

Monkstown Hockey Club Sideline Policy

One of the aims of Monkstown Academy is that players learn to play hockey in a fun, positive environment. International best practice suggests that young players learn more and perform better when allowed to make their own decisions, and mistakes. The best decision makers become the best players so children need to think for themselves and learn by their own successes and mistakes and not to have instructions shouted at them from the side-line. The coach will give advice as required and this will generally be done when the player is off the pitch or at half time / after the game.

The emphasis on the game should be how it's played, not about the result. We ask that you support the team and not just your own child and that you applaud good play by either side.

Any discussion with your child after the game should focus on the positives to make the memory a good one.

Therefore, while we definitely encourage supporters to come along we ask you to remember:

Let the players play
 Let the coaches coach
 Let the umpires umpire

TIPS FOR ADULTS AT KIDS SPORT

- Keep it fun**
don't take it *too seriously*
It's not the World Titles
- Be enthusiastic**
but don't *scream* & *shout* instructions from the sideline
- Emphasise trying hard**
not winning
- Cheer & acknowledge**
good plays by *all players, both teams*
- Accept decisions by officials**
they are human & *can make mistakes*
- Let coaches do the coaching**
- Always remember, volunteers run kids sport**
- Understand, uphold and support your club's code of conduct**
- Allow your child to play for themselves**
Let kids make the decisions on and off the field
- Think before you speak**
Your words may harm others