

Harrogate Table Tennis Association Code of Conduct

1. Vision

Harrogate Table Tennis Association (HTTA) is committed to promoting the sport of table tennis in the local community at all levels of play, and particularly to continue to uphold the reputation of HTTA as a diverse and successful league.

2. Safeguarding the wellbeing of its members

HTTA is fully committed to safeguarding and promoting the wellbeing of all its members. HTTA believes that it is important that members, coaches, administrators and parents associated with HTTA should, at all times show respect and understanding for the safety and welfare of others and therefore members, coaches, administrators and parents are encouraged to be open at all times and to share any concerns or complaints that they may have about any aspect of HTTA with the Secretary.

3. Leadership

The Committee of the HTTA, coaches, member clubs and players shall promote and support this Code of Conduct by leadership and example and in a professional manner.

4. Non Discrimination

Members of HTTA shall not discriminate against any country or person on any grounds whatsoever including race, colour, gender, religion or politics.

5. Principles of Conduct

- All members shall treat players, coaches, officials and others involved with HTTA or the sport with due respect.
- All members, players, coaches, officials and spectators should refrain from any action that causes offence or shows disrespect to any opponents, member or visitor to any member club of HTTA, or causes any damage to the premises or equipment. Typical examples are spitting, swearing, aggressive behaviour, throwing or kicking equipment, dropping litter or defacing walls or doors.
- HTTA members should refrain from making statements which (a) appear on Face book, Twitter or other social media or other sites, (b) making statements to others which could be published on these sites or in any other publication regarding HTTA or other HTTA members which could damage HTTA's reputation in any way or bring HTTA into disrepute.
- All HTTA players are expected to adhere to this Code of Conduct both at home and away, to play to the best of their ability and to refrain from any activity that may bring HTTA, their Club or the sport into disrepute.
- Senior players should serve as an example to younger players and should do their best to help them to develop in the traditions of the sport.

6. Child Protection Policy

As part of the safeguarding policy HTTA will promote and prioritise the safety and well being of junior members.

The aim of this part of the policy is to promote good practice by coaches, member clubs, administrators, parents and players associated with HTTA by providing children and young people with appropriate safety/protection and to allow officers, coaches and volunteers to make informed and confident responses to specific child protection issues. A junior member is defined as a person under the age of 18. HTTA will decide which of its officers, volunteers and coaches with significant access to children and young people will need to undergo Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) checks. Any officer, volunteer or coach who does not hold a valid DBS clearance may be required to desist from the association's activities with children and young people.

Junior members have a right to:

- Be safe and happy in their chosen activity.
- Be listened to.
- Be respected and treated fairly.
- Privacy.
- Enjoy sport in a protective environment.
- Be referred to professional help if needed.
- Be protected from abuse by other members *or outside sources*.
- Participate on an equal basis, appropriate to their ability.
- Experience competition and the desire to win.
- Be believed.
- Ask for help.
- Have any concerns taken seriously and acted on.

All members, players, coaches, and officials and spectators are expected to:

- Consider the wellbeing and safety of junior members at all times.
- Encourage and guide junior members to accept responsibility for their own performance and behaviour.
- Treat all young people fairly and ensure they feel valued.
- Encourage all children not to discriminate on the grounds of religious beliefs, race, gender, social classes or lack of ability.
- Not allow any rough or dangerous play, bullying, or the use of bad language or inappropriate behaviour.
- Appreciate the efforts of all junior members. Never exert undue influence over junior members to obtain personal benefit or reward.
- Be positive, approachable and offer praise where appropriate at all times.
- Not let any allegations of abuse of any kind or poor practice to go unchallenged or unrecorded.
- Never use sanctions that humiliate or harm young people.
- Report accidents or incidents of alleged abuse or poor practice to the designated person.
- where possible, administer minor first aid in the presence of others and where required refer more serious incidents to the club "first aider".
- Have access to telephone for immediate contact to emergency services if required.
- Not abuse members physically, emotionally or sexually.

- Not engage in a sexual relationship with a young person for whom they are responsible
- Maintain confidentiality about sensitive information.
- Respect and listen to the opinions of young people.
- Develop an appropriate working relationship with participants, based on mutual trust and respect.
- Be a role model, displaying consistently high standard of behaviour and appearance (disciplined/committed/time keeping), remember children learn by example.
- Refrain from smoking during matches or coaching sessions.
- Never condone rule violations, rough play or the use of prohibited substances.
- Not spending excessive amounts of time alone with children unless there are exceptional circumstances
- Never taking children to their home
- Not administering First Aid involving the removing of children's clothing unless in the presence of others.
- Hold appropriate valid qualifications and insurance cover where required.
- Make the sport/activity fun.

Where Junior members are playing in a match team captains are expected to:

- reasonably consider any requests for the match to commence earlier
- reasonably consider any request for the match to be played on two tables taking into account the age of the junior member(s) concerned and the time that the match is likely to finish

7. Code of conduct for Juniors

Junior members are expected to:

- Be friendly and particularly welcoming to new members and players.
- Be supportive and committed to other team members, offer comfort when required.
- Keep yourself safe.
- Report inappropriate behaviour or risky situations for junior members.
- Play fairly and be trustworthy.
- Respect officials and accept decisions.
- Show appropriate loyalty and be gracious in defeat.
- Respect opponents.
- Not cheat or be violent and aggressive.
- Keep within the defined boundary of the playing/coaching area.
- Behave and listen to all instructions from the coach. Play within the rules and respect the official and their decisions.
- Show respect to other members and show team spirit.
- Take care of equipment owned by their clubs.
- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of all participants regardless of age, gender, ability, race, cultural background or religious beliefs or sexual identity.
- Refrain from the use of bad language or racial/sectarian references. This includes bullying using new technologies like chat-rooms or

texting.

- Not get involved in inappropriate peer pressure and push others into something they do not want to do.
- Refrain from bullying or persistent use of rough and dangerous play.
- Keep to agreed timings for training matches and competitions or inform their coach or team captain if they are going to be late.
- Not smoke on any HTTA club premises or whilst representing their club at matches or competitions.
- Not consume alcohol or drugs of any kind on any HTTA club premises or whilst representing their club.

8 Use of Photographic/Filming Equipment at Sporting Events

HTTA asks that everyone abides by the following:

- consents must be granted by parents/carers for the taking and publication of photographic images of young people.
- young people should be appropriately dressed for table tennis.
- photography should focus on the activity rather than the person and any personal details e.g. address should never be published.
- any concerns should be passed on the HTTA's Committee.
- anyone wishing to use photographic and/or videoing equipment at any HTTA organised event must first register their intent with HTTA.
- permission to use photographic equipment is solely at the discretion of the event organiser.
- any person using cameras or videos during the course of a competition or event may be challenged by the tournament organiser or referee.
- anyone using a camera/video who does not comply with these guidelines will be stopped immediately from filming or taking photographs.
- anyone continuing to use photographic equipment after being warned will be asked to leave the event and may be reported to the police.
- All parents and performers should be made aware when coaches use video equipment as a coaching aid.

9. Breach of the code of Conduct

Any allegation of a breach of this Code of Conduct shall be reported to the HTTA committee via the Secretary. The HTTA committee will have the authority to suspend a person from the HTTA.

10. Return

In return for the opportunity to participate in the HTTA league, all members should do their utmost to support HTTA.

11. Agreement

This Code of Conduct has been adopted by the members of HTTA and all members are required to read this Code of Conduct and to comply with its provisions

12. Enjoy

This Code of Conduct is intended to safeguard all those participating in the HTTA league and events and to ensure that HTTA continues to enjoy its excellent reputation within the community and the sport. Notwithstanding any of these conditions, we hope that members will always enjoy their time at HTTA and will benefit from being involved in HTTA's activities