



Expected Behaviour - Spirit of Hockey Guidance

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As per the [Spirit of Hockey – Code of Conduct](#), all individuals involved in hockey will, at all times:

Collaborate Inclusively

- Acknowledge, embrace, and respect the diversity of individuals involved in hockey, nurturing an inclusive and welcoming environment regardless of background, ability, or identity
- Inspire, motivate, and make a positive difference, recognising the influence we can have on the experience of all in the hockey community
- Contribute to the physical and mental well-being of the hockey community by fostering a positive and supportive environment

Care for People and Places

- Respect the rights of every individual to participate in hockey, setting a positive example for others
- Conduct ourselves in a manner that takes all reasonable measures to protect our own safety and the safety of others
- Act responsibly and sustainably, minimising our impact on the environment. Respect facilities and equipment by taking care to leave places clean

Play with Spirit/Win with Grace

- Play fairly and within the rules of the game, recognising the spirit of fair play in hockey by being respectful towards others
- Accept defeat graciously, while always displaying good sportsmanship to opponents, coaches, staff and officials
- Uphold honesty, kindness, and integrity in all our behaviours, whether on the pitch or off it

Be Resilient in Everything We Do

- Be willing to challenge others in the right manner if they are bringing the sport into disrepute and take all possible steps to prevent it
- Actively promote the reputation of the sport and serve as ambassadors for hockey
- Demonstrate resilience in the face of challenges

Conduct Violations and Unacceptable Behaviour

Regulation 12.1.2 Conduct Violations states serious disorderly, abusive, offensive, or improper behaviour may include, but is not limited to, physical or verbal altercations, discriminatory language, or actions, threatening or intimidating behaviour, and actions that bring the game into disrepute.

The following is also reminder of what constitutes unacceptable behaviour towards umpires:

Dissent

- Appealing/questioning against a decision
- Offering opinions and advice
- Loud challenging questioning
- Arguing

Abuse

- Persistency of the above
- Players crowding an umpire
- Swearing at an umpire
- Calling an umpire biased or a cheat
- Using threatening behaviour

Umpires and League Officials are volunteers with various levels of experience, and they deserve to be treated with respect and allowed to enjoy the game. The recruitment and retention of umpires and League Officials is being adversely affected by the poor behaviour of a minority.

Regulation 12.1.3 Club Responsibilities states that:

- a) Clubs are responsible for regulating the behaviour of their players, officials, members, and spectators, in compliance with the EH Code of Conduct
- b) By participating in the League, Clubs confirm they have established a comprehensive internal disciplinary procedure. This procedure must address:
 - Serious disorderly, abusive, offensive or improper behaviour by any individual associated with the Club;
 - Behaviour before, during and after any League match;
 - Conduct in person or on social media
- c) Clubs must document and communicate their internal procedures to ensure consistency and transparency
- d) Clubs are encouraged to implement educational or preventive measures to promote good conduct, sportsmanship and respect among their participants and spectators

Regulation 12.1.4 states that the team manager is responsible for the conduct of all team officials, and any club officials not in the spectator area, during a match. The captain assumes that responsibility if there is no team manager.