

Oxton Hockey Club



CLUB CODE OF CONDUCT & EXPECTED STANDARDS OF BEHAVIOUR

1. Introduction & Core Principles

Oxton Hockey Club (OHC) is dedicated to providing a safe, welcoming, and inclusive environment for all participants to enjoy the sport of hockey. As an England Hockey affiliated club and registered Community Amateur Sports Club (CASC), we adopt England Hockey's **"Spirit of Hockey" Code of Conduct**.

This Code sets out the minimum expected standards of behavior for everyone associated with the Club - on and off the pitch.

2. General Code of Conduct (Applies to All Members, Officials & Spectators)

All individuals involved with Oxton Hockey Club will at all times:

- **Respect the Spirit of Fair Play:** Participate with friendship, integrity, and respect for others, playing strictly within the rules and the spirit of the game.
- **Show Respect to Match Officials:** Respect and value umpires, coaches, opposition players, and spectators. Respect all decisions made by umpires without arguing or demonstrating dissent.
- **Protect Others:** Protect everyone involved in the game from physical or verbal abuse, harassment, and threatening or intimidating behavior.
- **Zero Tolerance for Discrimination:** Never use or tolerate foul, sexist, abusive, racist, homophobic, or any prejudicial language or behavior.
- **Safeguarding Compliance:** Abide strictly by the *England Hockey Safeguarding and Protecting Young People in Hockey Policy (HockeySafe)* and OHC's Safeguarding and Photography Policies.
- **Substance Safety:** Never participate in hockey activities, coach, or umpire while under the influence of alcohol, illegal drugs, or performance-enhancing substances.
- **Promote the Club Reputation:** Act in a manner that protects personal safety and the safety of others, taking all reasonable steps to avoid bringing Oxton HC or the sport into disrepute (including on social media platforms).
- **Dignity in Sport:** Accept success and failure, victory and defeat, with grace and dignity.
- **Post-Match Respect:** Thank the opposition, umpires, coaches, and match officials after every game or training session.

3. Specific Expectations for Oxton HC Players

In addition to the general code, Oxton HC players are expected to:

1. **Club Rules & Operations:** Take responsibility to stay up to date with the rules of hockey, club rules, and league regulations.
2. **Punctuality:** Arrive on time for training sessions and match call-times.
3. **Subscriptions & Fees:** Pay annual membership subscriptions and match fees promptly as set at the AGM (in accordance with OHC Rule 6).
4. **Kit & Safety:** Wear official Oxton HC playing kit during matches. Always wear appropriate protective equipment (shinguards, mouthguards, and short-corner defensive masks where appropriate).
5. **Post-Match Hospitality:** Ensure visiting teams, umpires, and officials are properly looked after and welcomed in the clubhouse after fixtures.
6. **Care of Facilities:** Leave pitches, dugouts, and changing rooms clean and tidy at home and away venues. Clear all balls, cones, and equipment off the pitch immediately following training. Respect venue staff and volunteers.

4. Code for Parents, Guardians, and Spectators

- **Positive Encouragement:** Focus on encouraging effort and performance rather than winning or losing.
- **Model Good Behaviour:** Set a positive example for young participants at all times. Never ridicule or scold a child for making a mistake during a match.
- **Umpire & Coach Respect:** Respect the decisions of umpires and the instruction of coaches. Do not coach or direct players from the sideline unless acting as an appointed team manager/coach.
- **Photography & Media:** Comply with OHC's Photography & Recorded Images Policy. Do not take photos/videos in designated "No Camera Zones" (e.g., changing facilities) and observe media consent restrictions for minors.

5. Disciplinary Procedures & Breach of Conduct

- Any alleged breach of this Code of Conduct should be submitted in writing to the Club Secretary - oxtonhcsecretary@gmail.com
- Alleged breaches of this Code will be handled in accordance with the Oxton HC Disciplinary Code.
- Complaints will be handled swiftly and fairly under OHC Rule 7 and the Club Disciplinary Procedures.
- The Oxton HC Management Committee holds the authority to issue warnings, temporary suspensions, or termination of membership for behaviours deemed contrary to the interests of the Club or the safety of its members.

Document Version Control

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