

CODE OF CONDUCT



Principles

- A. Equality of opportunity for all participants regardless of ability, race or religion.
- B. Emphasize the development of all player's hockey skills, sense of fair play and teamwork.
- C. Promotion of the enjoyment of the game for all players.
- D. Providing a positive learning and maturing experience for young athletes in a minor hockey setting.
- E. Work in conjunction with Hockey Alberta in the promotion of minor hockey programs and leadership development.

Athlete's Rights

The WMHA promotes the following athlete's rights:

- A. The right to fair and impartial treatment.
- B. The right to enjoy the sport and to have fun.
- C. The right to be treated with dignity.
- D. The right to have their needs and not those of the adults fulfilled.
- E. The right to have a positive example set by adults in minor hockey.

Members, Coaches, Players, Executive, Volunteers

- A. Membership and participation in West 39 Minor Hockey Association (WMHA) activities is a privilege, not a right. It is the intention of this code of conduct to promote proper behavior and respect for all participants within the WMHA. All board members, members, volunteers, team staff, coaches, players and parents/guardians must agree to abide by and adhere to the WMHA Bylaws, Policies and Procedures, including but not limited to the Code of Conduct and Fair Play, by clicking the check box at the time of player registration before being allowed to participate in hockey. By doing so, the Bylaws, Policies and Procedures, Code of Conduct and Fair Play is expected and assumed everyone fully understands their requirements and responsibilities. (Original B & F moved up to A, repetitive)
- B. All members and participants of WMHA shall respect other members, officials, parents/guardians, players, fans, team officials, volunteers, WMHA Board members, employees and property of WMHA. Any inappropriate conduct, threats, harassment or abuse directed towards game or team officials, members, parents/guardians, players, fans, volunteers, Board members, employees or damage to the property of WMHA or of another association will not be tolerated and is subject to discipline.
- C. All members, fans and participants of WMHA shall respect the game of hockey and shall behave in a manner so as not to make a travesty of the game.
- D. WMHA will not tolerate loud, obscene, obnoxious coaches, managers, players, parents/guardians, or fans. Such individuals will be subject to disciplinary action as outlined in the disciplinary document.
- E. Parents/guardians and fans are not permitted in the dressing room except as permitted by the respective Coach to assist their child in changing before or after the game.
- F. Under no circumstances is a parent/guardian or fan to enter the opposing teams dressing room.
- G. Under no circumstances is a parent/guardian, player, fan or member of the team staff to enter the referee room.
- H. Officials are not to be consulted regarding any suspendable infraction.
- I. Should any member, fan, or participant not adhere to the Code of Conduct then a hearing with the Discipline Committee shall take place and consequences will be forthcoming. Should those involved normally be members that are participating on the Discipline Committee or there is a conflict of interest then other members from the WMHA Board will be assigned to the Discipline Committee in their place.

Observer Expectations

- A. Including: Parents / Friends & Family / Spectators
- B. It is ultimately the responsibility of the adults in charge to assure that all behavior is within the realm deemed acceptable by this Code of Conduct. However, unfortunate as this is, it is sometimes the adult who violates this Code and sets the example for the youth to follow. All participants should be aware of the Code of Conduct so that they consider the consequences before they act. West 39 Minor Hockey welcomes and encourages fans and onlookers to cheer on their favorite teams and players. However, all observers must be aware that they are participating in a WMHA event and are subjected to the same Code of Conduct as the actual participants.
- C. At all times that WMHA is using, leasing or renting a public facility such as an arena, the association reserves the right to refuse entry to any persons. If it is deemed that an observer is not acting within the Code of Conduct established by WMHA, the Association will exercise their right to have these persons removed from the facility. Observers may be banned from attending any WMHA function if they choose not to cease violating the Code of Conduct.

Fair Play = Safety for All

Hockey is an emotional sport. Whether it is the behavior of our kids on the ice, our parenting comments in the car, or the remarks and actions of spectators in the arena, we all share a responsibility to conduct ourselves in a way that creates a positive culture around the sport we love.

Hockey Alberta stands against bullying, harassment, and abuse on the ice and off the ice, and we ask parents to do the same. We are committed to providing a safe environment for everyone in our sport. Any form of bullying, harassment, or abuse is unacceptable, whether physical, emotional, or sexual.

Hockey Alberta expects each association, team, parent, volunteer, and staff member to take all reasonable steps to safeguard participants against bullying, harassment, and abuse - especially young participants - and protect them from any form of violence. There is a shared responsibility with parents and guardians to nurture the physical and emotional well-being of our players.

Taken from the Hockey Alberta Website:

<https://www.hockeyalberta.ca/parents/fun-fair-play/>

https://www.hockeyalberta.ca/uploads/source/Parent_Engagement/fair_play_codes_e.pdf

Zero Tolerance: Abuse, Bullying and Harassment

Any form of bullying, harassment, or abuse - whether physical, emotional or sexual - of any participant in any program is unacceptable.

Each association, team, parent, volunteer and staff member is expected to take all reasonable steps to safeguard the welfare of participants - especially young participants - and protect them from any form of violence. There is a shared responsibility with parents and guardians to nurture the physical and emotional well-being of our players.

Abuse

Abuse is any form of physical, emotional and/or sexual mistreatment, or lack of care which causes physical injury or emotional damages to a child, whether done in person or through technology, by a person in a position of power. Abuse is a PROTECTION issue for the victim. In Alberta, a person is considered a child up to the age of 18 years.

Bullying

Bullying is repeated, unwanted aggressive behavior by one or more individuals towards another. Bullying involves an observed or perceived power imbalance, and can result in physical, social or academic harm or distress for the targeted individual. Bullying is typically behavior that is repeated. A bully is usually someone both you and your child know and who misuses his/her power over your child. This may be a peer, a young person, or an adult. A child is most vulnerable when s/he is alone with another person, or in a group setting where there is inadequate supervision.

Harassment

Harassment is offensive behavior - emotional, physical, and/or sexual - that involves discrimination against a person because of their race, national or ethnic origin, age, color, religion, family status, sexual orientation, sex/gender, disability, marital status, or pardoned conviction. It is conduct that is disrespectful, insulting, intimidating, humiliating, offensive or physically harmful. Harassment is a HUMAN RIGHTS violation. Harassment may be a single event or a pattern of mistreatment. Harassment occurs when someone attempts to negatively control, influence or embarrass another person or group based on a prohibited ground of discrimination. Examples include displays of favoritism, subtle put downs or ostracism. Dealing with harassment can sometimes be difficult as what is viewed as harassment by one person may be viewed as a "joke" by another person. It is the **impact of the behavior on the victim** that is the most critical issue, not the intention of the person who harasses.