



PLAYERS CHARTER

Bicester Hockey Club is fully committed to safeguarding and promoting the wellbeing of all its members. The club believes that it is important that players and members should always show respect and work to create an environment where sport is fun, enjoyable and fair play is encouraged.

As a member of Bicester Hockey Club you are expected to abide by the following club guidelines and expectations:

General

- To act as ambassador for Bicester Hockey Club on and off the pitch
- Respect the spirit of fair play in hockey
- Conduct yourself in a manner that takes all reasonable measures to protect your safety and the safety of others
- Accept success and failure, victory and defeat, with dignity and set a positive example to others.
- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of umpires, officials, coaches, captains, players and other spectators. Abuse will not be tolerated.
- To be mindful of potential to influence others including young players and to provide positive support and encouragement.
- If drinking alcohol to do so responsibly and to not smoke, vape or partake in recreational drugs whilst participating in club activities including spectating and attending official club or team socials except when in a designated smoking area.

Note. Smoking is prohibited by CDC on Cooper School premises

- If providing club organised transport to or from an away game your vehicle will be road worth and have appropriate insurance and tax. The driver will be competent and hold a full UK driving licence.
- Never use offensive, abusive or prejudicial language or gestures on or off the pitch
- Protect others involved in the game from verbal or physical abuse and threatening or intimidating behaviour.
- Respect selection decisions made by captains and coaches – remember you play for Bicester Hockey Club not for a specific team
- Carry out any duties on behalf of the club diligently and effectively – especially where you hold a formal club position

Organisation

- Pay your subscriptions and submit membership forms promptly
- Take personal responsibility for arranging player insurance if desired

Note. BHC insurance now includes personal accident cover. This does not cover Rush Hockey

- Inform your team captain of your availability at least 1 week in advance whenever possible
- Commit to playing matches both at home and away where possible
- Unless unavoidable you play if you have stated you are available and have been selected
- Know location meet times of all training and matches, prepare yourself properly and arrive on time
- Inform your captain as soon as possible If you are unable to play or are going to be late
- Understand that failure to turn up or late unavailability may result in you not being selected or being asked to play for a different team.

Playing Conduct

- Unless participating in a game as a player or official, members should watch games from designated spectator area/ behind fences/barriers as applicable. Players should not enter the playing surface until completion of the previous game
- Recommended to wear suitable protective kit – including a mouthguard, shin pads, suitable clothing and footwear to training and matches
- Should wear appropriate club clothing when participating in matches
- Do not participate in club matches and training whilst under the influence of alcohol or drugs which may impact on their personal safety or the safety of others.
- Should bring means to pay your match fees to each game
- Should where possible attend a club training session every week
- Should shake hands (or an appropriate alternative) with opposition and both umpires at end of each game
- Will abide by hockey and league rules including card procedure

Other

- To show appreciation and respect that the majority of individuals involved in the running of Bicester Hockey Club are volunteers
- To where possible support club events and activities to promote itself and the sport
- To where possible support club social events
- To be mindful of any posts or comments on public or social media and the impact on other individuals or the club as a whole

Communication Pathway

Should you have a question or wish to raise concerns this should be in a polite, considerate manner following the communication pathway below. If the concern is in relation to an individual in one of these positions, then you can reach out to the next level or to another member of the committee.

