

## ULSTER HOCKEY CODE OF CONDUCT

Ulster Hockey has jurisdiction and authority over the playing and promotion of hockey in the Province of Ulster. Any member of a club or school affiliated to Ulster Hockey agrees to comply with the Constitution, Rules, Policies and Procedures of Ulster Hockey, including this Code of Conduct. The Code aims to align to both the FIH and Hockey Ireland Codes of Conduct.

This Code aims to create awareness of and accountability for the promotion of the game of hockey by all participants. **Ulster hockey wants all participating in Hockey, in any role, to experience enjoyment, achievement, respect and to be safe.**

Under this Code **a participant** is defined as a player, coach, manager, umpire, official, volunteer or spectator involved in the sport of Hockey under the jurisdiction of Ulster Hockey.

**Ulster Hockey, clubs, schools, and other organisations associated with Ulster Hockey, are responsible for ensuring their players, coaches, umpires, officials, spectators that represent them or support them, comply with the Code. However, ultimately all Participants are responsible and accountable for their own behaviour and conduct.**

A copy of this Code of Conduct should be distributed to club members and Team Captains.

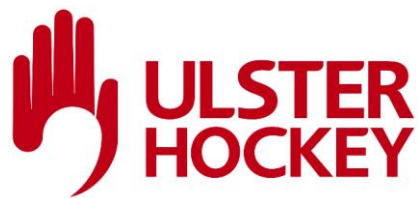
### 1 ULSTER HOCKEY PARTICIPANT CODE OF CONDUCT

This Code of Conduct applies to all participants involved in hockey in Ulster, whether participating with their schools or clubs in Ulster Hockey competitions or events, or representing Ulster away from home.

#### EXPECTED MINIMUM STANDARD OF BEHAVIOUR FOR ALL EVERY PARTICIPANTS

All participants are expected to behave in an appropriate and sporting manner, which includes the following:

- promoting the reputation of hockey and taking all possible steps to prevent it from being brought into disrepute;
- conducting themselves at the venue in a manner that takes all reasonable measures to protect their own safety and the safety of others;
- never abusing equipment (eg throwing a stick), clothing, venue equipment/fixtures or fittings;



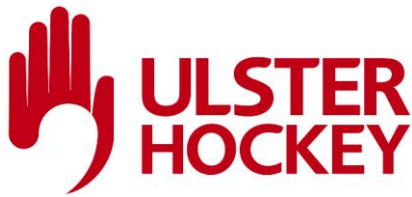
- never using foul or abusive language or gestures;
- never using physical abuse or threatening or intimidating behaviour;
- never confronting an umpire or technical official, and absolutely not within 20 minutes following the end of the match, with the intention of behaving inappropriately or arguing about decisions;
- never feigning injury or overreacting to an alleged breach or decision;
- never urinating at the side of the pitch, not only is it a criminal offence, but it is not acceptable behaviour and tarnishes the image of hockey. All such occurrences must be reported to Ulster Hockey;
- abiding by the Code of Ethics and other good practice guidelines and policies issued by Ulster Hockey and Hockey Ireland.

**Failure to abide by these minimum standards may be considered a Disrepute Offence and will be dealt with by the Ulster Hockey Management Board or an appropriate Committee of Ulster Hockey, in accordance with the Ulster Hockey governance documents or other relevant Ulster Hockey policies.**

## **2. EXPECTED MINIMUM STANDARDS OF BEHAVIOUR OF CLUBS, SCHOOLS OR COLLEGES.**

All Clubs, Schools, Colleges and other organisations involved in Hockey in Ulster are expected to abide by the following minimum standards of behaviour:

- promote the reputation of hockey and take all possible steps to prevent it from being brought into disrepute.
- regulate the behaviour of their participants, including spectators;
- have an established internal disciplinary procedure to deal with **disorderly, abusive, offensive or improper behaviour** by participants prior to, during and after any Ulster Hockey Competition match or event. This extends to behaviour towards opposing teams, coaches, managers, umpires, officials, the public, members of Ulster Hockey staff or representatives;
- respect the spirit of fair play, by participating within the rules and regulations of Ulster Hockey and the game;
- respect the rights of others, by not publicly criticising umpires or officials and by showing an appreciation for volunteers;
- support all efforts to remove foul or abusive language and unsporting behaviour, and do not tolerate it from players, officials, team management or supporters;
- protect those involved in the game from verbal or physical abuse and threatening or intimidating behaviour;



- ensure participants and any other support staff conduct themselves in a manner that takes all reasonable measures to protect their own safety and the safety of others, including the safety of each participant;
- Abide by the Code of Ethics and other good practice guidelines and policies issued by Ulster Hockey and/or Hockey Ireland.
- Take responsibility to ensure that the club, school, college or organisation is suitably insured for their activities.
- Comply with the General Data Protection Regulation in relation to the handling of personal data.

**Any behaviour of a club, school or college that is reported to Ulster Hockey and that does not meet the minimum standard of behaviour outlined above, may be considered as a Disrepute Offence and will be dealt with by the Ulster Hockey Management Board or an appropriate Committee in accordance with the discipline rules contained in the Ulster Hockey Constitution or other relevant Ulster Hockey policies.**

### **3. PUBLIC STATEMENTS MADE BY INDIVIDUALS, CLUBS, SCHOOLS, COLLEGES AND OTHER ORGANISATIONS INVOLVED IN ULSTER HOCKEY PROGRAMMES, EVENTS OR COMPETITIONS.**

Ulster Hockey has adopted the FIH definition of a “public statement” as follows:

**Any statement which in whole, part or essence, is made public. Such a statement may be made in a newspaper, magazine, periodical or by any electronic (Internet, social media, E-Mail, etc.) or other means through the medium of television, radio or in any other manner whatsoever, regardless of the circumstances in which the statement was made.**

Public statements made by players, coaches, umpires, officials, clubs, schools, colleges and other organisations must be fair, constructive and reasonable and must not involve a personal attack on another player, umpire, appointed official, member of staff or administrator.

Ulster Hockey recognises that fair and reasonable comments on the game in general are essentially in the interests of everyone. However, it further recognises that in the interest of maintaining good relations between players, umpires and officials, it is necessary to ensure that any such comment and criticism is constructive.

**Approved 18.12.18**