

## Code of Conduct

### 1. Purpose

This Code of Conduct sets the expected standards of behaviour for all members, players, parents/carers, coaches, volunteers, and officials of Herne Bay Roller Hockey & Skating Club.

### 2. General Principles

All individuals must:

- Act respectfully, responsibly, and fairly at all times.
- Promote a positive and inclusive environment.
- Uphold the good reputation of the Club, both on and off the rink.
- Comply with all Club rules, policies, and procedures.

#### The Bay Sports Arena Codes of Conduct for Roller Clubs

- ☐ DO NOT arrive or leave the Arena wearing skates.
- ☐ Skates must NOT be used outside of the Arena.
- ☐ Change in the changing rooms if over the age of 11 years.
- ☐ Skate / play roller hockey on the Arena Hall floor ONLY and under the supervision of a coach.
- ☐ Users should NOT utilise other areas such as that by the bleacher seating for skate practice.
- ☐ Balls must NOT be played off the rink.
- ☐ Remain on the community side of the Arena – 'No Access' signs mean NO ACCESS and in the event of club users accessing any out of bounds areas, the club may be penalised for inadequate supervision.
- ☐ Parents must remain seated on the bleacher seating provided if choosing to attend the session.
- ☐ Children who need help with their kits can be assisted by parents in this area ONLY.
- ☐ DO NOT access the far side of the Arena. This area is for players, coaches and officials ONLY.
- ☐ Skates must be checked by coaches to ensure that they are clean with appropriate NON-MARKING toe stops.
- ☐ Coaches /Parents must ensure that users DO NOT access the underneath part of the bleacher seating.
- ☐ Food and drink must not be taken onto the rink and rubbish placed in the bins provided. Chewing gum is NOT permitted.
- ☐ Drinks breaks will be announced enabling children to collect their drinks from inside the Arena ONLY.
- ☐ DO NOT use mobile phones on the rink area.
- ☐ Anyone NOT complying with these rules may be issued with a period of suspension or even banned depending on the severity of their action.

## Player Code

- Always play within the rules and respect officials' decisions without challenge.
- Attend training sessions and matches punctually and be properly equipped.
- Show respect to teammates, coaches, opponents, officials, and spectators.
- Never engage in bullying, discrimination, or abusive behaviour.
- Inform coaches/team managers as soon as possible if unable to attend training or matches.
- Listen carefully to coaching instructions and give their best effort.
- Take care of their own equipment and Club property.
- Follow the Club's Safeguarding Policy and report any concerns to the Welfare Officer.
- Members must wear suitable kit for training and match sessions, as agreed with the coach/team manager.
- Members must pay any fees for training or events promptly.
- Junior members are not allowed to smoke on club premises or whilst representing the club at competitions.
- Junior members are not allowed to consume alcohol or drugs of any kind on the club premises or whilst representing the club.

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## 4. Parent / Carer Code

- Encourage your child to learn the rules and play within them.
- Discourage unfair play and arguing with officials.
- Help your child to recognise good performance, not just results.
- Never force your child to take part in sport.
- Set a good example by recognising fair play and applauding good performances of all.
- Never punish or belittle a child for losing or making mistakes.
- Publicly accept officials' judgements.
- Support your child's involvement and help them to enjoy their sport.
- Use correct and proper language at all times.
- Encourage and guide performers to accept responsibility for their own performance and behaviour.
- Remember that young people play for their own enjoyment not for their parents'
- Be realistic about the young player's ability.
- Encourage your child to be attentive during training, keep to agreed timings for training and competitions and inform any member of the committee/coach if they are going to be late
- Pay any fees promptly
- Bring to the attention of Club Officers and Coaches any concerns as soon after the situation arises as possible

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## 5. Coach / Volunteer Code

- Consider the well-being and safety of participants before the development of performance.
- Develop an appropriate working relationship with participants, based on mutual trust and respect.
- Make sure all activities are appropriate to the age, ability and experience of those taking part.
- Promote the positive aspects of the sport (e.g. fair play).
- Display consistently high standards of behaviour and appearance.
- Follow all guidelines laid down by the National Governing Body and the Club.
- Hold appropriate valid qualifications and insurance cover.
- Never exert undue influence over performers to obtain personal benefit or reward.
- Never condone rule violations, rough play or the use of prohibited substances.
- Encourage participants to value their performances and not just results.

- Encourage and guide participants to accept responsibility for their own performance and behaviour.

Coaches and volunteers must:

- Prioritise the welfare of players above winning or personal ambition.
- Hold valid qualifications and safeguarding clearances as required.
- Create a safe, fun, and inclusive environment for all participants.
- Maintain appropriate professional boundaries at all times.
- Never engage in physical punishment, bullying, or abusive language.
- Ensure that any concerns about a child's welfare are reported immediately.

## Guidelines for dealing with an incident-accident

- Stay calm but act swiftly and observe the situation.
- Is there danger of further injuries?
- Listen to what the injured person is saying.
- Alert the first aider who should take appropriate action for minor injuries.
- In the event of an injury requiring specialist treatment, call the emergency services.
- Deal with the rest of the group and ensure that they are adequately supervised.
- Do not move someone with major injuries. Wait for the emergency medics.
- Contact the injured person's parent/carer.
- Complete an incident/accident report form.

## Managing Behaviour Strategies for Coaches/Team Managers and Club Officials

Incidents involving bad behaviour in HBRHSC players are rare but on the occasions that they will happen. HBRHSC coaches/team managers and officials are to adopt the following form of 'Behavioural Management' procedures taken from 'Sport Coach UK'

This penalty default involves the removal of something positive when athletes behave badly. The penalty default can take the form of being excluded from that part of the session in one of three types of 'time out' depending on the severity or repetitiveness of the incident (to be decided by the coach).

- **'Observational time out'** is taking the athlete out of the activity but remain within the group allowing them to watch. This allows the athlete to see the fun they are missing, thus encouraging a sense of loss.
- **'Exclusion time out'** is where the young athlete is removed from the group. This could be by sitting the athlete in a safe position away from the group in the spectator area. A parent or Coach would sit with the athlete to assess and promote a change of behaviour. The athlete would be asked to re-join the group when the behaviour has modified. Should this not be achieved then the athlete would then be excluded from the rest of the session with the parent/guardian taking control of the child away from the training area or take the athlete home. A **seclusion time out** would then be applied
- **'Seclusion time out'** is where the young athlete is completely removed from the session, with the coach asking a parent/guardian to take control of the child away from the training area or take the athlete home.

If the player then refuses to leave the rink a whistle shall be blown and all coaches will stop all play/training on the rink until the offending player leaves the rink voluntarily. In no circumstances will a child or young person be physically removed from the rink or restrained (unless they are causing physical harm to another child).

At the time an incident occurs, if the coach is unable to deal with the offending child or the circumstances are that it is their own child offending, another coach or appropriate club official should step in and conclude the penalty default.

The Club/Welfare/Child Protection Officer **will** be notified asap and she/he **will** take the appropriate action.

- All players, parents/carers, officials, coaches, and volunteers must sign an annual agreement confirming they have read, understood, and agreed to abide by this Code of Conduct.