



# Old Wulfrunians Hockey Club

## Code of Conduct for Coaches and Assistants

***The role of coach in sport is very important. As well as sporting development, the coach is also responsible for the all round development of players, groups or teams in the sporting context. Coaches must maintain a high level of behaviour at all times when dealing with players, officials, parents/carers, spectators and the general public.***

### **Personal Standards**

- Provide an example of good conduct you wish others to follow
- Look clean and project an image of efficiency at all times
- Consistently project a favourable image of hockey and coaching to players, parents, carers, officials, spectators and the general public
- Do not smoke, chew gum or use profanities while coaching
- Never coach under the influence of alcohol

### **Safety**

- Ensure that performers have a safe environment to work and play within
- Protect children from any form of abuse during training sessions or competitions
- Ensure activities are suitable for the age, maturity, strength and ability of performers
- Do not attempt to coach techniques or skills not covered by your specific level of coaching award qualification

### **Equity**

- Respect the rights of everyone they work with and treat all as equals within the context of their activity and ability regardless of age, ethnic

origin, gender, religion, sexual orientation, cultural background or politics

- Ensure that any activity under their supervision is free from any form of non-equitable behaviour
- When playing in training sessions with children, remember you are there to coach players and encourage good play not win

### **Relationships**

- Set and uphold the boundaries between the coaching relationship and friendship; this is especially important with young performers
- Maintain a sensible balance between performance and the emotional, physical, social and development needs of players
- Keep personal information appropriately confidential
- Ensure compliance with the general good practice in the care of children (see later)

### **Child Protection Officer (CPO)**

- Coaches may obtain advice from and report concerns about child protection to the Club Child Welfare Officer (Details contained within annual fixture card)
- The CPO will review any complaints or issues concerning child protection

### **General Good Practice in the Care of Children**

- Be publicly open when working with children e.g. by ensuring there are always 2 adults present or that you are within sight or hearing of others
- Manual support is not recommended; however, if it is necessary, the reasons should be explained to the child and if possible the parent or carer
- Respect young persons' rights to personal privacy
- Encourage young people and adults to feel comfortable and caring enough to point out attitudes or behaviour that they do not like
- Remember that others may misinterpret your actions no matter how well intentioned
- Exercise special caution when discussing sensitive issues with children

- Challenge unacceptable behaviour and report all allegations/suspicions of abuse
- As a general rule, it **does not make** sense to:
  - Spend excessive time alone with children
  - Take children alone on car journeys
  - Take children to your home where they will be alone with you
- **Coaches and Assistants should never:**
  - Engage in rough, physical or sexually provocative games including horseplay
  - Allow or engage in any inappropriate physical or verbal contact with children or young people
  - Allow children to use inappropriate language unchallenged
  - Make sexually suggestive comments to a child, even in fun
  - Allow allegations of a child to go unchallenged, unrecorded or not acted on
  - Do personal things for a child they can do for themselves
  - Invite or allow children to stay with you at your home unsupervised
  - Allow bullying or bad behaviour by children
  - Be drawn into inappropriate attention-seeking behaviour
  - Make suggestive or derogatory remarks or gestures
  - Jump to conclusions about others without checking facts
  - Either exaggerate or trivialise child abuse issues
  - Show favouritism to any individual
  - Believe 'it could never happen to me'
- If you accidentally hurt a child or a child seems distressed in any way or appears sexually aroused by your actions or misunderstands/misinterprets something you do, report this as soon as possible to a colleague, make a brief note and report the incident to the parent or carer

### **All Planned Trips**

Including training, home and away matches and any day trips (residential trips will need to be considered separately and are not presently proposed)

- Plan and prepare a detailed programme of activities
- Obtain parental consent through the Club Colts Membership form
- Give parents/carers full details about the trip including the name of the responsible person(s) and their contact details
- Carry out a check of the facilities (see separate risk assessment form)

- Be aware of the emergency procedure of the venue/centre used
- Ensure children are appropriately protected from the effects of weather
- Ensure children take appropriate kit (including goalkeepers)
- Ensure all adults present are appropriately qualified for their tasks
- Ensure children have adequate breaks for the length of day and intensity of activities and do not play more than is desirable for their age/ability
- Children are not put in danger through inappropriate grouping
- Adults take care when participating in games with children
- Children are made aware of the importance of food and water intake
- Children must not be left unsupervised at any venue
- Do not deal with a child's injury unless you have a first aid certificate and another adult is present
- Do not ask children to train or play if they are injured if the injury could be made worse; ensure they seek appropriate medical advice on injuries

<b><u>I certify that I have read the above rules of conduct and will abide by them in the capacity of my role with Old Wulfrunians Hockey Club</u></b>	
Name:	Date:
Signature:	Role: