hockey sticks invites sanctions from club officials.
- Playing members should keep to agreed timings for practice and matches and inform their coach, team manager, or captain at the earliest possible opportunity if they cannot play or are going to be late.
- All playing members must wear the appropriate kit in an appropriate fashion. It is advised that shin pads and gum shields be worn by all players (for players under-18 it is a requirement that shin pads and a gum shield be worn).
- All playing members must pay the appropriate subscription and any training or match fees promptly.

Players will need to bring the following to all games:

- ✓ Black club shirt with number on and black socks with white tops.
- ✓ The alternate club strip of white club shirt with number on and red socks (men) and white socks (ladies).
- ✓ Black skirt/skort/shorts (track suit trousers are not acceptable for matches unless agreed with the umpire before the start of the game).
- ✓ The right equipment to play hockey: astro boots/trainers with good grip; hockey stick; and warm clothing that is easy to get on and off quickly.
- ✓ A suitable drink to manage dehydration.

In addition we expect all players to:

- Prepare thoroughly for training or matches by warming up and cooling down properly.
- Recognise and appreciate good play – win with modesty and lose with dignity.
- Consistently demonstrate sportsmanship on the pitch and give a warm welcome off it, both of which are hallmarks of DRHC.
- Inform the relevant party of any injury and seek appropriate treatment as quickly as is needed.
- Obey the laws of the land with regard to the consumption of drugs, alcohol and cigarettes and do not use performance enhancing drugs.
- Play for the enjoyment of the game and if you are a junior player don't play just to please your parents or coach.
- Pay your match fees to your captain (without being chased).

Coaches, managers, and volunteers

All coaches, managers, and volunteers shall comply with and promote good ethical conduct and practice and in particular they shall:

- Arrive in plenty of time to set up activities and ensure safety.
- Respect the rights, dignity, and worth of every person and treat them equally.
- Ensure their players respect their opponents and the officials.
- Put the player's well-being and safety before the development of performance.
- Follow all the guidelines laid down by EH and DRHC.
- Develop an appropriate working relationship with players which is based on mutual trust and respect.
- Never exert undue influence to obtain personal benefit or reward.
- Encourage and guide players to accept responsibility for their own behaviour and performance.
- Ensure the activities they direct or advocate are appropriate for the age, experience, and ability of the individual.
- Promote the positive aspects of hockey (for example fair play) and never condone rule violations or the use of prohibited substances.
- Set a good example by displaying high standards of behaviour and appearance.
- Take responsibility for young people in their care until they have left the activity safely.

Coaches must hold the appropriate coaching qualifications, first aid certification, defibrillator training, and DBS clearance and must also carry insurance cover which may be provided by the club.

Managers and volunteers must also carry appropriate qualifications including, as appropriate, first aid certification, defibrillator training, and DBS clearance.

Parents and Spectators

Parents and spectators shall:

- Encourage your child to learn the rules of the game and to play within them.
- Discourage unfair play and disputes with officials/coaches.
- Support your child and help them to recognise good performance and enjoy their hockey regardless of the result.
- Set a good example by recognising fair play and by applauding the good performances of all.
- Never punish or belittle a child for losing or making mistakes.
- Respect officials and their decisions.
- Never use bad language.
- Never force your child to take part in any sport.
- Recognise that children are involved in organised sport for their enjoyment rather than yours.
- Before leaving your child at the club confirm with a junior official that the training session or match they are due to attend is taking place – in case of unexpected cancellation.

Parents and spectators are discouraged from coaching from the side-lines.

All club members and those associated with the club including coaches, volunteers, and spectators are subject to the club's Disciplinary Code which is available in the Policy Centre on the club's website (www.drhc.co.uk) and is displayed on the notice board within the club.