



CODE of CONDUCT

WPHU Code of Conduct

1. Under the Western Province Hockey Union (WPHU) Constitution and Bye Laws the WPHU has full jurisdiction and authority over everything concerning hockey and playing of hockey effectively, therefore, any person(s) affiliated to the Affiliate Members (Clubs) and Associate Members involved in any hockey activity agree to comply with the Constitution, Bye Laws, League Rules, Rules of Hockey and rules and directives of the present Code of Conduct.
2. The Code of Conduct is applicable for Affiliate Members (Clubs) and Associate Members of the WPHU.
 - a. The Code of Conduct is established to create awareness of accountability for the promotion of the game of hockey amongst the Affiliate Members (Clubs) and Associate Members of the WPHU.
 - b. All Affiliate Members (Clubs) and Associate Members of the WPHU are responsible for their own behaviour and conduct, and as such, accountable. They must abide by the WPHU Constitution, Bye Laws, League Rules, Rules of Hockey and Directives of the Code of Conduct as set out hereunder.
 - c. It is therefore the responsibility of the President/Chairperson of the Affiliate Members (Clubs) and Associate Members to instruct their members in the requirement. The President/Chairperson of the Affiliate Members (Clubs) and Associate Members shall share liability with their members should breaches occur of the terms of the WPHU Constitution, Bye Laws, League Rules, Rules of Hockey and Directives of the Code of Conduct as mentioned in par (b) above.
 - d. Complaints in relation to either misconduct or breaches of the terms of WPHU Constitution, Bye Laws, League Rules, Rules of Hockey and Directives of the Code of Conduct as mentioned in par (b) above, shall in the first instance be dealt with by the President/Chairperson of the Affiliate Members (Clubs) and Associate Members and if necessary by the WPHU Executive Committee who in turn may refer and involve the WPHU Disciplinary Committee.
3. All Affiliate Members (Clubs) and Associate Members are therefore subject to the jurisdiction of the WPHU. WPHU is committed in maintaining the highest standards of behaviour and conduct of those subject to this jurisdiction. In pursuance of these standards, all Affiliate Members (Clubs) and Associate Members shall observe also the following Rules and Directives:
 - a. Participants shall at all times conduct themselves fairly and properly on the field of play and any part of hockey venues where hockey matches are played and/or practiced. No person may conduct him/herself in a manner or commit any act or omission which may prejudice the interest of hockey or which may bring the game of hockey into disrepute.

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- b. Without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing, the following shall be regarded as conduct, which is improper, unfair and unacceptable:
 - i. Verbal/physical abuse or hostility towards any other participant, person or any other member of the public.
 - ii. Disputing, protesting, reacting provocatively, or advancing aggressively towards an umpire or official in response to any decision made.
 - iii. Feigning injury and/or overreacting to an alleged breach or decision.
 - iv. Using rude or abusive language or hand signals.
 - v. Abuse of hockey equipment or clothing, venue equipment or fixtures and fittings.
4. Public statements must be fair and reasonable and must not involve a personal attack on another player, umpire, appointed official or administrator. No member of an Affiliate Member (Club) and of an Associate Member shall make any public statement on behalf of the WPHU without the prior approval of the Executive Committee (or appointed nominee).
5. The WPHU recognizes that fair and reasonable comments on the game in general are essentially in the interest of everyone. However, it further recognizes that in the interest of maintaining relations between players, umpires and officials, it is necessary to ensure that any such comment and criticism is constructive. Any public statement therefore by a:
 - a. WPHU Executive Committee Member
 - b. Affiliate Member (Club) Executive Committee Member or Associate Member Executive Committee Member
 - c. Member of a Club
 - d. Member of an Associate Member

is also subject to the jurisdiction of the WPHU.

6. The WPHU defines a "public statement" as any statement, whether in whole or in part, that is made accessible to the public. This includes statements made on social media platforms, WhatsApp groups, newspapers, magazines, periodicals, or through any electronic means such as the internet or email. Additionally, statements made through television, radio, or any other medium are also considered public statements, irrespective of the circumstances under which they were made.
7. No player, coaching staff, management team, any support staff and/or Club member who is currently serving any active sanction and/or punishment and/or suspension shall be permitted to be involved in league matches.