



Galway Hockey Club

Anti Bullying Policy

Galway Hockey Club is committed to creating and maintaining an environment in which all young people involved in hockey are free from bullying.

Bullying is an ongoing and deliberate misuse of power in relationships through repeated verbal, physical and/or social behaviour that intends to cause physical, social and/or psychological harm. It can involve an individual or a group misusing their power, or perceived power, over one or more persons who feel unable to stop it from happening.

Bullying is not always physical but it does result in distress to the victim. Bullying can occur not only between young people but also from an adult to a young person.

Bullying can be:

- **Emotional** - persistently being unfriendly, excluding, tormenting, threatening gestures
- **Physical** - pushing, kicking, hitting, punching or any use of violence
- **Racist** - racial taunts or language, graffiti, gestures
- **Sexual** - unwanted physical contact or sexually abusive comments
- **Homophobic** - because of, or focusing on the issue of sexuality
- **Verbal** - name calling, sarcasm, spreading rumours, teasing

Bullying can happen in person or online, via various digital platforms and devices and it can be obvious (overt) or hidden (covert). Bullying behaviour is repeated, or has the potential to be repeated, over time (for example, through sharing of digital records).

Everyone within Galway Hockey Club should have an understanding of what bullying is and all members must agree to follow the Irish Hockey and the club's Code of Conduct.

Bullying of any kind is not acceptable in hockey and should not be tolerated by anyone. Young people will be encouraged to negotiate, co-operate and help others, particularly new or different children.

Galway Hockey Club wishes to promote a TELLING culture and anyone who knows, or suspects, that bullying is happening must take the matter seriously, and report it to a responsible club member or the Child Protection Officer.



Any incident or concern of bullying must be acted upon swiftly and brought to the attention of the Committee.

Disciplinary actions will be taken by those found guilty of purposely bullying others.

*Galway Hockey Club Committee
July 2021*