



Young Person Guide

What can I expect from the club?

The club will have:

- **A chance for you to become a member**
This will be explained to you when you arrive at the club.
You will receive information on how much this will cost, kit you will require, rules of the club, when training sessions are and match information
- **Qualified coaches**
The coaches understand and know how to help you play the best hockey you can
- **Volunteers**
Any adult working within the club will have been on training to ensure they know how to support and look after you
The club will have a First Aider, Team Managers and a Welfare Officer. Make sure you know who these people are and introduce yourself to them
- **Rules**
There are rules of the game of hockey which you will learn as you play
There will be rules of the club which you will also learn for example junior members are not allowed to smoke
These are there for your safety and are not to be broken
- **Opportunities for you to play**
There will be teams and squads of boys and girls your own age that you will get to know and learn how to play hockey with
- **Matches and competitions**
There will be a chance for you to train and play in your club team against other clubs
- **Anti bullying policy**
This clearly states how the club will deal with any situations of bullying, either adult to young person or young person to young person
- **Safeguarding / Child Protection Policies and Procedures**
This provides the club with ways of ensuring you are safe and enjoy your hockey
- **Codes of Conduct**
These clearly state how club members must act towards you and support you. This includes coaches, volunteers, club officials and parents

What do the club expect from me?

- **Code of Conduct**
The club will have clear messages of how they expect you to behave.
This may be in the form of a Code of Conduct
The Code of Conduct will clearly state what is okay and what is not okay for example:
 - Junior members are not permitted to smoke
 - Junior members are not permitted to drink alcohol

Ashford (Middlesex) Hockey Club



- **Rules**

The aim of Ashford (Middlesex) Hockey Club (AHC) Junior Section is to promote healthy participation in sport. It is hoped that everyone will play to the best of their ability and that teams are successful. However, we believe that it is more important to enjoy sport and play fairly.

The following Code of Conduct and Rules have been written to uphold the aims of AHC and to help and protect all junior players, umpires, spectators and parents involved in the playing of hockey regardless of whether it is in league games, friendly matches, or training sessions

The club believes that it is important that its members, coaches, administrators, volunteers and parents associated with the club should, at all times, show respect, be encouraged to be open and to share any concerns or complaints about any aspect of the club with the coach or the appropriate committee member.

Each individual is accountable for his or her own actions. Whether you are playing, watching, coaching or umpiring any match, it is your personal responsibility to treat your own team, opposition players, coaches spectators and the umpires with respect and consideration before, during and after the match.

Team Members

- Compete for enjoyment.
- Do their best.
- Show team spirit and positive sporting behaviour.
- Play within the rules at all times
- Respect colleagues, coaches, opponents and the decisions of officials.
- Keep to agreed timings for training and competitions or inform their coach or team manager if they are going to be late.
- Wear suitable kit (including shin pads and gum shields) for training and match sessions, as agreed with the coach/team manager.
- 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.



Don't keep it To Yourself

You have the right to:

- Have fun when playing hockey
- Be safe when playing hockey
- Enjoy your hockey
- Make friends through hockey
- Be treated with respect by adults involved in hockey

Are you worried?

- My coach is bullying me
- Another adult at hockey is bullying me
- Another member of my team is bullying me
- One of the coaches or volunteers is threatening me
- An adult is making me do things which I know are wrong
- Someone is touching me and making me feel uncomfortable
- Someone is constantly teasing me, shouting at me or kicking and punching me
- Someone is making suggestive remarks or asking me to do things of a sexual nature
- Someone is acting in a way which makes me feel lonely, upset, unsafe or embarrassed

If the answer is **YES** - **Don't keep it to yourself – Ask for help**

Who can I talk to?

Talk to your **Club Welfare Officer**

It can sometimes be difficult to speak to an adult about how you are feeling.

- *You might think that an adult will not understand*
THEY WILL LISTEN
- *You may think that they will not believe you*
THEY WILL BELIEVE YOU
- *You may be scared that they will tell other people that you do not want to know*
THEY WILL ONLY TELL SOMOENE WHO CAN HELP
- *You might think they have not got time to talk to you*
THEY WILL ALWAYS MAKE TIME TO TALK

It's better to talk to someone:

- Ignoring your worries or concerns could make them worse
- Talking to someone will begin to tackle your worries and concerns
- You only have to share information that you want to share
- Telling someone will begin to help you

What will happen if I talk to someone?

Your Club Welfare Officer will know what to do and how to help. They will be able to ensure that you are safe and they will believe you.

There are policies and procedures which they will use. These will provide information of who to contact, how to contact them and what they can do to help.

Ashford (Middlesex) Hockey Club



Confidentiality

The Club Welfare Officer cannot promise to keep the information you share a secret. However they do have to keep it **CONFIDENTIAL**. This means that they will have to tell only the person/people who can help.

When you are talking to the Club Welfare Officer ask them to explain who they need to speak to and why. They may say one of the following:

- England Hockey Lead Child Welfare Officer
They will know what to do if the behaviour of adult/s towards you is upsetting you
Talking to this person will begin to help the situation and ensure you can play hockey in a happy and safe environment
- Social Services or the Police in an emergency
Social Services or the police will be called if the Club Welfare Officer thinks you may come to more harm or are in danger. This is to help you and ensure you are safe.

<p style="text-align: center;">Who is my Club Welfare Officer? Gordon Smith 07834 76531</p>
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Alternative sources of help, advice and support:

NSPCC	0808 800 5000	www.thereforeme.com	Support and advice for 12-16 yr olds via the website
Childline	0800 1111	www.childline.org.uk	Free helpline for children and young people
Kidscape	0207 730 3300	www.kidscape.org.uk	Support on bullying