

Easton Cowboys & Cowgirls Sports & Social Club (ECCSSC) Safer Spaces Statement

Our constitution states “The ECCSSC is **anti-racist, anti-sexist, anti-fascist, anti-homophobic and anti-transphobic**... We are committed to everyone having the right to enjoy club sports and social activities **free from the threat of intimidation, harassment and abuse**... We seek to **further mutual understanding and respect** for all people and to **challenge discrimination**”.

We as a club recognise that while sport should be for everybody, currently this is not the case. Racism, transphobia, homophobia, fatphobia, sexism, ageism, ableism and prejudice based on ethnicity, disability, nationality, class, gender, gender presentation, language ability, asylum status or religious affiliation exist within all communities, including our own. We all have a responsibility to challenge the status quo and ensure that these things are stamped out through our words and actions.

We hate rules that diminish our right to express ourselves and are firm believers that some rules are made to be broken. However, to ensure that everyone attending our tournament feels safe to be themselves, we ask that everyone agree to the following expectations:

- Don't assume someone's **gender or sexuality**. Asking and giving pronouns is encouraged.
- **Only yes means yes**. Respect others boundaries.
- Make space for all **abilities and body types**.
- There will be **children** present - be mindful of your actions in front of them.
- **We will not tolerate any actions that make other participants feel excluded, uncomfortable, vulnerable or threatened**. If you act in a way which does so, you may be asked to check your behaviour. If you refuse to alter your behaviour, you may be asked to leave the tournament.

If you are made to feel threatened or uncomfortable, talk to your team rep, an organiser at the info tent or email secretary@eastoncowfolk.org.uk. Your issue will be dealt with fully and sensitively.

Finally, this will be a collaboratively run space. Feel free to make suggestions. We all have a responsibility to create an environment in which everyone can be their full authentic selves. As a community, we want to build space for dialogue and accountability. We are all in a process of unlearning and relearning. We want to build a space where we feel comfortable calling out problematic behaviour. We want a space where when we're called out, we feel safe enough to reflect while remaining held by those around us. With this being said, we will not hesitate to ban individuals that we see causing harm.