

Oxton Hockey Club



Health & Safety Policy

Season 2026/27

1. Statement of Intent

Oxton Hockey Club (OHC) is a Community Amateur Sports Club (CASC) committed to providing a safe, effective, and child-friendly environment in which to play and learn hockey. We recognize our responsibility to promote the welfare of all participants and protect them from harm.

2. General Principles

- **Safety First:** The safety and welfare of young people is paramount.
- **Collective Responsibility:** Safeguarding and safety is everyone's responsibility, not just the Welfare Officer's.
- **Inclusive Environment:** We provide equity of opportunity and a safe environment regardless of a member's age, disability, or social status.

3. Generic "Home Game" Risk Assessment

To support our volunteer captains, the following baseline risks and control measures apply to all home fixtures:

A. Pitch & Facility Safety

- **Hazards:** Debris, standing water, or loose turf on the playing surface. Very busy and fast-moving vehicles on Telegraph Road separating the pitch from the clubhouse.
- **Control Measure:** Captains or coaches must perform a visual inspection of the pitch before the warm-up begins. Parents/guardians must supervise minors crossing the road, and preferentially drive across in their vehicle if they have driven to the game.
- **Action:** Remove any foreign objects (stones, litter, etc.) immediately. Report significant facility damage to the Club Secretary.

B. Equipment & Personal Safety

- **Hazards:** Impact from hockey balls or sticks.
- **Control Measure:** All OHC members are strongly encouraged to wear appropriate protective equipment, including shin guards and mouthguards.
- **Control Measure:** All subjects must be in appropriate sporting dress during photography or filming to reduce the risk of inappropriate use.

C. Safeguarding & Privacy

- **Hazards:** Unauthorized photography or use of images in sensitive areas.

- **Control Measure:** The use of any image-capturing device is strictly prohibited in "no-camera zones" such as changing rooms and toilets.
- **Control Measure:** If a visiting team's consent is unconfirmed, the "Silence Rule" applies: those players must be treated as "Non-Consent" for any public or social media posts.

4. Emergency & Medical Response

- **Hazards:** Sudden cardiac arrest or serious physical injury.
- **AED Locations:** Automated External Defibrillators (AED) are located:
 - Glasspool: exterior side wall of the pavilion
 - Birkenhead School (McAllester Field): Inside the pavilion building
 - Caldy Clubhouse: External front wall
- **Emergency Services Communication:** The What3Words locations for the car parks:
 - Glasspool: ///struck.dares.umpires
 - Birkenhead School (McAllester Field): ///assist.brands.planet
 - Caldy Clubhouse: ///coasters.sensible.long
- **Control Measure:** Every team must have a first aid kit available pitch-side for all training and matches.
- **Action:** In a life-threatening emergency, call **999** immediately. The Team Captain must ensure the incident is reported to the Club Welfare Officer or Secretary for insurance purposes.

5. Insurance Coverage

OHC is covered by the associated Personal Accident and Public Liability Insurance through England Hockey.

- **Public Liability:** £10,000,000 any one occurrence.
- **Professional Indemnity:** £10,000,000 in the aggregate.
- **Claims:** Do not admit liability at the scene of an incident.

Policy Version Control

Document Name	Oxton HC Health & Safety Policy
Version	1.2 (addition of AED & W3W locations)
Status	Approved by OHC CMT
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Reviewer	Club Secretary / Club Welfare Officer
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Next Review Date	August 2027

Document Name	Oxton HC Health & Safety Policy
Related Guidance	EH Photography & Streaming V1.0; Marsh Combined Liability Cover
Version 1.0	Initial document draft, pending approval
Version 1.1	Updated the season, added pitch location