



# SIDMOUTH & OTTERY HOCKEY CLUB



## CODE OF ETHICS & BEHAVIOUR

### Introduction

This Code applies to all members and other volunteers and coaches supporting Sidmouth & Ottery Hockey Club ("the Club"). Its aim is to set out the minimum standards of behaviour and conduct in order to promote the Club's ethos of fair play and respect for all – players (young people and adults), coaches, managers, adult and youth volunteers, parents, spectators, umpires and other officials.

At the heart of the Code are the England Hockey's (EH) 'Code of Ethics & Behaviour' and the Rules of Hockey. All sections are based on the **minimum** standard of behaviour and conduct laid down by EH. It should be read in conjunction with other key documents which are referred to as necessary. EH's Code of Ethics & Behaviour can be found at [www.englandhockey.co.uk](http://www.englandhockey.co.uk).

Every applicant to the Club is required to complete a Club Membership Registration form, by completing this form they confirm that they have read and will adhere to the Code before they can be admitted as a member. In the case of our younger members (Under 18 years) both the player and their parent/carer are required to confirm their commitment to the Code. This will roll-over at their annual membership renewal.

### The Code

The Code's basic principle is centred on the individual being responsible and accountable for his/her own actions - whether playing, coaching, managing, spectating, umpiring or otherwise volunteering. It is each member's personal responsibility to treat their team's or the opposition team's players, coaches, managers, volunteers, spectators, umpires and officials with respect before, during and after training or matches.

The Club applies EH's Code of Ethics & Behaviour to the following groups:

- Players
- Young People - Under 18 years of age
- Coaches, Managers and Volunteer Helpers
- Spectators and Parents
- Umpires and Officials
- Medical Practitioners and allied Health Professionals.

In addition to EH's Code of Ethics & Behaviour, the Club expects all players to adopt the following practices:

## **1. Pre-Match.**

- a. Commitment to training builds not only skills and fitness but team spirit. Training is the place to improve personal skills and to be noticed by Club coaches. Regular attendance also boosts your team selection chances.
- b. It is a player's responsibility to ensure that their team captain or vice-captain have accurate details of their availability on a week-by-week basis seven days ahead of the next game. If a player is unsure about the team they are playing in, or arrangements for the game – contact your captain!
- c. Arrive at the arranged "meet" punctually. If you expect to be, or are, delayed contact your team captain without delay. Late arrival at the match venue will affect the team's preparation and potentially the outcome of the game.
- d. Be well prepared; turn up to play with:
  - (1) Any necessary protective equipment (e.g., shin pads, gum shield, hand protection, face masks etc.)
  - (2) The appropriate match fee.
  - (3) Any required medication.
  - (4) The right coloured kit of black shorts/skirt and black socks.
- e. Set a positive example for others, particularly for young participants and spectators. This includes behaviour and the use of language that is appropriate in the company of young people and their parents.

## **2. During the Match.**

- a. Under the Rules of Hockey, the Team Captain is responsible for the conduct of their team before, during and after the game. Players must NOT put their Captain under pressure by their poor behaviour or attitude during or after the game.
- b. Treat others involved in the game with respect remembering to treat opposition players as you would expect them to treat you.
- c. Remember the game cannot take place without the presence of two umpires. Never show dissent of an umpire's decision or argue with an umpire, it does not work! If you have a query, channel this through your captain to approach the umpire at half time or after the game.
- d. Do not criticise, swear at or belittle team-mates. Every player has an off day, so support team-mates and respect them.
- e. Set a positive example for others, particularly for young participants and spectators. This includes behaviour and the use of language that is appropriate in the company of young people and their parents.

### **3. Post-Match.**

- a. Accept success and failure, victory and defeat, with dignity.
- b. Always thank the umpires and opposition players and shake hands after the game.
- c. In the spirit of sportsmanship, always join your team-mates and the opposition for tea. It is a league requirement that the Club provides a tea for the visiting team. Parents are requested to pick up their junior player after the tea. This applies equally to home or away games.
- d. Pay match fees to the captain or nominated person on match day each week – this allows the Club to function.
- e. Give your team captain your availability for the next match.
- f. Set a positive example for others, particularly for young participants and spectators. This includes behaviour and the use of language that is appropriate in the company of young people and their parents.

Team Managers, captains and parents will have a role in explaining this Code to juniors, as necessary.

### **Discipline**

Breaches of the Club's Code of Behaviour will be considered by the Club Disciplinary Committee in accordance with the Club's Disciplinary policy.

### **Associated Policies and Guidelines**

EH Code of Ethics & Behaviour and its related policies and procedures.

*S Ellison*

**Steve Ellison**

**Chair**

**Dated: 01 Apr 2023**

*Karen Dutton*

**Karen Dutton**

**Club Secretary**

**Dated: 01 Apr 2023**

