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**Code of Conduct for Sports Leaders**

Leaders should familiarise themselves with Hockey Ireland’s Code of Ethics (see Hockey Ireland

website/Safeguarding) and the Code of Conduct for Young People. Leaders should read below and agree to

abide by these terms. Leaders should update the self-declaration answers annually.

As a leader in Hockey, I agree that I should:

* Be positive during sessions and competitions, praise and encourage effort as well as results.
* Put welfare of young person first, strike a balance between this and winning / results.
* Encourage fair play and treat participants equally.
* Recognise developmental needs, ensuring activities are appropriate for the individual
* Plan and prepare appropriately.
* Have experience relevant to working with young people or hold up-to-date qualifications and be committed to the guidelines in this policy.
* Involve parents where possible and inform parents when problems arise.
* Keep record of attendance at training and competitions.
* Keep a brief record of injury(s) and action taken.
* Keep a brief record of problem/action/outcomes, if behavioural problems arise.
* Report any concerns in accordance with this Code’s reporting procedures.

Sports Leaders should not:

* Taking sessions alone.
  + Spend excessive amounts of time with children away from others.
  + Use any form of punishment or physical force on a child.
  + Take children home nor have them in my car unless they are a coach parent and have their own kids in the car or have permission from the child’s parent/guardian.
  + Exert undue influence over a participant in order to obtain personal benefit or reward.
* Engage in rough physical games, sexually provocative games or allow or engage in inappropriate touching of any kind, and/or make sexually suggestive comments about, or to a child. This includes innuendo, flirting or inappropriate gestures and terms.
* Take measurements or engage in certain types of fitness testing without the presence of another adult.
* Undertake any form of therapy (hypnosis etc.) in the training of children.