

Upper Hutt Hockey Club

Code of Conduct

The Upper Hutt Hockey Club is committed to providing a safe and healthy environment for players, spectators and the wider community.

The Upper Hutt Hockey Club code of conduct is intended to set the standard of conduct and behaviour for all Club members and supporters regardless of how they are involved in the game of hockey.

Along with the club's values of:

- Unity,
- Hub of the community
- Hard work and teamwork, and
- Commitment – to our sport, our club, and our teams,

members are expected to espouse the principles of Sportsmanship, Fairness, Equality, and Respect. Any behaviour that is not in keeping with these values and principles can be considered misconduct against the Club's code of conduct, even if not expressly outlined in the rules below.

The Wellington Hockey Association (WHA) also has a code of conduct for players and officials/administrators that apply to all Club members involved in playing within the WHA competitions. The WHA code takes priority over the Club's code where there is any conflict or uncertainty around rules or intent. The club's code aims to be a simpler set of rules.

Players

As a player, I will:

- Play hard but by the rules.
- Work equally hard for myself and my team.
- Be a good sport and applaud all good plays whether they are made by my team or the opposition.
- Win with humility, lose with dignity.
- Never argue with an official. If I disagree with a decision I will inform the captain, coach or manager during a break or after the competition.
- Control my temper. I understand that verbal abuse of officials and other players or deliberately distracting or provoking an opponent is not acceptable or permitted behaviour in any sport.
- Treat all players in my sport as I like to be treated. I will not bully or take unfair advantage of a teammate or another competitor.
- Cooperate with my coach, team mates and opponents, for without them you don't have a game.
- Participate for my own enjoyment and benefit, not just to please parents and coaches.
- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of all participants regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background or religion.
- Thank the opposition and officials at the end of the game.

Parents/Caregivers/Spectators

As a parent/caregiver/spectator, I will:

- Encourage children to play sport if they are interested, however, if a child is not willing to play, I will not force them.

- Assist the children to focus and concentrate on their own performance, which will contribute to a strong team performance. Results will follow automatically.
- Teach children that an honest and committed effort is as important as victory, so that the result of each game is accepted without undue disappointment.
- Encourage children to always play according to the rules and the spirit of the game.
- Never ridicule or shout at a child for making mistakes or losing a game.
- Remember that children are involved in organised sports for their enjoyment, not mine.
- Remember that children learn by example. I will applaud good play by both teams.
- Not disagree with an official. I will raise the issue through my child's team manager (coach) rather than question official's judgement and honesty in public. I will remember that officials give their time and effort for my child's involvement.
- Support all efforts to remove verbal and physical abuse from sporting activities.
- Recognise the value and importance of volunteers (coach, manager, referees, etc). They give their time and resources to provide recreational activities for the children and deserve my support.
- Help when asked by a coach or official.

Coaches

As a coach, I will:

- Remember that players participate for enjoyment and winning is only part of the fun.
- Never ridicule or yell at players for making a mistake or not winning.
- Be reasonable in my demands on players' time, energy and enthusiasm.
- Operate within the rules and spirit of the game and teach my players to do the same.
- Ensure that the time players spend with me is a positive experience. All players are deserving of equal attention and opportunities.
- Avoid overplaying the talented players and understand that the average players need and deserve equal time.
- Ensure that equipment and facilities meet safety standards and are appropriate to the age and ability of all players.
- Display control, respect and professionalism to all involved with the sport including opponents, referees, coaches, officials, administrators, the media, parents and spectators. I will encourage my players to do the same.
- Show concern and caution toward sick and injured players and follow the advice of a physician when determining whether an injured player is ready to recommence training or competition.
- Obtain appropriate qualifications and keep up to date with the latest coaching practices and the principles of growth and development of young players.
- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of all people involved in the game, regardless of their gender, ability or cultural background.

Officials

As an official, I will:

- Place the safety and welfare of players above all else.
- Be impartial, consistent, objective and courteous when making decisions.
- Accept responsibility for my actions and decisions.
- Be a positive role model in behaviour and personal appearance and ensure my comments are positive and supportive towards players or other officials.
- Be a good sport as I understand that actions speak louder than words.
- Avoid any situations which may lead to or be construed as a conflict of interest.
- Always respect, remain loyal to and support other officials.
- Keep up to date with the latest 'Laws of the Game', trends and principles of their application.

- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of all people involved in the game, regardless of their gender, ability or cultural background.

Administrators

Club administrators will:

- Create pathways for club members to participate not just as players but also as coaches, referees, administrators etc.
- Ensure that rules, equipment, length of games and training schedules are modified to suit the age, ability and maturity level of players.
- Ensure quality supervision and coaching for players.
- Remember that players participate for their enjoyment and benefit.
- Help coaches and officials highlight appropriate behaviour and skill development, and help to improve the standards of coaching and officiating.
- Ensure that everyone involved in sport emphasises fair play.
- Distribute a code of conduct to players, coaches, officials and parents and encourage them to follow it.
- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of all people involved in the game, regardless of their gender, ability or cultural background.
- Display good behaviour and not use bad language, nor harass players, coaches, officials or spectators.