

A large, light pink brushstroke graphic that serves as a background for the title text.

Developing a Health Code for Esports – A teeny toolkit

DR. EMMA WITKOWSKI

RMIT UNIVERSITY

EMMA.WITKOWSKI@RMIT.EDU.AU

@EKWITKOWSKI

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*It's a teeny
toolkit*

DEVELOPING AN ESPORTS CLUB HEALTH CODE

1. OUR VALUES
2. OUR CODE OF CONDUCT
3. OUR PLEDGE
4. OUR MOTTO
5. OUR RESOURCEFUL LEADERSHIP

Do it together

SESSION 1 - CREATE

1) A VALUES STATEMENT

2) YOUR OWN IN-HOUSE & ONLINE
DRAFT CODE OF CONDUCT.

1. Values

CRAFT A VALUES SET

If Values are basic and fundamental beliefs that guide or motivate attitudes or actions. Then as a club, we can put some terms down that reflect *our values*.

Ask the group:

- 1. What does 'our club' value?**
- 2. *Do our values support all our members in being an active part of our esports club?***

In a club with diverse expertise levels, identities, and interests etc., the values will extend beyond traditional 'pro sports' & esports (high performance) community values



Smash Sisters (community) team values = inclusive, accessible, kind (but accountable), & collaborative.



Matildas (high performance) team values = teamwork, discipline, resilience & leadership.

Values: Write them up

WHAT VALUE?

- inclusive
- accessible

How this value will underpin your club culture...

= our rules & regulations empower everyone to participate in a similar way.

= our activities consider existing and emerging participants of all play levels and abilities.

2. Code of Conduct

DRAFT AN IN-HOUSE & ONLINE CODE OF CONDUCT.

- 1) **WARM UP:** Students bring in examples or talk about the 'emotional tone' and 'rule-sets' from the game they play, a community they compete with (even sports!), or from a Twitch live streamer they follow.
- 2) **AND HARMONISE:** Get groups to talk about what examples align to your internally produced esports club *Values*. What resonates & which social and written rules might align with your *Values* (with some adjustment)?
- 3) **TOGETHER:** Discuss what rules & guidelines are necessary to create esports togetherness in your esports space and why. Discuss how different games, communities, or online/offline spaces create different challenges? How can you collectively address these in your *Code of Conduct* & *Values* statement?
- 4) **THEN CREATE:** In smaller groups, create some key guidelines to consider in your own local *Code of Conduct* for your esports club, writing rules that support the *Values* that you are encouraging.
- 5) **AND REVISE:** Review each statement, asking: *Does this align with our values statement? & Will this affect members of various groups differently/fairly (gender, ethnicity, geography, orientation, etc)?*
- 6) **YOUR CODE of CONDUCT:** After making small group statements – join up & make a one-pager TOGETHER as a draft *Code of Conduct* for their esports club!

'emotional tone' = everyday norms & opinion-maker 'tone' of a community (think Twitch chat or a sports coach)

'rule-sets' = written guidelines, school rules, game pricing, house rules, automated and consequential rules on a game/platform (e.g. auto-bans, moderator bans, terms & conditions – TOCs, End-User-Licence Agreements - EULAs, etc.)

3. *Pledge*

CONSIDER A PLEDGE

You've got a draft values statement and a draft pledge – hoorah!

Too difficult?

Lean into a ready-made 'pledge'



Our community welcomes everyone and includes all, no matter their shape, size, color, gender, background, disability, or beliefs. We all uphold the GLHF pledge.

Good Luck, Have Fun is a promise to...

- 1 Set a positive example with my behavior**
- 2 Show integrity by honoring the rules**
- 3 Be a good sport whether I win or lose**
- 4 Recognize that my words have real impact**
- 5 Speak up against discrimination, harassment, and abuse**
- 6 Stop, listen, and reassess if I'm told that my words or actions are harmful**
- 7 Respect others, even if their sincere opinions are different from my own**

<https://www.anykey.org/en/pledge>

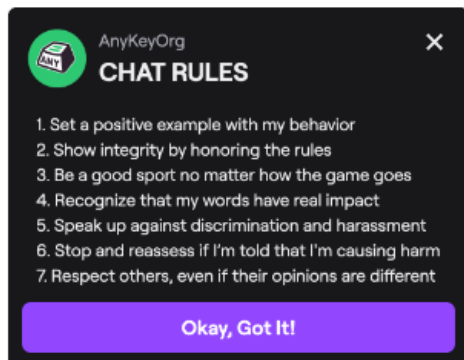


Access, Visibility, Attainable & Inspirational

Either way, make your code of conduct/pledge easy to engage with!

Make it *brief, accessible, visible, attainable & inspirational*.

- Can you posterise it?
- Can you embed it? (chat prompts – automated; Twitch chat emotes/badges)



Pasteable Chat Rules

Set up this simple text as a prompt in any chat spaces you oversee like Discord servers or Twitch streams.



Copy Text
GLHF Pledge Chat Rules



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Aspirational embeddedness – Anykey's GLHF pledge global badge

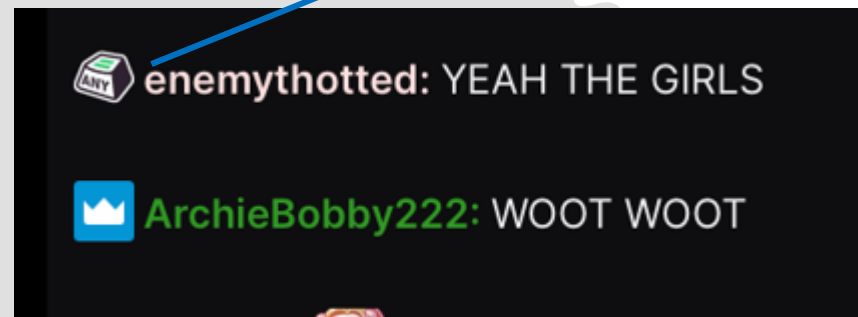


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Seen at the Commonwealth Games Esports Championship to Crayator's livestream



dunks: i need to re-sell
ParadoxOji: none calls dunks jordans w
CBakerTM: I only like the Jordan 1s
blade_killa: FAX
xxDentwitchxx: Yep
long_live_kobe24: Jordan is the brand
Amylouise845: Fax
mckaylar:
Arawly21: Or a high heel



4. A motto!

Develop a motto – a phrase that sums up your healthy esports space ‘vibe’

- AnyKey uses “Keep it comfy”

A motto must be backed up by the pledge/code of conduct/rules to underpin the tone.

And, a motto can help to energise bystander leadership...

5. *Bystander leadership*

Led by Emeritus Professor Helen Cahill, this new study found that Year 9 boys were less confident than Year 7 boys about whether to intervene in cases of sexual harassment, with the intention to intervene falling from 20.2% to 12.8%. Overall girls and gender diverse young people were more likely to say they would intervene than boys.

To read the Summary report visit: <https://www.anrows.org.au/publication/respectful-relationships-research-report/respectful-relationships-summary-report/>

Can you offer your esports club a hands-on workshop opportunity?

- **Mancave** has a workshop series the ends on “**leading your community**”. <https://themancave.life/our-programs/>
- **Your Voice Matters** (Gender equity bystander intervention)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IWB-8FrTNQE>
- Vic govt *Resilience, Rights & Respectful Relationships* program

What do you hope some of the results of the project might be?

Step 1 is greater awareness. Step 2 is more people taking action.

That might create an increase in the number of incidents that are reported. Long term we'd like to think that these issues are dealt with locally and that it improves the culture at club level where people participate.

Bystander case: <https://www.playbytherules.net.au/>



A teeny toolkit

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Let's PLAY

Rock, paper, scissors, run! Or Hand slap. In 10-person(ish) groups:

1. Draft a healthy values set for your 'club' – what you want your club to 'be' (4- 6 terms)
2. Play (carefully!) Or don't – you are all entering 'the arena' with preconceived ideas of what this will be!
3. Ask: did the play align with your values set?
4. From here, adjust your values set and—*instead of a code of conduct*—create a basic tournament ruleset that nurtures your values (a one-hour tournament).
5. Test out your rules & adjust as you 'play them in'.
6. Revise your Values set – How healthy is it for existing but also emerging participants? Do final revisions to the code of conduct & consider a motto!

References

- **Anykey esports inclusivity** resources: <https://anykey.org/resources>
- **Mancave** resources (**Andrew Tate report**): <https://themancave.life/>
- **Sverok** (Swedish esports assoc) **Code of Conduct**:
<https://infobank.sverok.se/wp-content/uploads/2018/04/An-esports-Code-of-Conduct.pdf>
- **Voice Collegiate Esports** “**Inclusive Excellence Handbook**”:
<https://www.voicecollegiate.org/resources>
- Victoria Tran “**Designing Communities for Kindness**”:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oWslfgx0yps>
- Dr Emma Witkowski. “**A Health Code for Esports**”, keynote video:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uQCpQwxR1WE>
- **Play by the rules**: <https://www.playbytherules.net.au/>