

# Leicestershire and Rutland Hockey Association



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## SPEARING WAITE S O L I C I T O R S

### Club and Umpire Policy Document.

Produced to provide a benchmark for good order and the protection of Clubs and Umpires.

Includes guidance notes for:

- (c) Pitch side conduct for clubs
- (d) Code of conduct for Umpires
- (e) Health and Safety
- (f) Notes for coaches
- (g) Child protection
- (h) Equity
- (i) Code of Discipline
- (j) Complaints procedure

Most of these notes can be found in full at [www.hockeyonline.co.uk](http://www.hockeyonline.co.uk) as Downloads

### **Forward**

This document is the product of the LRHA's Umpires Committee and I believe has many things to commend it to all those involved in hockey. Its origin lies within the need to protect and preserve the umpiring resource's we have and build a secure foundation for the future.

It is an amalgam of other documents (including those from our National Governing Body) and we hope it succinctly provides a single Document for the good conduct of games.

Whilst not wishing to be prescriptive it was our intention to request that everyone adheres to the principles as they are laid out or, at the very least, should have the aim to aspire to them.

Margaret McLoughlin  
VP + committee member

**England Hockey** shall have overall responsibility for discipline and its enforcement. It shall have power to take any disciplinary action and impose such penalties as it may think fit on any Regional Association, county association, affiliated club, affiliated school or individual Member whom it considers guilty of a breach of the Conduct and Contract Regulations or any other conduct or abuse. The conduct of all players, coaches, managers, umpires and officials are prescribed in England Hockey's regulations. Any such person found to be in breach of any part of the code may be disciplined under the Disciplinary Regulations.

### **Guidance Notes for Pitch side Conduct for CLUBS**

It is the responsibility of the CLUBS to ensure that good manners and courtesy prevails towards the opposition, umpires and other officials, before during and after the game.

Once the pitch is available the **home captain** shall assume authority for the pitch and its surrounding areas.

Clubs and Umpires are advised to ensure that they have adequate Insurance cover and they are aware of their Health and Safety and Child Protection responsibilities.

**Captains and Umpires should:**

- (c) Agree the location for managers, substitutes and suspended players and where the substitutions will take place
- (d) Satisfy themselves as to the quality of the pitch and its facilities, removing other pitch side furniture to a safe location
- (e) The home captain should be aware of the location of an emergency medical kit and the location of the nearest telephone to call for first aid
- (f) Invite coaches and managers to remain inside their designated areas
- (g) Ensure that substitutes warm up in a safe area away from the immediate pitch side
- (h) Vocal communications by team officials and players on the bench MUST NOT be directed at the umpires or opposing team
- (i) Players not taking part in the game must not knock up or warm down when a match is in progress
- (j) Post match inquests must take place away from the pitch
- (k) Spectators should be advised, if necessary, of matters relating to their conduct and particularly in so far as to its effect on the game
- (l) Small children should not wander freely around the pitch, nor must pushchairs be left parked near the pitch
- (m) Captains, coaches and managers should be responsible for their own conduct and the conduct of players at all times

**Principles of the Code of Ethics and Conduct as set by England Hockey**

England Hockey expects all umpires to conform to ethical standards in a number of areas. It is imperative that all umpires read and understand the Code before umpiring a game of hockey.

The role of the umpire within the sport is a very important one. The umpire is any person who controls and applies the Rules to a game of hockey; they are the sole judges of fair play.

**Personal Standards - The base line on which all umpires should set their standard**

Personal appearance and presentation is of great importance when umpiring. Umpires should consistently project a favourable image of umpires and umpiring to colleagues, players, officials, parents, spectators and the general public. In addition to this the umpire should:

- (c) Be punctual
- (d) Wear clothing appropriate to the match
- (e) Never umpire under the influence of alcohol or drugs under any circumstances
- (f) Avoid using profanities
- (g) Umpires should have confidence in and maintain their integrity.
- (h) Umpire the game in an unbiased, honest manner regardless of the reactions of players, coaches, spectators; time remaining; score, previous decisions, or any other potential source of influence.
- (i) Respect other umpires and their decision-making.
- (j) Take responsibility for their own continuous development,

**An umpire shall not:**

- (c) Engage in any conduct that is prejudicial to the interests of the game of hockey.
- (d) Make any public comment or media statement that is detrimental to the game of hockey in general.
- (e) Disclose or comment on any alleged breach of this Code or the England Hockey Code of Discipline.

**Competency - Qualifications and the umpires' ability to apply the Rules and deal with situations.**

- (c) Qualified umpires should be able to provide proof of qualification and level of competency as defined by the England Hockey Awards Structure.
- (d) Umpires should demonstrate a thorough and complete understanding of the Rules and regulations governing hockey and their application.
- (e) Recognise the importance of and seek to achieve consistency in all aspects of umpiring.
- (f) Endeavour to ensure that the spirit of the game is maintained.

**Health and Safety** - Further considerations for all

- 1 Umpires should make every effort to take reasonable care in regard to health and safety not only for themselves but that of any other persons under their control immediately prior to and during the match
- 2 Umpires are expected to be qualified and proficient in umpiring (unless undergoing supervised training for higher levels)
- 3 Umpires are expected, with their colleague, to carry out pre-match inspections of the pitch and to assess any risks to players. Any risk identified should be brought to the attention of both team captains. Major risks are to be notified to the pitch provider and reported to the LRHA.
- 4 Umpires should withdraw from umpiring if they consider that it is unsafe to start or continue the match
- 5 Players with bleeding wounds must leave the pitch immediately to have wounds treated, enclosed and blooded clothing replaced

6 The Governing Body Pitch side conduct Guidance Notes should be observed.

**HEALTH AND SAFETY IS NOT EXCLUSIVELY WITHIN THE DOMAIN OF THE UMPIRES.  
EVERYONE SHOULD TAKE WHATEVER STEPS ARE NECESSARY TO PREVENT DANGER  
AND PROMOTE COMMON SENSE SAFETY MEASURES.**

### **CLUBS AND CAPTAINS considerations**

Clubs and Captains of the day must have an awareness of these points and wherever necessary aid and assist the Umpires should the need arise.

### **Conduct of Coaches**

England Hockey expects all coaches to conform to ethical standards in a number of areas. These areas are clearly laid out in the following Regulations and it is imperative that all coaches have read and understood these Regulations before working with any group of players.

### **Child Protection**

The Children Act 1989 states that anyone who is involved in the care of children should "do what is reasonable in the circumstances for the purpose of safeguarding or promoting the child's welfare".

The child protection policy is predicated on the following three principles:

- (a) a child's welfare is the paramount consideration;
- (b) a child, regardless of age, ability, gender, racial origin, religious belief and sexual orientation has a right to be protected from abuse; and
- (c) the rights, dignity and worth of a child should always be respected.
- (d) All Clubs, umpires, coaches etc MUST
  - i Make every effort to follow the guidance that can be found in the Associations Child Protection policy and follow that guidance.
  - ii Promptly report any matters of concern to the Association Child Protection Officer, as well as bringing matters to the *immediate* attention of the clubs responsible.

### **EQUITY POLICY**

#### ***Statement of Intention***

The LRHA follows the Governing Body commitment to the principles of equality of opportunity. It aims to ensure that all people, irrespective of age, gender, ability, race, religion, ethnic origin, creed,

colour, social status or sexual orientation have a genuine and equal opportunity to participate in hockey at all levels and in all role

## **CODE OF DISCIPLINE**

The England Hockey Disciplinary Code is the basic regulatory document and is endorsed by the LRHA.

### **General Guidance**

Red cards can only be issued ***during a match.***

All red card offences must be reported to the relevant Discipline Officer with 72 hours and the relevant paperwork MUST be completed at the time.

The time immediately after a red card issue is an emotive time for all involved. Record the details accurately and away from the pitch side after the game with your colleague. Remember you must inform the Captain / Manager of the red carded players team that today is day 1 of suspension with a minimum of 16 days from playing, coaching or umpiring with the follow up coming from the relevant Discipline Officer.

Regulation 3 (Offences other than Red Card offences) applies to incidents and offences committed outside the game at any time. They represent reports of any misconduct prejudicial to HOCKEY. They can be reported by a player, Official or by any other witness, to any Official. The report must be post faxed or email to the Midland Disciplinary Officer and a FULL COPY must be sent to the LRHA secretary.

### **Complaints**

*Complaints against clubs or Umpires* must be submitted in writing to the Association and shall be considered by a panel appointed by LRHA.

An individual or club has the right of appeal to the Executive of the LRHA, against any decision made by the panel. A fee of £25 must be lodged at the time of the appeal. At the hearing of such an appeal no person who has sat or who has voted before on the question under appeal, shall be entitled to attend such a hearing, unless at the specific request of the Executive.

### **REPORTS**

The association will require its members to produce such reports as may be required by the English Hockey, County Discipline officer, or the MRHUA covering all discipline matters.

## Leicestershire and Rutland Hockey Association

### Regulation 3 Report

To: MIDLANDS Discipline Officer Norman STOTT 44 Porthill Gardens, Shrewsbury, Shropshire SY3 8SQ. Tele 01743 350233 (home) E Norman.stott@shropshire-cc.gov.uk	From: Name and address of reporting person  Role of person
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**NB** A full copy **MUST** be sent to John Bell 34 Fairmount Drive Loughborough LE11 3JR jbell357@aol.com

Before / After the following match, the following incident occurred: (delete as appropriate)

Date	Place
Time	
Home Team	Visiting Team
Offenders name if known or shirt no.	Offenders Club
Names of Umpires	Umpires Qualification level
1	
2	
Names of other witness's	Addresses or contact details
1	
2	
3	

The offender was / was not informed that he / she would be reported (delete as appropriate).

Report by Official: - (Continue to additional sheet if required)

Signed .....

Please PRINT Name .....

Date ...../...../.....