



WEST HERTS HOCKEY CLUB

Established 1921

## *WEST HERTS HOCKEY CLUB*

### **Code of Conduct for Club Officials and Volunteers**

Coaches and other sports staff are in a position of trust and influence with children and young people, and have a duty of care to safeguard them. The role you take and how you interact with those you work with can be crucial to ensuring that they have a quality experience, filled with fun and enjoyment and one that sets them up in sport for life.

In order to discharge these responsibilities you should adopt and comply with this code of conduct.

Respect the rights, dignity and worth of every person and treat everyone equally within the context of their sport.

Consider the well-being and safety of the performer above the development of performance.

Develop an appropriate working relationship with performers based on mutual trust and respect do not exert undue influence to obtain personal benefit or reward.

Encourage and guide performers to accept responsibility for their own behavior.

Follow the policies, guidelines and codes of conduct laid down by the club.

Make sure all activities are appropriate to the age, maturity, experience and ability of those taking part.

Ensure equipment and facilities meet safety standards and are appropriate to the age and ability of the players.

Be reasonable in your demands on children's and young people's time, energy and enthusiasm - they need and have other interests

Always promote the positive aspects of hockey (e.g. fair play) and never condone rule violation, rough play, aggression or the use of prohibited substances.

Do not take part in or tolerate behavior that frightens, embarrasses or demoralises a performer or that negatively affects their self esteem.

Endeavour to display high standards of behavior and appearance.

Always try to be the first at training or at a meeting point and the last to leave.



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**With specific reference to the club's child protection policy:**

**Coaches should**

Be publicly open when working with children and avoid situations where coach and individual children are completely unobserved, particularly at the end of sessions or in the dark.

*West Herts Hockey Club is committed to the view that everybody has a responsibility to 'play the game' - players, coaches, team managers, officials, leaders, administrators, parents and spectators. Together their attitudes and actions can ensure high standards of sporting behavior and help to emphasise fun friendly and individual fulfillment.*

Not conduct meetings with children while they are changing

Not be alone in a changing room with children while they are changing or showering

Because manual support is rarely required in hockey, explain the reasons to the child, and if possible the parents, should he think such support necessary.

Avoid taking children alone on car journeys, unless with the consent of the parents.

Avoid taking children to your home where they will be alone with you, unless with the consent of the parents.

**Coaches should never**

Engage in rough, physical or sexually provocative games, including horseplay.

Allow or engage in any inappropriate touching.

Allow children to use inappropriate language unchallenged.

Make sexually suggestive comments to a child, even in fun.

Allow allegations of a child to go unchallenged, unrecorded or not acted upon.

Do things of a personal nature for children that they can do for themselves.

Invite or allow children to stay with you at your home unsupervised.

Allow bullying or bad behavior by children.

Name .....

Signed .....

Date .....