

2 Dickenson Mews
Bridge Lane
Driffield
East Yorkshire
YO25 6QY

Dear All,

Towards the end of the 2007/8 season we were contacted by the Yorkshire Hockey Association with regards to a comment made by one of our players on a social networking website / message board.

The comments made by the player were not violent, racist or malicious in their nature, and were merely meant as a discussion point. They raised questions about the way in which matters have been dealt with in the past by the YHA and asked for others to make their own comments on the issue.

However, the YHA have taken a very formal stance on this issue and have made it clear that the comments made by the player were in contravention of YHA Rule 3.1. This rule covers any conduct considered to be prejudicial to the interest of any constituent body (in this instance the YHA), to the EHA or to the game of hockey. The YHA have filed an official complaint against Driffield Hockey Club as representatives of the player. The club has investigated the matter and has taken the decision to impose a 140day ban on the player in question, with effect from the 31st of May. This ban will apply to all competitive matches during the period in question, therefore excluding the player from the Hull 'Summer 7's' tournament, as well as the first 3 games of the 2008 / 2009 season. The player has also been warned as to their future conduct, including match-day yellow and red warning cards.

All players should consider this a formal warning that both the YHA will not accept any behaviour which may be looked upon as being in contravention of this rule. Please think twice before making any comments or behaving in any way which may raise this issue again in the future in any form of media (the Internet, on paper, etc).

If you have any queries about the YHA's code of discipline, it is available to download from the Internet at:

<http://www.yorkshireha.org.uk/download.php?view.324>

Yours sincerely

Adam Saltonstall
(Driffield Hockey Club, Discipline Secretary
On behalf of the Driffield Hockey Club Committee)