

**PITCH SIDE  
CODE  
OF  
CONDUCT**

October 2016



## Pitch Side Code of Conduct

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

Clubs are advised to ensure that they have adequate insurance cover and that they are aware of local Health and Safety legislation regarding the pitch and its facilities.

The home captain (or manager) is responsible for checking the location of an emergency telephone, first aid facilities and the nearest hospital with accident and emergency facilities.

Once the pitch is available, any match delegate (if appointed), or the home captain and/or manager jointly with the umpires, shall assume authority for the pitch and its surrounding area (this will normally be the area inside the "cage" surrounding the pitch).

**Prior to the commencement of the match** any match delegate (if appointed), the umpires, both captains and/or both managers should:

- 1 Satisfy themselves as to the quality and safety of the pitch and its facilities and ensure that other pitch side furniture is removed to its safest location
- 2 Identify managers, coaches, substitutes and any other relevant officials and their location during the game (including an area for substitutes to warm up)
- 3 Agree from where substitutions will take place
- 4 Agree where suspended players will be located during their suspension

**During the match:**

- 5 Managers, coaches and other identified officials must remain in the designated area
- 6 Substitutes should warm up in clothing distinctively different in appearance than that worn by the participating teams and umpires and remain in the agreed area of the pitch side
- 7 Substitutes should not knock up or practice ball skills during the match



- 8 Vocal communication by team officials and players on the bench must not, in any way, be directed at the umpires or players of the opposing team

**After the match:**

- 9 Post-match inquests and questions to umpires should not take place on or in the environs of the pitch. When such questions are asked of an umpire or other official they should be presented in a controlled, disciplined manner

**Spectators and players not taking part in the current game:**

- 10 Those not directly involved in the game should ensure that they do not interfere with the match in progress
- 11 Knocking up should not occur on the side of the pitch during a game
- 12 Spectators should be encouraged to stand at least 1 meter away from the pitch side line and should not congregate behind the goal line in the region of the goal or scoring circle
- 13 Small children can be in danger from competing players and balls whilst games are in progress. They should be under the control of a responsible adult at all times and should not be allowed to wander freely around the perimeter of the pitch
- 14 Babies in pushchairs should not be left parked at the side of the pitch

**General:**

- 15 Captains, managers and coaches shall be responsible for their own conduct and the conduct of their players at all time
- 16 Members of Hockey Wales shall be responsible for their own conduct at all times

Any contravention of this code of conduct shall be reported in the first instance to an official of the home club, and then, if the matter cannot be resolved amicably, to the Region of Hockey Wales in which the match is played