

PHILOSOPHY OF YOUTH HOCKEY



The USA Hockey Philosophy is to Focus on:

- **Growth and Development**
- **Increase Participation**
- **Skill Development**
- **Safe Environment**
- **Fun/Enjoyment**



In The Stands:

KEEP HOCKEY FUN

- **ENCOURAGE** your son or daughter.
- **ENJOY** the game.
- **APPLAUD** good plays.
- **AVOID** coaching from the stands.
- **REMEMBER** Coaches and Referees are human and therefore imperfect.



At HOME and in the CAR

Remember:

- **There is more to life than hockey.**
- **Do not COACH your child on the way to a game. ENCOURAGE FUN and TEAMWORK.**
- **LISTEN to them and BE SUPPORTIVE.**
- **NEVER second guess your child.**
- **NEVER second guess a coach.**



At Practice...

- **SKILL IMPROVEMENT** is important.
- **FUN** is essential.
- You and your child must **PRACTICE EMOTIONAL CONTROL.**
- **ALLOW** the coach and player to be creative.
- Here is where the game is really learned.



At the Rink...

- Have the rink be a **POSITIVE** place.
- Be **CERTAIN** your child's equipment is in good shape and fits properly.
- Be **AWARE** of any potential dangerous areas in the arena. Point them out to the coach or rink manager.



INITIATION PROGRAM

- Focuses on the Basic Hockey Skills.
- Curriculum is a “One” Step at a Time Concept.
- Provides a Positive, Non-Competitive Atmosphere.
- Develops Players’ Self-Respect and Self-Discipline.



CROSS-ICE PROGRAM

- Provides an intermediary program between the Initiation Program and a full-ice program for 8 & Under players.
- Stresses participation, fun and skill development.
- Provides a positive environment for learning the fundamental skills of hockey.



COACHING PROGRAM

- A Comprehensive Coaching Education Program
- Coaching Education Levels
 - Initiation
 - Associate
 - Intermediate
 - Advanced
 - Master
- High Performance Workshops
- Skill Workshops
- ACE Coordinators



OTHER ISSUES IN YOUTH HOCKEY

- Parents Expectations of Their Child
- Values of Youth Hockey
- Proper Equipment
- Safety Around the Rink
- Parents and Referees
- Parent/Spectator ZERO TOLERANCE Policy
- Drug Awareness
- Expense of the Game



**If All Parents/Guardians,
Coaches And Officials Can
IMPROVE Their Outlook On
The GAME, The TRUE
Winner Of Our Sport Will
Be The KIDS!!**



EVERYONE WINS

Being a winner
is quite easy to face,
But it takes a big person
to accept loss with grace.
To stand and shake hands
after losing a game,
And watch as another
gets glory and fame,
Takes honor and courage—
so stand straight and tall,
And know in your heart
that you gave it your all.
You'll earn much respect—
'cause losing's no sin,
Showing good sportsmanship
lets everyone win.

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