



Boyne Hockey Club

Code of Conduct - Players

Boyne Hockey Club wishes to provide the best possible environment for all people involved in the sport of hockey. All players, coaches and club officers deserve to be given enjoyable, safe sporting opportunities, free of abuse of any kind. These participants have rights, which must be respected, and responsibilities that they must accept. All players should be encouraged to realise that they have responsibilities to treat other participants and sports leaders with fairness and respect.

Our Codes of Conduct assist Boyne Hockey Club in establishing a family and child friendly environment centred on the enjoyment of hockey. This Code of Conduct describes the minimum standards of behaviour expected of our players, and parents/guardians of younger players.

FOR YOUNGER PLAYERS (PLAYERS UNDER 18 YEARS OLD)

Parents/guardians play a very important role in the club and assist in creating a positive experience for young players, sports leaders and everyone involved in the club. Parents/guardians have the primary responsibility for the care and welfare of their children within sport. They should encourage their children to participate in sport for fun and enjoyment and should ensure that their child's experience of sport is a positive one. They should always remember that children play sport for their own enjoyment not that of the parent/guardian. They must ensure that the context in which their child is participating is appropriate.

Parents/guardians and Sports Leaders will ideally work in partnership to promote good practice in children's sport and to support all efforts to protect against neglect, emotional, physical or sexual abuse in sporting activities. They should encourage their children to tell them about anyone causing them harm. Parents/guardians should ensure that sports clubs treat their children with fairness, respect and understanding. They should become aware of club procedures and policies.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Amateur photographers/film/video operators wishing to record an event or practice session should seek accreditation with the children's officer, event organiser or leader of session.

SOCIAL MEDIA

Players should abide (and parents/ guardians should ensure that their children abide) by the rules for posting on Social Media as set out by the guidelines in the Code of Ethics for Children in Sport.

TRANSPORT

When transporting players and in particular young people to events, adults should:

- Ensure there is adequate insurance on their car and that they follow the rules of the road, including the legal use of seat belts.
- Ensure they do not carry more than the permitted number of passengers
- Avoid being alone with one passenger; put passengers in the back seat; have central drop off locations; and seek parental permission when transporting children.
- For younger people, be sure they are happy with the transport arrangements.
- Comply with all guidelines relating to COVID-19.

CODE OF CONDUCT FOR PLAYERS

Players are entitled to:

- Be safe and to feel safe
- Be listened to, be believed
- Have fun and enjoy hockey
- Be represented at decision making bodies/meetings within their sports club/ organisation and have a voice in the running of their club
- Be treated with dignity, sensitivity and respect
- Participate in sporting activities on an equitable and fair manner, irrespective of ability, disability, gender, religion, social class, etc.
- Experience competition at a level at which they feel comfortable and the desire to win as a positive and healthy outcome for striving for best performance
- Comment and make suggestions in a constructive manner
- Make a complaint in an appropriate way and have it dealt with through an effective complaints procedure
- Get help against bullies
- Say No
- Protect their own bodies
- Be afforded appropriate confidentiality
- Approach the Children's Officer/Designated Person with any questions or concerns.

Players should undertake to:

- Treat Sports Leaders with respect (including administrators, coaches, umpires, managers, children's officers, club officials, etc.)
- Look out for themselves and the welfare of others
- Play fairly, do their best and have fun
- Be organised and on time, tell someone if you are leaving a venue or competition
- Respect fellow team members, even when things go wrong
- Respect opponents, be modest in victory and be gracious in defeat
- Help opponents if they are injured or have problems with equipment
- Exercise self-control and tolerance for others, even if others do not
- Show appropriation & loyalty to their sport and all its participants
- Make high standards of fair play the example others want to follow
- Abide by the rules set down by team managers when travelling to away events, representing the club, school, province or country, etc.
- Behave in a manner that avoids bringing Hockey in any way into disrepute
- Young players and their parents should talk to the Children's Officer within the club if they have any problems.
- Follow all guidelines and requirements for the prevention of spread of COVID-19. Refer to specific COVID Return to Play protocol for Players and Parents.

Players should never:

- Cheat or use unfair or bullying tactics to gain advantage
- Use violence or physical contact that is not allowed within the rules
- Shout at, or argue with, the referee, officials, team mates or opponents
- Take banned substances to improve performance
- Bully or use bullying tactics to isolate another player or gain advantage
- Harm team mates, opponents or their property
- Spread rumours or tell lies about adults or other children
- Keep secrets about any person who may have caused them harm
- Discriminate against other players on the basis of gender, disability, social class, religion

CODE OF CONDUCT FOR PARENTS / GUARDIANS

Parents should:

- **Remain at the pitch during training / games for children up to 5th class to encourage your child and provide support for injury, toilet needs, etc. of your child.**
- Be familiar with the Coaches, Clubs Children Officers (CCO), Designated Liaison Person (DLP) and Mandated Person (MP) which will be identified on the club website.
- Be a role model for your child and maintain the highest standards of conduct when interacting with young people, other parents, officials and organisers.
- Respect their child's teammates and leaders as well as players, parents and coaches from opposing teams. Parents will encourage their child to treat other participants, coaches, children's officers, officials, selectors and managers with respect.
- Always recognise the value and importance of the officials and volunteers who provide sporting and recreational opportunity for your child. Do not publicly question their judgement or honesty. Respect the Coaches, the CCO, the DLP, the MP, umpires, youth organisers, managers and other players.
- Encourage your child to play by the rules. Teach your child that honest endeavour is as important as winning and do all you can to encourage good sportsmanship.
- Behave responsibly on the sideline. Encourage and applaud only positive accomplishments whether from my child, his/her teammates, their opponents or the officials.
- Focus on their child's efforts rather than performance
- Focus on the fun and participation of the child in the activity
- Liaise with the Sports Leaders in relation to the times/locations of training sessions, medical conditions (where relevant) of their children and any requirement for their child's safety
- Respect the rules and procedures of the club
- Support all efforts to remove abusive behaviour and bullying behaviour in all its forms.
- Honour your commitments: turn up for training and matches, arrive on time and collect your children on time.
- Follow all guidelines and requirements for the prevention of spread of COVID-19. Refer to specific COVID Return to Play protocol for Players and Parents.

To promote the procedures of good practice parents/guardians should be:

- Encouraged to become members of the club, where feasible, and take an active interest in the running of the club or any sporting activities in which their children take part
- Willing to become the Club Children's Officer or assist in the running of the club
- Informed of the training and/or competitive programmes and be satisfied with the general environment that is created for their children
- Informed if their child sustained an injury during sporting activities
- Informed of problems or concerns relating to their children.
- Informed in advance and have their consent sought in relation to matters regarding away trips, camps or specially organised activities
- Have their complaints acknowledged and dealt with as they arise through an effective and confidential complaints procedure.

Parents/guardians should not:

- Ignore or dismiss complaints or concerns expressed by a child which relate to his/her involvement in sport
- Ridicule or yell at a child for making a mistake or losing a game
- Put undue pressure on their child to please or perform well, including forcing a child to participate when ill
- Take safety for granted
- Treat the club as a child-minding service