



Wootton Wanderers Hockey Club – Code of Conduct

The Code of Conduct is published to ensure that all members of WWHC always maintain a high standard of self-discipline and good behaviour when representing the club.

This code extends to all members and committee members. As does it apply to both home and away matches, on and off the pitch, use of social media and messaging services. It is designed to ensure and maintain an enjoyable, inclusive experience for all involved.

All members are expected to act in a manner consistent with the Code of Conduct listed below and in line with the England Hockey Code of Ethics and Behaviour booklet. Also known as Respect. Full copy available here.

<https://www.englishockey.co.uk/download?documentId=016QX2LWPHVS6YD2CYNBF3QPKJQIHJPR3U>

All members,

- **Will** conduct themselves fairly and properly on and off pitch (inc social media and chat groups)
- **Will NOT** engage in verbal, physical abuse or hostility to other players, umpires, coaches or members of the public
- **Will NOT** dispute decisions nor react provocatively towards Umpires at any time, all issues will be addressed to by the Captain
- **Will NOT** engage in crude, abusive and personal 'sledging' of other players or officials verbally or via social media and messaging services
- **Will NOT** engage in excessive and/or intimidatory appealing
- **Will** respect and welcome all players and guests to WWHC
- At all times act in a manner consistent with the spirit of the game and the reputation of WWHC
- Be respectful of all on and off the pitch (inc social media and chat groups)
- Respect fellow members, staff, officials, opposing players and spectators
- Respect decisions made by Officials
- Treat facilities and equipment with respect
- Be inclusive of all on and off pitch (inc social media and chat groups) where appropriate

The WWHC Committee are determined to ensure that the behaviour outlined above will be conducted by all members and will follow the procedures laid down by England Hockey to deal with any breaches of our values and behaviours that may occur.

CODE OF CONDUCT AND ENGLAND HOCKEY VALUES

1. WWHC is committed to maintaining the highest standards of behaviour and conduct. The contents of this document are based on the guidelines set down by EH in their Code of Conduct which also incorporates Values and Behaviours.
2. Players and Team Officials must accept the Umpire's decision. Players must not show dissent at the Umpire's decision or react in a provocative or disapproving manner towards an Umpire at any time.
3. Players and Team Officials shall not intimidate, assault or attempt to intimidate an Umpire, another Player or Spectator.
4. Players and Team Officials shall not use crude and/or abusive language nor make abusive gestures or and physical signals
5. Players and Team Officials shall not make racially abusive comments nor indulge in racially abusive actions against fellow players, officials, members and supporters. Clubs must operate an active open-door membership policy whilst respecting player qualification regulations and welcome players/members irrespective of ethnic origin.
6. Players/Team Officials shall not use or in any way be concerned in the use or distribution of illegal drugs.



7. The use of social media and messaging chats will be respectful and appropriate to all members and those in the wider community.
8. Members will not use derogatory language or actions towards others
9. The committee and captains will make the necessary and adequate steps to ensure the good behaviour of all members towards players and officials

Responsibility of the Captains and Committee – The Captains are responsible for ensuring that match day play is conducted within the values and beliefs of WWHC and England Hockey, they are supported by the committee. The committee will address any behaviour deemed unacceptable using protocols set by England Hockey. Both the committee members and captains are to promote and emulate good examples to all in the club.

Players' Conduct – All members will adhere to the code of conduct above.

The ethics and values of WWHC are important in making the club a fun, inclusive family friendly environment for all. The conduct of members at all matches home and away and all training sessions is crucial in providing this atmosphere and every player is expected to make an important contribution to this.

England Hockey and WWHC values and behaviours requires RESPECT for:

- Your opponents
- Your own Captain and Team
- The role of the Umpires
- The game's traditional values

It is against the ethics of the club and England Hockey to:

- Dispute an Umpire's decision by word, action or gesture
- Direct abusive language towards an opponent or Umpire
- Indulge in any forms of cheating or lack of 'gamesmanship'

Violence

There is no place for any act of violence on the field of play or any other area of the club.

Social Networking

At WWHC we encourage interaction and discussion between players, officials, friends and others affiliated with the club and the sport, however we ask that the language used in the communication is always respectful. We reserve the right to address anything we deem:

- Abusive or personal attacks
- Material that is unlawful, obscene, defamatory, threatening, harassing, abusive, slanderous, hateful or embarrassing to any other entity

What should I do if someone reports abuse or poor practice to me?

- Stay calm.
- Reassure the person that has reported the concern to you has done the right thing.
- Keep an open mind.
- Listen carefully and take them seriously.
- Do not promise to keep secrets, inform the person that you will be most likely need to share this information with others.
- Only ask questions asking for clarity about information proved. Do not ask questions that may lead to a particular response. If needed to, try to ask questions that start "Tell me about", "Explain to me" or "Describe".
- Tell them what you will need to do next and who you will be sharing this information with.
- Record in writing what was said, using the persons own words where possible as soon as you can.



Consequences of not following the code of conduct

In the first instance, Club Captains will engage with the member, moving on to the Chairperson and then the Committee as a whole. As a last resort the club will follow England Hockey’s protocols as set out in the diagram below. The link to England Hockey’s procedure is as follows.

[Disrepute Complaints | England Hockey](#)

Discipline and Disrepute procedure

