

## **Chaska Chanhassen Hockey Association Coaching Code of Conduct**

Achieving a high level of sportsmanship in our league starts with you! Attendance at sanctioned CCHA events is a privilege, not a right. As with all privileges, there comes the responsibility to maintain that privilege. One of your responsibilities is to conduct yourself in a way that reflects positively on yourself, your players, the CCHA, and the game of hockey. As a coach, you must remember that you are in an influential position (especially to the players). Thus, how you teach and conduct yourself will be equally, if not more important than what you teach.

In order to maintain the integrity and high standards of USA Hockey, Minnesota Hockey, District 6 and the CCHA, all coaches of the CCHA are expected to follow a set of guidelines that are detailed below. Please read these guidelines and sign the following acknowledgement. Coaches who do not conduct themselves appropriately will be subject to discipline with the CCHA as described below, which could include your suspension/removal from a coaching post in this association.

As a coach I agree that:

- I will be a positive ambassador of CCHA at all times.
- I am responsible for the conduct and safety of the players on my team. I will maintain order and control among all team members before, during, and after all games/practices. I will not allow players to “roam” the facility unsupervised.
- I will follow the concussion protocol prescribed by USA Hockey, Minnesota Hockey and District 6, and will err on the side of player safety over winning where I am unsure whether a player has been concussed. When in doubt, I will sit them out.
- I am accountable for my team’s “cheering section”. If the “parent” code of conduct is breached, disciplinary action will be taken, up to and including forfeiture of the game (if the guilty party refuses to vacate the premises).
- I will stress participation and development of all players, not just the more gifted ones. I will try to give each player an equal opportunity to learn the sport and develop their skills by equalizing practice time as much as possible.
- I will exhibit good sportsmanship at all times.
- I will be a good role model for the behaviors I want my players to emulate. I will set positive examples at practices and games and understand that may mean I need to remove a player from practice or a game even when the rules of the game or tournament would not require me to do so.
- I will treat each player as an important human being. Each player will have a different personality requiring different needs. I will be sensitive to those differences and show interest and concern for each team member.
- I will follow the rules of the game at all times.
- I will remember that the game is for the players, not the coaches.
- I will not criticize my players by belittling them.
- I will control my temper and body language and will not use foul or inappropriate language while participating in CCHA activities.
- I will be prepared and start and end practices and games on time. I will notify parents and other impacted parties of any deviations.
- I will respect other coaches. If there is a disagreement, I will speak to the coach in private and/or utilize the referee as an arbitrator.

## **Chaska Chanhassen Hockey Association Coaching Code of Conduct**

- I will respect the opposing team and demand that my players do the same. I will not direct any of my comments to an opposing team's players.
- I will respect the referees and not openly criticize them or tolerate my team criticizing them. I will remember that they are in control of the game and that they are humans and will make mistakes. Open confrontations with the Referees are a poor behavioral model for the players and parents. The Referees will have the last word.
- I will not encourage any behaviors that would endanger the health and wellbeing of any player on my team or another team.
- I will value skill development, fair competition and effort.
- I will follow all CCHA rules and policies at all times and ensure that my players do the same.
- I will show respect to and care for all equipment, supplies and facilities (including but not limited to home and away rinks, hotels, restaurants, meeting spaces, etc.), and demand my players do the same.
- I will place the emotional and physical development of the players ahead of my personal desire to win.
- I will demand an environment for the players that are free of alcohol, tobacco, and illegal drugs, and I will refrain from their use at and before my participation in youth sports events.
- I will strive to make this hockey experience fun for all players.
- I understand that our teams will be playing under Minnesota Hockey's Hockey Education Program which promotes sportsmanship, skill development and fair play. I agree to follow the guidelines of this program.
- I understand that any violation of the CCHA Code of Conduct could result in probation, sanctions, suspensions and/or CCHA refusing my family's membership into CCHA in accordance with Article 6 of the Bylaws of Minnesota Hockey.

### **Important – please read carefully:**

I have read and understand the CCHA Coach's Code of Conduct. I understand that ANY violation of this code may result in disciplinary action being taken against me. Disciplinary action could include immediate removal from my coaching position, being required to appear before the level commissioner, and/or CCHA Grievance and Disciplinary Committee, and refusal of my family's membership into CCHA in accordance with Article 6 of the Bylaws of Minnesota Hockey. I understand that the discipline handed down by the level commissioner or the committee can be up to and include suspension/removal from my coaching position or refusal of my family's membership into CCHA in accordance with Article 6 of the Bylaws of Minnesota Hockey, and that their decision is final.

**Coach(es) Disciplinary Process:** When a coach(es) is in violation of the Code of Conduct and/or disrupt team activities, the Board of Directors will enforce discipline according to the guidelines below as appropriate and subject to the Board's discretion:

**First Offense** – Verbal warning from the Level Commissioner or CCHA Board of Directors.

**Second Offense** – 2-week probation imposed by the Level Commissioner or CCHA Board of Directors (cannot attend any CCHA sanctioned event, practice, game, or

**Chaska Chanhassen Hockey Association  
Coaching Code of Conduct**

scrimmage) and written warning asking the coach to appear before disciplinary committee.

**Third Offense** – Required disciplinary hearing with level commissioner and/or CCHA Board of Directors with penalties up to and including suspension from all practices and games for the remainder of the season, refusal of membership with CCHA pursuant to Article 6 of the Minnesota Hockey Bylaws and/or designation as being in bad standing with CCHA for the next season. Severe first or second offenses, and repeated and/or dangerous actions may be referred directly to the Board of Directors for immediate and accelerated action. When continued disregard for the rules or policies of the CCHA, Minnesota Hockey or USA Hockey seriously disrupts CCHA and/or team activities, or the behavior is determined in the sole and absolute discretion of the CCHA to be dangerous, intimidating or excessively disruptive to others, the Board of Directors reserves the right to terminate CCHA membership, including the child's participation in further team activities and any such decision is final and non-appealable. Any violations that are deemed to be criminal in nature will be referred to the proper authorities.

Additionally, any game infractions that result in my suspension/appearance before the District 6 Supplemental Disciplinary Committee will also require a meeting with the level commissioner or CCHA Grievance and Disciplinary Committees. I will not be permitted to return to my coaching position before I have met with both the District 6 and CCHA committees, and that the CCHA Grievance and Disciplinary Committee may, in its sole and absolute discretion, impose discipline beyond any that District 6 imposes.

This code of conduct will apply to me for one hockey season beginning on the date signed on my coaching application.