

Guide for Parents To Basingstoke Hockey Club

Welcome to Basingstoke Hockey Club. As a parent, we all want to support our children so that they can enjoy their chosen sport.

The aim of these guidelines is to provide you with key information about the club; providing you with ideas of questions to ask, and ensuring that both you and your child understand the way the club works, and your roles and responsibilities.

What can we expect from Basingstoke Hockey club?

- A family orientated club which holds the Sport England Club Mark award;
- A friendly welcome; an opportunity for your child to meet new friends play and watch hockey;
- Opportunities for your child to have fun and develop their game as much as they want to;
- A safe environment in which your child's welfare and safety is paramount;
- Qualified coaches and responsible volunteers;
- Relationships based on trust, honesty and respect where your child is valued and listened to;
- Club members that will recognise your child's rights, whatever their age, gender, culture, ability, language, religious belief, racial origin, and/or sexual identity;
- Opportunities for you to get involved in the club;
- 'Safeguarding and Protecting Young People' policies that are in line with the recommendations from the English Hockey Association;
- Clear lines of communication with you about your child, fixtures, training and events;

What does Basingstoke Hockey Club expect from my child?

There is a guide for young people which details the club's expectations which include:

- fair play
- listening to the coaches
- adhere to the young people's code of conduct
- adhere to the rules of the game and rules of the club
- respect all players

This is available from our website at www.basingstoke-hockey.com; copies can be found in our clubhouse or can be requested from Youth managers or coaches.

What does Basingstoke Hockey Club expect from me?

The club may expect you to....

- stay with your son/daughter when they are at the club, training or playing in a match (Under 12s and below);
- ensure that the manager/coach is informed if you are leaving your older child either for training or at a match venue and ensure that the coach/manager has an appropriate contact number (Under 14 and under 16);
- ensure that your son/daughter arrives promptly for training and matches;
- ensure that, if they are left at training or a match, they are picked up promptly at the end;
- contact the club if you are running late to collect your child;

- adhere to the rules of the club;
- adhere to the codes of conduct within the club, in particular the Parents Code of Conduct;
- accept the guidance that coaches provide and umpire's decisions within matches;
- use correct, appropriate language at all times;
- stay off the pitch during training and matches;
- never force your child to participate and discuss with your child's coach if there is a reason they do not want to participate;
- inform your child's coach of any difficulties your child might be having that will impact on their ability to play;
- provide emergency contact details
- provide relevant information about your child **including medical history**.

The Club would like you to...

- become involved in the club as much as possible. This provides your child with the support to enjoy their hockey;
- support the coaches by ensuring your child enjoys their hockey and plays within the rules of the game;
- encourage fair play;
- encourage your child to recognise good performance, not just results.

Going Home Procedure

In order to ensure the safety of all our junior players we ask that:

- Parents, or a nominated responsible adult, must collect players (under 12) from the pitch and not allow them to walk to where their cars are parked;
- **Coaches to be informed in advance of the names of the nominated responsible adult.**
- Where a parent has given permission for a player to independently leave a training session/match at the end, the Junior player (under 14 and under 16 age groups) should ensure they inform their coach/manager that they are leaving so the coach is fully aware of where they are;

Communication

Basingstoke Hockey Club will need to contact you with details of fixtures, training session, tournaments and other events. You will therefore be asked for contact details on the initial membership form. These details are then passed to the administrator and/or manager for your child's team. Different age groups operate in slightly different ways with some using text messages and others WhatsApp groups as their main form of communication. Your child's team manager or coach will let you know how they communicate with their team. Please support us by ensuring that you let the club know if you change your contact details.

Use of social media in BHC is covered by BHC's Social Media Policy which can be found on the Club's website. It should be noted that BHC take a zero tolerance to all cyber bullying.

Although we appreciate that older junior players generally have their own mobile phones and are happy to be involved in communication themselves, it is essential, that as they are under 18, we also hold details of parents/guardians.

For general information, the club uses many different channels. Some you may find useful are:

- Our **website** - www.basingstoke-hockey.com - contains lots of information and key contact details. Also has links to the club shop for kit and how to pay subscriptions;
- The **club Facebook page** - [Basingstoke Hockey club](#) - information about what is happening in the wider club;
- The **Junior section Facebook pages** - '[Basingstoke Hockey U8 U10 youth teams](#)' and '[Basingstoke Hockey U12, U14 and U16 youth teams](#)' - these are closed groups where information and photos of the junior sides are posted. They are excellent sources of information about fixtures, tournaments and training sessions. *(NB: For safeguarding purposes, you will need to be accepted to the group to view posts)*

Communication is two way and if you have any questions or concerns about your child's participation in hockey please talk to their coach.

Membership and Fees

After an initial 'trial' session, your child will need to become a member of the Basingstoke Hockey Club. Membership fees are reviewed every season and details will be provided by your child's coach or can be found on the club's website. Children cannot compete in tournaments or matches unless they are a member of the club.

Maidenwell Pavillion

Overlooking the pitch, on the other side of the approach road, is the Maidenwell Pavillion. Upstairs in the pavillion is our club house. During training sessions and matches, parents are more than welcome to stand on the pitch side or go up into the club house and watch from the conservatory area (we recommend the later on wet and windy days!) Food and drink can be purchased from the bar and kitchen during opening hours. The club house is run by the club, for the club.

What do I do if I am concerned about my child's safety, well being or behaviour?

Each Club has a Welfare Officer - contact details of ours can be found in the club house. Please ask to speak with them and explain your concerns. All concerns will be taken seriously and investigated. All concerns will be treated in the strictest confidence, with only the people who can help the situation becoming involved if required.