

SEACOAST FIELD HOCKEY CODE OF CONDUCT

Playing at Seacoast Field Hockey is a privilege that comes with responsibilities for umpires, coaches, parents, and players.

At Seacoast, everyone is expected to conduct themselves in a manner that "honors the game" and demonstrates respect to all of those involved. As a member of the field hockey community, an individual assumes certain obligations and responsibilities to the game and its participants. The essential elements in this "Code of Conduct" are: HONESTY, INTEGRITY and RESPECT.

It is only through such conduct that our sport can continue to earn and maintain a positive image and make its full contribution to amateur sports. The following essential elements of the "Code of Conduct" must be followed:

- Sportsmanship and teaching the concepts of fair play are essential to the game and must be taught at all levels and developed both at home and on the field during practices and games.
- The value of good sportsmanship, the concepts of fair play, and the skills of the game should always be placed above winning.
- The safety and welfare of the players are of primary importance.
- Coaches must always be aware of the tremendous influence they have on their players. They are to strive to be positive role models in dealing with young people, as well as adults.
- Coaches should always demonstrate positive behaviors and reinforce them to players, parents, umpires and spectators. Players should be specifically encouraged by coaches to demonstrate respect for teammates, opponents, umpires and spectators.
- Players should always demonstrate positive behavior and respect toward teammates, opponents, coaches, umpires, parents and spectators.
- All should be respectful of the program and its participants on the internet and social media by refraining from negative comments and posts.
- Offensive and derogatory language including but not limited to racial slurs, sexist commentary and profanity will not be tolerated. Physical confrontations are strictly prohibited.
- The consumption and possession of alcoholic beverages, tobacco products and/or vapor products are not permitted at any Seacoast Field Hockey program. Athletes are prohibited from illegal use of performance enhancing and/or recreational drugs.
- Coaches, players, parents and spectators are expected to demonstrate the utmost respect for umpires and reinforce that respect to players/teammates. Coaches are also expected to educate their players as to the important role of field hockey umpires and reinforce the ideal of respect for the umpire to players/teammates.
- Grievances or misunderstandings between coaches, umpires or any other parties involved with the sport should be communicated through the proper channels and procedures, never on the field of play in view of spectators or participants.
- Umpires are professionals and are therefore expected to conduct themselves as such and in a manner that demonstrates total impartiality, courtesy and fairness to all parties.
- Coaches, Umpires, and Spectators are to treat the event staff and tournament directors with respect. Conversations must be held appropriately, and there will be no tolerance for mistreatment, verbal abuse, or physical abuse of any staff member at any time.
- Spectators involved with the game must never permit anyone to openly or maliciously criticize, badger, harass or threaten an umpire, coach, player or opponent.
- Coaches must be able to demonstrate a solid knowledge of the rules of field hockey, the policy and procedures set forth, and should adhere to the rules in both the letter and the spirit of the game.
- Attempts to manipulate rules in an effort to take unfair advantage of an opponent, or to teach deliberate unsportsmanlike conduct is considered unacceptable conduct.
- Eligibility requirements, at all levels of the game, must be followed. Rules and requirements such as age, roster sizes for players and coaches, and level of participation have been established to encourage and maximize participation, fair play and to promote safety.

If at any time any of the aforementioned policies are violated, the Umpire Manager, Event Operator/Tournament Director reserves the right to remove the athlete, parent or coach from the program they are currently participating in and revoke the privilege of participating in future programs.