



Branston Pickleball

Equality, Inclusion & Code of Conduct Policy

Version 1.0

1.1 Policy Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to ensure that Branston Pickleball Club provides a safe, welcoming, inclusive, and respectful environment for all members, volunteers, and visitors. This policy sets out the standards of behaviour expected within the Club and the Club's commitment to equality of opportunity.

1.2. Equality & Inclusion Statement

The Club is fully committed to the principles of equality of opportunity and non-discrimination.

No member, volunteer, or participant shall receive less favourable treatment on the grounds of:

- age
- gender or gender identity
- disability
- colour or ethnic origin
- nationality
- sexual orientation
- religion or belief
- parental or marital status
- social or economic background



The Club will take all reasonable steps to ensure that all individuals are treated fairly, respectfully, and with dignity.

1.3. Responsibilities

The Club will:

- Provide open access to participation wherever reasonably possible
- Make reasonable adjustments to accommodate individual needs
- Promote inclusive practice in all activities
- Act promptly on reports of discrimination, harassment, or inappropriate behaviour

All members, volunteers, and officials are expected to:

- Uphold the principles of equality and inclusion
- Treat others with respect and courtesy
- Challenge discriminatory behaviour where safe to do so
- Comply with this policy at all times

1.4. Code of Conduct

All individuals associated with the Club must adhere to the following standards:

1.4.1 Expected Behaviour

Members must:

- Act in a respectful, sporting, and inclusive manner (e.g. stop and wait if your ball goes onto the next court)
- Help to set up and put away nets and balls before and after each session
- Play fairly and adhere to the rules of Pickleball (e.g. in/out line calls – if in doubt, the ball is in; if you can not see a gap between the line and the ball, then you should assume the ball is in).
- Respect decisions made by officials, coaches, and the Management Committee
- Use appropriate language at all times
- Behave responsibly during Club sessions, events, and competitions
- Represent the Club positively at all times
- Wait to retrieve a ball, and pass the ball to your opponent between points.



1.4.2 Unacceptable Behaviour

The following behaviours will not be tolerated:

- Discrimination, harassment, bullying, or victimisation
- Abusive, aggressive, or threatening behaviour
- Sexual or inappropriate language or conduct
- Intimidation of players, officials, or volunteers
- Behaviour that brings the Club or the sport into disrepute
- Running across another court to retrieve your ball whilst a point is in play.

1.5. Breaches of Policy

Any breach of this policy will be treated seriously and may result in action under the Club's Disciplinary Policy, including suspension or termination of membership.

Where behaviour involves discrimination or harassment, the Club will take appropriate action regardless of intent.

1.6. Reporting Concerns

Concerns relating to equality, inclusion, or conduct should be reported to:

- the Welfare & Equality Officer, or
- the Chairperson or Secretary if the Welfare & Equality Officer is unavailable.

Reports will be handled confidentially and fairly.

1.7. Review

This policy shall be reviewed by the Management Committee at least once every two years, or sooner if required by changes in legislation or governing body guidance.



Appendix 1. Version control and review cycle

Version	Date reviewed by MC	Formal review date.
0.1	Created by AF 15/01/26	
0.2	Reviewed by TB	22/02/26
0.3	Version for review by MC	
1.0	Issued 04/04/26	Dec 2026