



CHESTER HOCKEY CLUB CODE OF CONDUCT

The following Code of Conduct has been written to uphold the aims of the members of **Chester Hockey Club** (CHC), and to help and protect players, umpires and spectators involved in the playing of hockey regardless of whether it is in league games, friendlies or training. It should be read in conjunction with the rules of the North and North West Hockey Leagues, the Rules of Hockey and the English Hockey Code of Discipline.

CHC is committed to the highest standards of integrity, beginning by ensuring everyone within the club understands our core values, values that define how we conduct ourselves. Safeguarding and promoting the wellbeing of all our members is paramount. The club believes that it is vital that anyone associated with the club is accountable for his or her own actions. Whether you are playing, watching, coaching, umpiring or socialising, it is your personal responsibility to treat your own team, opposition players, coaches, spectators, club officials and the umpires with respect before, during and after the match.

Members are therefore encouraged to be open at all times and to share any concerns or complaints that they may have about any aspect of the club with any member of the Management Committee. The Management Committee are there to help **all** people associated with the club including juniors, seniors (at all playing levels in both the mens and ladies sections) and non-playing members - please remember that!

As a member of Chester Hockey Club, you are expected to conduct yourself in line with the guidelines set out below:

- ✍ **Enjoy being involved in hockey;**
- ✍ **Treat everyone as you would expect to be treated yourself, on and off the pitch;**
- ✍ **Play hockey with integrity, passion and commitment;**
- ✍ **Promote CHC in a positive light at all times;**
- ✍ **Help foster a club environment that encourages creativity through teamwork;**
- ✍ **Take personal responsibility for your own actions;**
- ✍ **Encourage participants to value their performance and not just results;**
- ✍ **Be dedicated to diversity, fair treatment, mutual respect and trust within your team and the club;**
- ✍ **Aspire to make CHC the healthiest and safest HC in the North West.**

With these Core Values in mind:

- ✍ Each person associated with CHC must recognise that a game of Hockey cannot take place without the presence of two umpires.
- ✍ CHC expect umpires to be treated with respect before, during and after the game. If you have a query during a game, ask your captain to approach the umpire at half time or after the game in a calm and courteous manner to get clarification. Positive discussion between the players and the umpires is actively encouraged during the post match refreshments.
- ✍ Team Captains should ensure that their playing uniform and those of their team meet the requirement to clearly identify individuals of their team. Team Captains should ensure that suitable alternative uniforms are available for away games where colour's clash. In league games, players' uniforms should show clear numbers, with no duplicates. As a club member you have a responsibility to look presentable ensuring your playing uniform is in line with those details provided in the fixture book.
- ✍ The Team Captains and Coaches are responsible for the conduct of their team and spectators for the duration of the game. Make sure your poor behaviour does not put them under any undue pressure.
- ✍ A team can consist of 16 players; hence rolling substitutions should be expected. Substituted players are expected to act with dignity, and to contribute to the team's efforts by supporting their teammates without abusing opposing players, officials or the umpires
- ✍ CHC will not tolerate players getting yellow or red carded on a regular basis. Such events give the game a bad name, threatening the future of the sport and the reputation of the club.
- ✍ Parents, ex-players, friends and others are always welcome to attend matches. But please note: it is a requirement of the North Hockey League that ALL spectators stay at the opposite side of the ground from the team area. Please comply with this request, regardless of the weather!

Disciplinary and Appeals

Any complaints regarding the behaviour of members should be firstly discussed with a member of the Management Committee. If the complaint can not be satisfactorily dealt with there and then, the complaint should be formalised and submitted in writing to the Club Secretary.

A Disciplinary Committee (chaired by the Club Discipline Officer) will meet to hear written complaints within seven days of a complaint being lodged. The committee has the power to take appropriate disciplinary action, including the termination of membership. The outcome of a disciplinary hearing will be notified in writing to the person who lodged the complaint and the member against whom the complaint was made within twenty one days of the hearing.

There will be the right of appeal to the Management Committee following disciplinary action being announced. The committee will consider the appeal within twenty eight days of the Club Secretary receiving the appeal.

As a member of Chester Hockey Club, you are a representative of the club at any function associated with hockey. This may be at training, spectating, playing or at a social function. As such, you are expected to behave in a manner that does not bring the name of Chester Hockey Club into disrepute. Always enjoy yourself, be proud of your club and promote it in a positive light wherever you may be.