

The England Hockey Code of Ethics and Behaviour

Spectators and Parents

Terms of reference

The content of this Code of Behaviour applies to all **Spectators and Parents** involved in hockey in England. Clauses in **bold** are from the Generic Code of Behaviour.

In order to protect the reputation of hockey in England, the code also applies to all those associated with England Hockey who are involved in hockey whilst outside England.

Although the emphasis of this code is on young people, this is not exclusive to young people's activity and it is recognised that parents and spectators will also be present at senior games.

Expected Minimum Standards of Behaviour and Conduct

All such individuals involved in hockey will, at all times:

- **Respect the spirit of fair play in hockey. This is more than playing within the rules. It also incorporates the concepts of friendship, respect for others and always participating with the right spirit.**
 - Focus on the young people's efforts and enjoyment rather than winning or losing.
 - Teach young people that honest effort and teamwork are as important as victory, so the result of each game is accepted without undue disappointment.
 - Remember that people learn best by example. Appreciate good performances and skilful play by all participants.
 - Encourage people always to settle disagreements amicably without resorting to hostility or violence.
- **Respect the rights, dignity and worth of others.**
 - Respect umpires, officials, coaches, players and spectators.
 - Respect the decisions of officials and teach young people to do the same.
 - Leave the coach to communicate with individual players on the field of play.
 - Show an appreciation for volunteer coaches and administrators – their efforts contribute hugely to young people being able to participate.
- **Conduct themselves in a manner that takes all reasonable measures to protect their own safety and the safety of others.**
 - Inform the team coach, manager, captain or, if there is one, another member of a management team of any new or changed injury, health or welfare issue which they consider is appropriate for them to know.
- **Promote the reputation of the sport and take all possible steps to prevent it from being brought into disrepute.**
 - Remember that young people participate in sport for their enjoyment, not yours.
- **Protect others involved in the game from verbal or physical abuse and threatening or intimidating behaviour.**
 - Never ridicule or admonish a young person for making a mistake or losing a competition.
- **Never use inappropriate language and gestures.**
 - Support all efforts to remove bad or abusive language and unsporting behaviour.
- **Abide by the England Hockey Safeguarding and Protecting Young People in Hockey Policy and Procedures and Good Practice Guidelines.**
- **Abide by the England Hockey Equity Policy.**