CODES OF BEHAVIOUR

CURRENT VERSION:	2026
LAST REVIEWED:	JULY 2026
NEXT REVIEW DATE:	JULY 2027
APPROVED BY:	ACT MASTERS HOCKEY COMMITTEE

ADOPTED BY ACT MASTERS HOCKEY:
21 JULY 2026

As an inclusive focussed organisation, ACT Masters Hockey abides by a range of policies set out by FIH, Hockey Australia and Hockey ACT. Amongst those policies and guidelines ACT Masters Hockey maintains a strong focus of behaviour at all levels of the game.

By registering and becoming a member of ACT Masters Hockey all players, officials, committee members, administrators and spectators agree to adhere to the Codes of Behaviour promulgated by ACT Masters Hockey.

This document sets out the Role Specific Codes of Behaviour applied by ACT Masters Hockey in the conduct or all aspects of its operation for:

- Coaches/ Managers/ Team Officials Code of Behaviour
- Officials Code of Behaviour
- Player/Athlete Code of Behaviour
- Administrator Code of Behaviour
- Committee Member Code of Behaviour
- Spectator Code of Behaviour

Click here for the Hockey Australia Code of Conduct

Policy Review Date

This Policy shall remain in force regardless of its “next review date” and till rescinded by the ACT Masters Committee.

Coaches/ Managers/ Team Officials Code of Behaviour

As a coach, manager or team official participating in any event that is conducted by ACT Masters Hockey you must meet the following requirements with regard to your conduct:

- Treat all players with respect at all times.
- Behave in a sportsmanlike manner at all times to other coaches, officials, players and spectators.
- Place the safety and welfare of the players above all else.
- Avoid situations that may lead to a conflict of interest.
- Be courteous, respectful and open to discussion and interaction.
- Make no detrimental statements in public in respect of the performance of any match officials or umpires.
- Promote a climate of mutual support amongst the players. Encourage players to respect one another and their worth within the team.
- Encourage and facilitate players' independence and responsibility for their own behaviour, performance, decisions and actions.
- Determine, in consultation with each player, what information is confidential and respect that confidentiality.
- Avoid situations with your players that could be construed as compromising.
- Adhere to the Anti-Doping Policy advocated by Hockey Australia.
- Provide a safe environment for training and competition.
- Recognise individual differences in players and cater to these as best you can.
- Make a commitment to providing a quality service to your players. Provide a training program which is planned and sequential. Maintain or improve your current NCAS accreditation, seek continual improvement through performance appraisal and ongoing coach education and be open to other people's opinions.
- Refrain from using obscene, offensive or insulting language and/or making obscene gestures which may insult players, officials or spectators.
- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of every person regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background or religion.

Officials Code of Behaviour

As an Official of ACT Masters Hockey you are required to comply with this policy. You must meet the following requirements in regard to your conduct in your role as an Official during any activity conducted by ACT Masters Hockey, an affiliated association or an affiliated club:

- Treat all players with respect at all times.
- Accept responsibility for all actions taken. Exercise reasonable care to prevent injury by ensuring players play within the rules.
- Be impartial and maintain integrity in your relationship with other officials, players and coaches.
- Avoid situations that may lead to a conflict of interest.
- Not be in a position of individual and unsupervised contact with players under 18 years of age.
- Be courteous, respectful and open to discussion and interaction.
- Be a positive role model in behaviour and personal appearance by maintaining the highest standards of personal conduct and projecting a favourable image of hockey and officiating at all times.
- Refrain from any personal abuse towards players.
- Show concern and caution towards ill and injured athletes. Enforce the blood rule and apply procedures regarding ill or injured players according to the rules.
- Abstain from the use of tobacco and the consumption of alcoholic beverages when officiating or whilst in uniform.
- Adhere to the Anti-Doping Policy advocated by Hockey Australia.
- Make no public comments or media announcements without prior approval from the ACT Masters Hockey Committee.
- Umpires – Wear only the official uniform supplied by HA, Hockey ACT or ACT Masters Hockey when umpiring at official events.
- Maintain an appropriate fitness level for your appointment.
- Abide by all relevant policies documented by Hockey ACT and ACT Masters Hockey in relation to your appointment at an ACT Masters Hockey sanctioned event.
- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of every person regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background or religion.

Player/Athlete Code of Behaviour

As a player of ACT Masters Hockey you are required to comply with this policy. You must meet the following requirements in regard to your conduct and in any role you hold within ACT Masters Hockey:

- Behave in a sporting manner at all times to all players, officials and spectators.
- Don't make detrimental statements in respect of the performance of any match officials or umpires.
- Play by the rules at all times and ensure that the game of hockey is not brought into disrepute by your actions.
- Do not engage in inappropriate and/or physical contact with players or officials during the course of play.
- Accept responsibility for all actions taken. Exercise reasonable care to prevent injury by ensuring that you play within the rules. Reasonable care consists of showing due diligence in abiding by the rules and adhering to the officials decisions.
- Adhere to the Anti-Doping Policy advocated by Hockey Australia.
- Do not bet on the outcome or on any other aspect of a hockey match or competition.
- Do not try to achieve a contrived outcome to a match or competition, or otherwise improperly influence the outcome or any other aspect of a match or a competition.
- Do not show unnecessary obvious dissension, displeasure or disapproval (by action or verbal abuse) towards an umpire or match official as a consequence of his or her decision or generally.
- Use appropriate discretion in the use of tobacco and the consumption of alcoholic beverages while in the playing/representative uniform.
- Adhere to Hockey Australia's racial and sexual vilification policy.
- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of every person regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background or religion.
- Don't do anything which adversely affects or reflects on or discredits the game of hockey, Hockey Australia, any State Association, or any squad, team, competition, tournament, sponsor, official supplier or licensee, including, but not limited to, any illegal act or any act of dishonesty or fraud.
- Refrain from using obscene, offensive or insulting language and/or making obscene gestures which may insult other players, officials or spectators.

Administrator Code of Behaviour

As an administrator of ACT Masters Hockey you required to comply with this policy. You must meet the following requirements in regard to your conduct and in any role you hold within ACT Masters Hockey:

- Involve people in planning, leadership, evaluation and decision making related to the activity.
- Give all people equal opportunities to participate.
- Create pathways for people to participate in sport not just as a player but as a coach, referee, administrator etc.
- Provide quality supervision and instruction for players.
- Remember that people participate for their enjoyment and benefit. Do not over emphasise awards.
- Help coaches and officials highlight appropriate behaviour and skill development, and help improve the standards of coaching and officiating.
- Ensure that everyone involved in sport emphasises fair play, and not winning at all costs.
- Where appropriate give a code of behaviour sheet to coaches and players and encourage them to follow it.
- Remember, you set an example. Your behaviour and comments should be positive and supportive.
- Support implementation of all ACT Masters Hockey Policies.
- Make it clear that abusing people in any way is unacceptable and will result in disciplinary action.
- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of every person regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background or religion.

Committee Member Code of Behaviour

As a Committee Member of ACT Masters Hockey you are required to comply with this policy. You must meet the following requirements in regard to your conduct during any activity held or sanctioned by ACT Masters Hockey and in any role you hold within ACT Masters Hockey:

- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of others.
- Be fair, considerate and honest in all dealing.
- Be professional in, and accept responsibility for, your actions.
- Make a commitment to providing quality service.
- Be aware of, and maintain an uncompromising adhesion to, Hockey Australia's standards, rules, regulations and policies.
- Operate within the rules of the sport including national and international guidelines which govern ACT Masters Hockey, Hockey Australia and Hockey ACT.
- Do not use your involvement with ACT Masters Hockey, Hockey Australia, a member association or an affiliated club to promote your own beliefs, behaviours or practices where these are inconsistent with those of ACT Masters Hockey, Hockey Australia and Hockey ACT.
- Demonstrate a high degree of individual responsibility especially when dealing with persons under 18 years of age, as your words and actions are an example.
- Avoid unaccompanied and unobserved activities with persons under 18 years of age, wherever possible.
- Refrain from any form of harassment of others.
- Refrain from any behaviour that may bring ACT Masters Hockey, Hockey Australia or Hockey ACT into disrepute.
- Be a positive role model.
- Understand the repercussions if you breach, or are aware of any breaches of, this code of behaviour.
- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of every person regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background or religion.

Spectator Code of Behaviour

As a spectator watching an event that is conducted by ACT Masters Hockey, you must meet the following requirements with regard to your conduct:

- Spectators are an important part of the game and shall at all times conform to accepted standards of good sportsmanship and behaviour.
- Spectators shall at all times respect officials, coaches and players and extend all courtesies to them.
- Lead by example and respect all players, coaches, umpires and fellow spectators – physical or verbal abuse will not be tolerated.
- Respect the umpires' decision. Do not abuse, threaten or intimidate an umpire or match official and do not show dissension, displeasure or disapproval towards an umpire or match official's decision in an abusive or unreasonable fashion.
- Support skilled performances and show respect for opposition teams and players.
- Display appropriate social behaviour by not using profane, demeaning or derogatory language, or harassing players, coaches, officials or other spectators.
- Leave the spectator area tidy and free from litter.
- Do not ridicule mistakes or losses – supporters are there to support.
- Acknowledge all volunteers who are giving up their valuable time to enable the conduct of competition.
- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of every person regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background or religion.