



# AVON JUNIOR HOCKEY LEAGUE CODE OF CONDUCT

The aim of the Avon Junior Hockey League 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's more important to enjoy sport and play fairly.

This Code of Conduct should be read alongside the Avon Junior Hockey League Rules. Its purpose being to provide additional advice to all teams including: players, managers, coaches, umpires, parents and spectators involved in Avon Junior Hockey League fixtures; be they league or friendly matches.

The Avon Junior Hockey League believes that it is important that all associated parties; players, managers, coaches, umpires, parents and spectators, administrators and volunteers should, at all times, show respect and be encouraged to be open and to share any concerns or complaints about any aspect of the league with either:

**Avon County Welfare Officer:** Vicky Hollier 01275 880274

**Avon Junior Hockey League independent complaints officer:** Justine Nicklin 01454 851182

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

To achieve these aims we would ask all clubs / teams entering the Avon Junior Hockey League to:

- ◆ abide by the rules of the Avon Junior Hockey League, rules of England Hockey and any advice on good practice, e.g. from the Avon Women's Hockey Association.
- ◆ respect colleagues, coaches, opponents and the decisions of officials.
- ◆ set a good example by recognising fair play and applauding the good performances of all.
- ◆ make sure all activities are appropriate to the age, ability and experience of those taking part.
- ◆ keep to agreed timings for the competitions or inform the session organiser / co-ordinator in good time if they are unable to attend any session and/or are going to be late.
- ◆ ensure each team entered is supported by a qualified coach who holds the appropriate, valid qualifications and insurance cover and is supported by a second responsible adult.
- ◆ ensure no team members are left unsupervised at the end of session until such time as they are collected by a parent / carer.

- ◆ ensure each team is supported by a qualified umpire, or:
  - Young umpires - who must have completed a Foundation course and be supported by an adult mentor who is a qualified umpire.
  - Candidate umpires - who should be supported by a qualified umpire mentor or umpire coach.
  
- ◆ abide by the following team selection principles:
  - 'A' team players should not play for 'B' teams where there is a clear difference in skills levels
  - Goalkeepers – clubs are encouraged to find a player within their squad to fulfil this position rather than borrowing a goalkeeper from another team or playing the same goalkeeper for 'A' & 'B' teams
  - if a team has insufficient players to fulfil a league match, communicate this as soon as possible before the game starts to both the opposition and the session co-ordinator.  
Such games should still proceed as a 'friendly' (in order to preserve the minimum number of games per team during the session) with the team that is short borrowing players from other teams present.  
In terms of league result, the match will be treated as a walkover to the non-offending team.