

KANKAKEE YOUTH HOCKEY CLUB POLICY AND INFORMATION MANUAL

FOR PLAYERS, COACHES, TEAM OFFICIALS, PARENTS & SPECTATORS



2018-2019 SEASON

MISSION STATEMENT

To provide high quality skill development in the sport of hockey for all players in a safe environment. (a) to promote, encourage and improve the standard of amateur ice hockey; and (b) to conduct an amateur hockey program consistent with the rules and regulations of USA Hockey, AHAI and the various leagues in which the Corporation's players participate.

WELCOME TO KANKAKEE YOUTH HOCKEY

The Kankakee Youth Hockey Club (KYHC) is a hockey club that operates out of the Ice Valley Centre in Kankakee, IL. Kankakee is rich with history, festivals and natural beauty!

Currently the KYHC consists of the **Irish** High School Varsity and Junior Varsity teams which play in the Illinois High School Hockey League (IHSHL) and the **Kankakee Coyotes** which consists of 1 Bantam, 2 Peewee, 2 Squirt, and 1 Mite team which play in the Northwest Hockey League (NWHL).

This manual sets forth the basic policies of the Kankakee Youth Hockey Club (KYHC) concerning all participants in the organization. The fundamental goal underlying these policies is to give the best possible experience to the greatest number of children. While we hope that our teams will win their share of games, it is more important that the children have fun, develop hockey skills and learn the rewards of teamwork, dedicated effort and sportsmanship. Anyone with questions about these policies should direct them to either the Club President or Chair of the KYHC Rules and Ethics (R&E) Committee.

Both parenting and coaching are extremely difficult vocations. Both are similar and it is important to establish understandings and clear lines of communication. When your player becomes part of the Kankakee Youth Hockey Club it is important that the established expectations and lines of communication are clearly understood by all. We are working with your most prized possession, and we look forward to working with you and your player to build on the foundation of a strong, proud Kankakee Youth Hockey Club tradition.

Expectations of our COACHING STAFF

- Teach and promote good sportsmanship
- Be enthusiastic and motivational
- Stress Team unity in developing winning attitudes
- Communicate with players and parents
- Help players to set realistic goals for performance improvement
- Hold a meeting with the players for the purpose of understanding & communication

Expectations of our PLAYERS

- Be coachable. Have a positive, learning attitude
- Set realistic & challenging goals for yourself
- Respect coaches, teammates, officials, parents, and all rinks, facilities & equipment
- Demonstrate good sportsmanship
- Learn from your mistakes
- Have a good work ethic
- Be a leader and a role model

Expectations of our PARENTS

- Please notify coaches of ANY injury that they may not be aware of
- Be positive- being on any team is an accomplishment
- Be supportive- nothing can erode teamwork faster than athletes doubting the capabilities of their coaches. It can be an infectious problem that affects performance, confidence and the needed

edge to compete in an athletic contest

- Communicate fairly and openly with the coaches
- Be a good role model- demonstrate positive behavior and good sportsmanship as a fan
- Attend parent meetings
- Learn the rules of the game
- Encourage commitment & positive values

Inappropriate Issues to Discuss with Coaches

- Other players
- Philosophy or play calling
- Team or Individual strategy
- Playing time

Appropriate Issues to Discuss with Coaches

- Various ways to help your player improve
- Concerns about injury
- Concerns about behavior
- Concerns about the treatment of your player

It is important to understand that athletics provide some of the most rewarding moments in a child's life. It is equally important to understand that there may be times when things do not go the way you or your player would like them to go. Coaches will make judgements & decisions based on what they see, know & believe to be in the best interest of all the players involved & the team itself.

KYHC is a member of USA Hockey and the Amateur Hockey Association of Illinois.



All players and Coaches must register online with USA Hockey prior to KYHCs registration. Please bring confirmation page to in person registration or have it available when registering online.

Go to www.usahockey.com Click on "online registration" Complete USA Hockey Registration



The Amateur Hockey Association Illinois was founded as the governing body of Illinois amateur hockey in 1975.

AHAI consists of over 2500 member teams of all sizes and shapes. There are boys' and girls' teams. There are pre-mite teams (for the 5 and 6 year olds), house league youth teams, all-star youth travel teams, high school teams, girl's/women's teams, in-line teams, youth and adult sled teams, special hockey teams, deaf/hard of hearing teams, adult teams, and Junior teams for the top contenders in Illinois.

"Provide an improved grassroots foundation for the growth and development of USA Hockey and its members, designing programs aimed at encouraging increased participation, improved

skills and a responsible environment for the conduct of youth hockey."

KHYC BOARD

Board meetings are generally held on the 4th Monday of the month at 7:00 pm in the upstairs meeting room at Ice Valley. The meeting date is posted on the KYHC website. Also, recent meeting minutes and by-laws are posted on the website.

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS

Bryan Countryman

KANKAKEE YOUTH HOCKEY PRESIDENT

Erica Barton

IRISH HOCKEY COMMITTEE BOARD CHAIR

Jeff Burke

RULES AND ETHICS CHAIR

Stephanie Forkenbrock

KANKAKEE YOUTH HOCKEY REGISTRAR

Amy Wendinger

COYOTES COMMITTEE BOARD CHAIR

Michelle Armstrong

KANKAKEE YOUTH HOCKEY SECRETARY

Dave Verkler

TREASURER

NON-EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS

Lee Forkenbrock

WEBMASTER / SOCIAL MEDIA MANAGER

Mike Gall

DIRECTOR OF HOCKEY

KANKAKEE COYOTE YOUTH HOCKEY TEAM



"Fostering balanced competition and fair play in hockey throughout Chicagoland."

The Coyotes play in the Northwest Hockey League (NWHL).

<http://www.nwhleague.com/>

The Northwest Hockey League was formed to provide safe recreationally competitive youth hockey at all age levels. The league focuses on sportsmanship, fair play, and player development.

REGULAR SEASON

Evaluations are early to mid-September and practices start in mid-September. Game play begins approximately October and continues until the final tournament in early March.

Fees for 2018-2019 will be as follows:

8U (Mite)- \$1025

10U (Squirt) \$1375

12U (Peewee) \$1675

14U (Bantam) \$1675

Typically, each team will participate in two tournaments independent of the NWHL. These tournaments are at various locations. Some of the tournaments we have done in the past have been in Wisconsin Dells, St. Louis, Notre Dame, and Chicago. One tournament fee is included in your fall fees and for the second tournament the fees are divided among the families of the players that choose to participate in the tournament.

SPRING LEAGUE

Starts on or after April 1 and ends in early June with a Championship Tournament. The season consists of 10 games. The jerseys are included in the cost of the Spring Fees. Fee TBD. Typically around \$300-\$350.

REGISTRATION DEADLINES

Registrations after the deadlines will be decided on a case by case basis.

IRISH HIGH SCHOOL HOCKEY TEAM

The Irish High School hockey team skates out of Ice Valley Ice Centre in Kankakee, Illinois, near the Kankakee Community College campus. Our coaching staff is headed by Coach Steve Black, who is assisted by Coach Bjorn Lindgren. The IHSHL high school hockey season begins in September and runs through February with playoffs and finals through mid-March. We are always looking for new players interested in playing competitive hockey at the high school level. Players from any high school in our area are welcome to contact our team.

Kankakee Irish play in the Illinois Hayes Suburban League. Practices may begin week of August 15th and games may begin late September. 10 games will be played from September to November and 14 games from December to February for a total of 24 games.

We participate in 1 tournament, typically in January during Martin Luther King weekend.

Schools that make up the Kankakee Irish High School team: BBCHS, Manteno, Kankakee, Bishop MacNamara, Peotone, Beecher, Grant Park, Clifton, Momence, Herscher.

Fees: 2018-2019

New Incoming players: \$2650.00. Includes, 2 Jersey's, Team Bag, Team warm up jacket, Socks and patches.

Returning player fees: \$2250.00

Goalie fees: 20% discount for single goalie.

It is the intent of the IHSHL to foster and support High School hockey in the State of Illinois. The emphasis of this league shall be to educate, encourage and improve the standards and conduct of amateur ice hockey: to develop and encourage sportsmanship by all players and persons involved in the sport of amateur ice hockey in the State of Illinois: to affiliate with AHAI and USA Hockey and ensure registration of all teams with USA Hockey: to communicate and cooperate with AHAI and USA Hockey, other State and Officials Associations so as to improve and promote the sport of hockey.



www.ISHL.us

PAYMENT AND REFUNDS

PLAYER FEES AND ACCOUNT BALANCES

Registration fees are assessed to players to cover the cost of hockey. The cost varies by the level of hockey for the player, and the specific fee by the level will be determined by the Board for each season. Members agree to these fees when registering players for a season. Upon completion of registration, members agree that they will pay the fees in full for season unless other arrangements are made between the member and the board.

Members agree to a full season when registering for a team and assumes all risks of their player(s) to complete the season. In order to keep the cost of hockey as low as possible the club relies on all members to keep their commitments. Leaving a team mid-season does not relieve the member from their obligation of full season registrations. Failure to pay registration fees in full could result in collection activity that is at the discretion of the board.

Fees may be paid in full at any time, via installment payments throughout the season, or fees may be covered by fundraising credit in their individual member account earned by the member.

FUNDRAISING CREDIT POLICY

Members who earn fundraising credit may apply that credit to cover registration fees. Fundraising credit applied to specific member accounts may not be used to cover costs other than registration player fees. Members may roll their fundraising credit balances over from year to year. The KYHC cannot exchange any fundraising credit for cash for any reason. It is the members responsibility to understand their fundraising account balance and have a plan to utilize it. Members who leave the KYHC with a positive fundraising credit balance in their member account, may choose to assign those funds to another member. Any member who leaves the KYHC for more than 12 months will forfeit any fundraising credit balance unless agreements are made in advance with the KYHC board.

REFUND POLICY

Keeping with our full-season registration policy. Partial refunds will not be issued to a player that leaves a team midseason. This includes players that are not able to play for reasons of illness or injury. Players will not be refunded for games or practices missed due to disciplinary suspension.

Members may request a refund of any overpayment of registration fees. In the event that a member family has used a mix of fundraising credit and made cash (or cash equivalent) payments that exceed the registration fees, the member may request a refund of the portion that was paid by cash. This request must be made to the KYHC board before the start of registration for the next fall/ winter season. Any member who has overpaid their account and does not request a refund of cash payments by the start of the registration, will have their overpayment balance converted to fundraising credit. All policies for fundraising credit will apply.

FUNDRAISING

Fundraising efforts that are player specific can only be applied to player fees to cover enrollment on the team. Funds cannot be used for other expenses such as equipment, lodging or meals. Any surplus of fundraising credits can be applied to future fees however no refunds will be issued.

CASH BASH

Held at a local venue. Credits will be determined based on total proceeds from the event and divided amongst ticket sellers. Raffles, silent auction, food and drinks!

AD BOOK

The ad book is a "program" containing all of the KYHC teams and player profiles. Inside we reserve space for local businesses or even parents/grandparents to pay for spots in the ad book. 80% of the sales of these ads go towards the player's fees.

CHICAGO FIRE SOCCER GAMES

Home Game locations: Toyota Park/Bridgeview Illinois. Volunteer parking is off of 71st and Harlem Ave unless otherwise specified.

Shifts are approximately 6 hours each, working with the public to sell merchandise. Arrival time will be indicated prior to each game. Each volunteer received a \$60 credit for each shift worked and will be applied to your players account by the next month.

Each game is required 15 volunteers. Volunteers must be 16 years of age. You will be working with the public!

Attire/Uniform is black or Khaki shorts or pants and a Chicago Fire issued staff shirt.

Contact Erica Barton for volunteer information 815-922-5031

NASCAR FUNDRAISER

Volunteers are needed each year to work the Fanatics merchandise and Program Booths at the NASCAR races each year at Chicagoland Speedway. Volunteers will earn a percentage of the entire weekend sales. Amount to be determined after the event has concluded and sales/volunteer time has been reconciled. The amount varies each year. The guidelines for the NASCAR fundraiser as similar to those above. You must wear a T-Shirt that will be provided to you and black shorts.

MISCELLANEOUS FUNDRAISERS

Throughout the season, other fundraising opportunities may be available. Some successful past fundraisers have been Fannie May, Butter Braids, Little Caesars, etc.



A STEP AHEAD CONCUSSION AWARENESS

Amateur Hockey Association of Illinois (AHAI), Athletico Physical Therapy, the Chicago Blackhawks, and NorthShore University HealthSystem has come together to create the AHAI: A Step aHead Baseline Testing initiative to combat one of the most common head injuries: concussions.

These four groups pledge to educate the Illinois youth hockey community on the importance of concussion management and to be proactive with implementing baseline testing.

Through A Step aHead, we offer free baseline concussion testing, as well as educational programs, to youth hockey players in the AHAI program.

This program is mandatory for all high school players.

For more information contact an Athletico Baseline Testing Professional by emailing baselinetesting@athletico.com.

POLICIES

NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY

AHAI and the KYHC has determined that it is not in the best interest of ice hockey and is detrimental to hockey and is therefore prohibited to do any of the following while participating in or affecting the sport of amateur hockey:

Discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, age, sex, national origin, or socioeconomic status.

24 HOUR RULE

KYHC subscribes to the following "24Hour Rule" policy with regard to the reporting of a complaint or issue of concern. Please keep the intent of this rule in mind. The intent is not to discourage discussion, but to impose a period to allow emotions to cool and to allow a civil conversation to occur.

1. There shall be no contact with any team official or member of the coaching staff regarding an issue of concern before, during or after a hockey game, practice, or other event for a 24hour period following the occurrence of an issue of concern.

Should there be an issue of concern after the 24hour period has passed, Parents must follow protocol after the 24 hour period that includes: contacting the Team Manager - wait for response and if response doesn't satisfy you contact the Head Coach - wait for response and if response doesn't satisfy you the KYHC R&E Committee shall be notified and will schedule a meeting or respond in writing based on the complaint content. The R&E Committee can be notified by sending an email to Bizzymonkey@hotmail.com or by submitting an incident report.

1. A violation of this rule constitutes a violation of KYHC's Zero Tolerance Policy, and any player, coach, team official, parent/guardian, spectator who violates this rule will be required to appear before the Chair of the KYHC R&E Committee or the Chair's designee. The Chair or the Chair's designee will examine the reported infraction/complaint and may assess sanctions against the player, coach, team official, parent/guardian, or spectator in accordance with the "Three Strike Policy". Before issuing any Strike Two or Strike Three sanction, the Chair or the Chair's designee will consult with the KYHC R&E Committee and Club President.

Method of reporting violations

All reports of potential violations of any KYHC policy must be directed to Bizzymonkey@hotmail.com. The person reporting the violation has the responsibility to ensure the report is made to the correct email address. Reports sent elsewhere may not be acted upon in a timely matter.

Reporting Form

So that reports of potential violations can be fully investigated and acted upon, reporting persons are encouraged to use the KYHC Incident Report Form that can be downloaded from the Rules & Ethics section of the KYHC Website. Alternatively, please provide the following information in an email sent to Bizzymonkey@hotmail.com:

Date:

Full Name:

Phone:

Email Contact:

Player/Child's Name (if applicable):

Date of Incident:

Location of Incident:

Witness(es), if any:

Description of incident (Make sure to include background information about the events before, during, and immediately after the incident). In your own words, please describe what happened (who, what, where, when, why & how):

Confidential Reporting

So that reports of alleged violations can be fully investigated, KYHC encourages persons who report violations to identify themselves and to provide contact information that will allow investigators to obtain followup information or verification of allegations.

KYHC recognizes that in rare instances, persons may be unwilling to identify themselves or provide contact information when reporting violations. In these rare instances, an anonymous incident report may be delivered to the mailbox of the R&E Chairperson, which is located outside of the KYHC office at Southwest Ice Arena.

ZERO TOLERANCE

A penalty for unsportsmanlike conduct shall be assessed whenever a player or coach.....

1. Openly disputes or argues any decision by an official.
2. Uses obscene or vulgar language at any time, including any swearing, even if it is not directed at a particular person.
3. Visually displays any sign of dissatisfaction with an official's decision.

On-ice officials will stop the game when the parents/spectators displaying inappropriate and disruptive behavior interfere with other spectators or the game. The on-ice officials will identify violators to the coaches for the purpose of removing parents/spectators from the spectator's viewing and game area. Once removed, play will resume. Lost time will not be replaced and violators may be suspended from attending games at Ice Valley Arena. This inappropriate and disruptive behavior includes:

1. Use of obscene or vulgar language to anyone at any time.
2. Taunting of players, coaches, officials or other spectators by means of baiting, ridiculing, threat of physical violence or physical violence.
3. Throwing of any object in the spectators viewing area, player's bench, penalty box or on the ice surface, directed in any manner as to create a safety hazard.

Parents of KYHC players need to model appropriate behavior. Parents agree to be respectful and show appreciation for the volunteers who give their time to the Kankakee Youth Hockey Club. Parents further agree not to yell, taunt, threaten physical violence upon a player, coach, official, or spectator at any KYHC function. KYHC parents must abide by the 24 hour rule. Parents are not to approach a coach to discuss a game, a game incident or a situation that occurred during the game that has provoked an adverse emotional response or a hostile situation until at least 24 hours after the fact. Contact includes email and the use of social networking websites. Parents must follow protocol after the 24 hour period that includes: contacting the Team Manager - wait for response and if response doesn't satisfy you contact the Head Coach - wait for response and if response doesn't satisfy you contact the Hockey Director/Board Member.

No player siblings are allowed to be in the locker room at any time during KYHC practice or competition. Parents of KYHC players are not allowed in the bench area during any KYHC practice or competition.

The player and parents acknowledge that failure to abide by the rules set forth in this agreement constitutes a breach of this agreement and subjects the player and his/her parents to disciplinary action and possible expulsion from the Kankakee Youth Hockey Club.

CODE OF CONDUCT

All Players, Coaches, Team Officials, Parents and Guardians are expected to conduct themselves in a respectful and responsible manner at all times including at both home and away games, all tournaments and any team related functions. Any conduct deemed to not be in the best interest of youth hockey, will be viewed as a violation of the player code of conduct by KYHC.

PLAYERS CODE OF CONDUCT

Unsportsmanlike conduct (i.e. trash talking; swearing; disrespecting the referees, opposing team or your own teammates) or the intent to injure another player (kicking, slashing, checking from behind, high sticking, etc.) will not be tolerated.

In the locker rooms, corridors, lobbies, parking lots and elsewhere, you are a representative of your team and KYHC. Players are expected to show the highest level of respect for their teammates, officials, opponents and spectators. This means no bullying, no teasing, not trash talking, no hand gestures, no demeaning locker room antics, no swearing, no hazing, no locker boxing and no fighting.

At hockey games and practices, all coaches will be addressed as “coach”, “sir/ma’am” or the term “coach” preceding their first/last name (i.e. Coach John). Coaches are never to be addressed by their first name only. Coaches and league officials also command the respect of all players, regardless of team or level affiliation and will be treated as such. Under no circumstances will a player display disrespect of a verbal or physical nature towards a coach or league official when said coach or official gives a player verbal direction regarding inappropriate behavior.

COACHES CODE OF CONDUCT

As a coach at KYHC you are obligated to fulfill certain requirements mandated by the Amateur Hockey Association of Illinois (AHA), USA Hockey and KYHC. As a Head Coach at KYHC you will report directly to the KYHC Hockey Director. Assistant Coaches will report directly to the Head Coach and therefore fall under the direct supervision of the KYHC Hockey Director. Any conduct deemed to not be in the best interest of youth hockey, will be viewed as a violation of the Coaches Code of Conduct by KYHC.

Coaches are role models on and off the ice and are expected to exhibit quality leadership and enthusiastic behavior. Coaches will refrain from all forms of tobacco use within the arenas and at any club events, and avoid alcohol consumption prior to taking the ice for practices or games. It is the intent KYHC to enjoy a variety of coaching styles and techniques, however certain types of behavior will not be tolerated: **Per USA Hockey and AHA guidelines, the use of profanity or other verbal or physical abuse towards a player will result in the offending coach being banned from future coaching consideration in the state of Illinois!**

In addition to the aforementioned stipulation regarding coaching conduct, all coaches will refrain from engaging in the verbal abuse of all players, on either team, or abusive remarks towards the referees. Such conduct will be considered a violation of the USA Hockey Zero Tolerance Policy and shall result in sanctions against the coach.

Head coaches will use their best efforts to arrive at the rink at least 45 minutes before games and 30 minutes before practices. They will be in the locker room with their players (not outside with the parents) at least 10 minutes before taking the ice. As a head coach at KYHC you have responsibility for your team. Coaches, or their staff, are responsible for supervising and controlling behavior of your players during any and all hockey related events. During this time the head coach will be responsible for upholding the KYHC conduct policies. Coaches will remain in the locker room after games for any post game breakdown speeches. Coaches shall encourage sportsmanship, a hard work ethic and teamwork. Coaches will not allow bullying, hazing or any other misconduct by players. They are responsible for enforcing the Player's Code of Conduct. KYHC takes this responsibility seriously and expects the Head Coach and their staff to conduct themselves at all times in a manner that reflects youth hockey and KYHC in the most positive way.

Each coach with KYHC will provide a positive team atmosphere both on and off the ice. Each coach will provide positive support, care and encouragement for all players. Each coach will encourage good sportsmanship and lead by example, show selfcontrol and refrain from using profanity. Each coach will treat the onice officials with respect, failure to do so may result in a formal complaint filed against a coach by the Illinois Hockey Officials Association (IHOA). Any formal complaint will be viewed as a Zero Tolerance Policy violation. Each coach will do their best to provide positive practice and game plans to develop the overall skills of each player. Coaches will be consistent with both praise and punishment – the rules apply to everyone. Each coach will be responsible to avoid participating in verbal disputes with parents/guardians in the public eye by strictly adhering to the 24hour rule. Each coach will do their best to be empathetic towards the concerns and constructive criticism of parents/guardians, players, referees and KYHC officials.

Each coach will be responsible to ensure there is no trash talking of other players or coaches. Champions let their actions do the talking. No coach will encourage hitting from behind or intent to injure another player; this will be strictly enforced and shall result in disciplinary action by the KYHC Rules & Ethics Committee, the KYHC Executive Board, AHAI or USA Hockey.

Team Official Code of Conduct

A Team Official is defined as ANY person who serves in any on or office capacity, be it as a Team Manager, Game Score Keeper, Game Clock Operator, Penalty Box Tender, CheckIn Table worker, or other capacity whether on a paid or volunteer basis. These positions are viewed by both KYHC and AHAI in the same capacity as a member of the coaching staff, and will fall under the same penalties should a Zero Tolerance Violation or similar USA Hockey Rule violation occur. The role of the Team Manager is to

serve as the liaison between the coaching staff and the parents/guardians. Therefore, in order to maintain the integrity of this position and the duties/responsibilities thereof, no Team Manager will be allowed to serve in ANY coaching capacity for which they are also serving as Team Manager. By allowing this practice, it would jeopardize the ability for the Manager to fulfill their duties without bias or the perception thereof.

The Team Manager is responsible for the submission of the game score sheets to the appropriate league upon completion of each game. It is the Team Manager, and only the Team Manager, who should take sole possession of these documents upon the completion of each game. Under no circumstances should anyone other than the Team Manager or member of the Team coaching staff be in sole possession of these documents. Should there be a situation where the Team Manager is unable to perform the correspondence duties, arrangements will be made with the coaching staff to ensure the delivery of the score sheet to the appropriate league upon completion of the game and the score sheet will be returned to the Team Manager as soon as possible upon completion of said duties.

Parents/Guardians Code of Conduct

KYHC adheres to the Parents' Codes of Conduct established by the rules and policies established by the Northwest Hockey League (NWHL), Illinois High School Hockey League (IHSHL), Amateur Hockey Association of Illinois (AHA) and USA Hockey. Any conduct deemed to be as a violation of the Parental/Guardian Codes of Conduct of any of these organizations will be viewed as a violation of the by the KYHC Parents/Guardians Code of Conduct.

In addition to the aforementioned guidelines, KYHC also insists that parents/guardians adhere to the following conduct:

1. Parents/guardians will refrain from engaging in any physical altercation. Any physical altercation or unwanted physical contact with another will result in a thorough investigation and may result in extended suspension penalties or expulsion from KYHC for life.
2. Parents/guardians will conduct themselves in a manner which will exemplify good sportsmanship and fair play.
3. Parents/guardians will be supportive of all team players and coaches both on and off the ice.
4. Parents/guardians will refrain from negative or derogatory comments about players, coaches, referees, and KYHC or league officials; either in person, via telephone, via email or any other media.
5. Parents/guardians will notify their child's team manager or head coach in the event that their child is unable to attend any skills development sessions, practices, games, or other team activities.

6. Parents/guardians will comply with the 24Hour Rule if a problem exists on their team. In the event that a problem is not resolved after all of the steps set forth are exhausted, parents/guardians are encouraged to contact the R&E Committee through any of its members, by sending an email to Bizzymonkey@hotmail.com.
7. Parents/guardians will be aware that their conduct at games is a reflection on KYHC. Excessive, obnoxious or overbearing behavior which puts KYHC in a negative light will not be tolerated. KYHC adheres to the USA Hockey policy regarding the abuse and use of excessive noisemakers. Noisemakers of any kind (i.e. horns, bells, and whistles) are not allowed in the ice arenas and will be confiscated without prior warning. Use of noisemakers will be considered a violation of the "Zero Tolerance" rules discussed above.
8. Any violation of the Parents/Guardians Pledge will be deemed a violation of the Parents/Guardians Code of Conduct.

Parents/Guardians Pledge

As a parent/guardian of a young person in the KYHC Hockey Club, I will do my part to help respect all participants.

- I will not participate in any name calling or undesirable acts that detract from the game of hockey; either in person, via telephone, via email or any other media.
- I resolve to conduct myself as a parent and adult even under the most trying circumstances.
- I will remember that all of our children are looking to us for guidance.
- It is important to remember that through hockey we are building a solid foundation for future character development.
- I will do my part to make this season of hockey the best for my child and our team, welcome our guests at our home rink and recognize a good play regardless of who makes it.
- I will assure that my player is properly equipped to play the game of hockey including all safety equipment.
- Finally, I will remember that each game is for our young people, and win or lose; it's a stride in life for them.

BALANCED ICE TIME POLICY

From its inception the Northwest Hockey League was created to offer a league for players looking for a competitive but enjoyable playing experience. A major expectation of this league is that EVERY player is provided a positive hockey playing experience. The NWHL created Balanced Ice Time (BIT) to help promote that positive playing experience. Balanced Ice Time is defined as that "over the course of the season everyone's ice time will be fairly similar".

In simple terms it is often referred to as "Rolling Lines". Along with rolling lines there should NOT be special lines for power play or penalty kill. Also, when there are uneven numbers of players at each of the positions then the lines should be adjusted through the season so that all players get the benefit of playing a few extra shifts in a game. No player feels good about themselves nor improves when they unfairly sit on the bench. Coaches are expected to create game lineups with a focus on ensuring every player receives BIT. For example: 4 left and right wings and just 2 star centers is not balance; having 2 sets of defensemen and 4 sets of wingers is not balanced. If your team is blessed with a player/s of greater skill or experience you should not expect those with less experience or skill to receive any less playing time, at any point in the game.

The NWHL BIT line-up policy: "The greatest discrepancy for the number of players at any one of the 5 positions and all other positions cannot be more than 1, excluding the goalie." If a team has multiple goalies they should be rotated either within games, or game by game. While it is the coach's responsibility to provide Balanced Ice Time, it can be the parents that hold the coach to continue following the policy. If your child is noticeably being bypassed by the coach in favor of others, you are fully entitled to contact your team manager, Committee Chair, club NWHL representative or a NWHL board member to ask them to look into it.

Do note...the ebb and flow of games will result in varying amounts of ice for everyone from game to game. It is important to consider the average game ice time over a period of time and the NWHL tournament should be no different. We also ask that every player place the NWHL BIT sticker on the back of their helmet so that it may remind the coach he/she to be fair to their players and the opposition.

Team Composition and Positions

The Coach determines the composition of the team and determines the position for each player including goalies based on their skills and the needs of the team. If your child wishes to play goalie, we encourage you to borrow equipment either from equipment kept by the KYHC or other goalies so that you do not incur the expense if your child is not chosen to play as a goalie.

Locker Room Conduct

The use of the locker room facility at all ice arenas, both home and away is a privilege bestowed upon our teams, not a right. Therefore, when using a locker room (as a player, coach and parent/guardian) KYHC insists we treat these facilities with respect. This is our home and we expect to have the ability to have our guests use a clean and functional facility while they are here. Coaches, players and parents/guardians are expected to pick up after themselves (i.e. tape, bottles, wrappers, etc.). The intentional destruction or vandalism of these facilities can result in the offending player or team losing their locker room privileges. If there is intentional damage to the facility, the responsible person(s) may face prosecution for Criminal Damage to Property.

KYHC adheres to the State of Illinois Compiled Statutes regarding eavesdropping violations (720 ILCS 5/142) and unlawful videotaping (720 ILCS 5/264). Therefore, **NO VIDEO EQUIPMENT WILL BE USED IN THE LOCKER ROOMS OF ANY RINK AT ANY TIME.** This will include cameras, video cameras, cell phones or any other media collecting format. It shall be the responsibility of the players and parents to ensure that these devices remain unused. Any intentional and unauthorized video taken within the confines of any locker room at any time shall be viewed as a Zero Tolerance Violation. Any unlawful video will be reviewed by the KYHC Rules & Ethics Committee and if warranted, the matter may be referred to Law Enforcement for formal criminal investigation and prosecution.

It shall be the policy of KYHC that all Coyote players and coaches are in the locker room 15 minutes before taking the ice (game or practice) and for up to 10 minutes thereafter. ***During this period of time, no parents, siblings, relatives, friends, etc. shall be allowed in the locker room.*** This will give the coaching staff the necessary time to prepare/debrief after a game or practice. Any infraction of this policy will be viewed as a Zero Tolerance violation.

Irish Players must arrive in game day dress 1 hour prior to game time.

Social Media Policy

It is the position of KYHC that ALL participants and their family members shall refrain from participating in any form of electronic cyber communications that are deemed by KYHC to be negative, threatening, harassing, derogatory, defaming or otherwise interpreted as cyber harassment as defined by Illinois Compiled Statute 720 ILCS 135/12. These forums include, but are not limited to Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, internet blogs or any other public online forum.

Per the USA Hockey/AHAI SafeSport manual:

"...All electronic communication of any kind between coach and player, including social media, must be nonpersonal in nature and be for the purpose of communicating information about team activities or for team oriented motivational purposes.

Social media and other means of electronic communication can be used to commit abuse and

misconduct (e.g., emotional, sexual, bullying, harassment, and hazing). Such communications by any employee, volunteer, independent contractor or other participant of a USA Hockey/AHAI Program will not be tolerated and are considered violations of USA Hockey/AHAI's SafeSport Program."

In this era of social media, KYHC believes its membership needs to be held to the highest standard of integrity. Participation in negative, or defamatory online chat room discussions, "tweets", and/or postings as defined by 720 ILCS 135/12 by ANY member KYHC or their family members will not be tolerated. Violations may be reported to law enforcement with formal criminal complaints to follow.

Any player, coach, team official, parent/guardian, spectator who exhibits behavior in violation of the Social Media Policy or in violation of any of the Zero Tolerance Policies will be required to appear before the Chair of the KYHC R&E Committee or the Chair's designee. The Chair or the Chair's designee will examine the reported infraction/complaint and may assess sanctions against the player, coach, team official, parent/guardian, or spectator in accordance with the "Three Strike" policy. Before issuing any Strike Two or Strike Three sanction, the Chair or the Chair's designee will consult with the KYHC R&E Committee and Club President.

Physical Abuse Policy

It is the policy of KYHC that there shall be no physical abuse at any game, practice, tournament, camp, clinic, or any other event.

Physical abuse means physical contact with a participant that intentionally causes the participant to sustain bodily harm or personal injury. Physical abuse also includes physical contact with a participant that intentionally creates a threat of immediate bodily harm or personal injury. Any conduct which evidences abuse will be referred to proper legal authorities for review.

Physical abuse does not include physical contact that is reasonably designed to coach, teach or demonstrate a hockey skill. Permitted physical contact may include, but is not necessarily limited to, shooting pucks at a goaltender, demonstrating checking or other hockey skills, and communicating with participants during the course of a game or practice, by touching them in a nonthreatening, nonsexual manner.

Any player, coach, team official, parent/guardian, spectator who exhibits behavior in violation of the Physical Abuse Policy or in violation of any of the Zero Tolerance Policies will be required to appear before the Chair of the KYHC R&E Committee or the Chair's designee. The Chair or the Chair's designee will examine the reported infraction/complaint and may assess sanctions against the player, coach, team official, parent/guardian, or spectator in accordance with the "Three Strike" policy. Before issuing any Strike Two or Strike Three sanction, the Chair or the Chair's designee will consult with the KYHC R&E Committee and Club President.

Sexual Abuse Policy

It is the policy of KYHC that there shall be no sexual abuse of any minor participant involved in any of its or its sanctioned programs, games, practices, tournaments, camps, clinics, or other events by an employee, volunteer or independent contractor.

Sexual abuse of a minor participant occurs when an employee, volunteer or independent contractor touches a minor participant for the purpose of causing the sexual arousal or gratification of either the minor participant or the employee, volunteer or independent contractor.

Neither consent of the player to the sexual contact, mistakes to the participant's age, nor the fact the sexual contact did not take place at a hockey function are defenses to a complaint of sexual abuse.

Upon proof of violation of this policy, the violator will be permanently banned or suspended from all KYHC activities and facilities.

KYHC will notify the appropriate authorities if there is any evidence of abuse of any kind.

Consumption Abuse Policy

It is the considered judgment of KYHC that consumption/use/abuse of mood altering substances is detrimental to a healthy state of mind, body, and spirit in an athletic participant. This is especially true for those participants aspiring to develop their talents in the furtherance of their playing, or coaching, or officiating careers in the sport of ice hockey.

Therefore, with the best interests of its participants in mind, KYHC prohibits use by any participant of mood altering substances during active participation in its programs, and, upon discovery of any violation, shall take action to remove the participant from participation in its programs for a reasonable period of time.

For purposes of this policy, the words mood altering substances shall include the following:

1. Intoxicating beverages, including, but not limited to, alcohol.
2. Nonprescription or prescribed controlled substances.
3. Prescription or prescribed controlled substances when used to an excess in violation of doctor's orders, or to produce the state of intoxication in the participant.

Further, a participant shall include players, coaches, team officials, referees, and all persons involved in the conduct of an ice hockey contest.

DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES (THREE STRIKE POLICY)

Appearance before KYHC R&E Committee

Any player (with his or her parents), coach, team official, parent, or spectator exhibiting behavior violating any of the policies set forth in this document or in violation of any of the Zero Tolerance Policies will be required to appear before the Chair of the KYHC Rules & Ethics Committee or the Chair's designee. The Chair or the Chair's designee will examine the reported infraction/complaint and may assess sanctions in accordance with the "Three Strike" policy outlined below. Before issuing any Strike Two or Strike Three sanction, the Chair or the Chair's designee will consult with the KYHC R&E Committee and Club President.

Three Strike Policy

Every player, coach, team official, parent, and spectator will be allowed a maximum of three (3) strikes. Each instance of behavior that is deemed to have violated any of the above codes will result in at least one (1) strike. It is possible to earn all three (3) strikes for a single infraction. Players (and his or her parents), coaches, team officials, parents, and spectators will be notified in writing of any strikes assessed against them by the Chairman of the KYHC Rules and Ethics Committee.

1. Strike One – Could include but not limited to One week (minimum one game) suspension
2. Strike Two – Could include but not limited to a Two week (minimum two game) suspension
3. Strike Three – Could include but not limited to suspension for the balance of the regular season

****All consequences are at the discretion of the Rules & Ethics Committee of KYHC, however, ALL minimum consequences mandated by NWHL, SWHL, AHAI and USA Hockey will be strictly enforced. KYHC reserves to right to adopt tougher sanctions depending on the nature of the infraction.***

Disciplinary Carry Over

Any disciplinary action taken by KYHC that remains unserved at the end of a season will carry over to the following season, whether it is Spring or Fall/Winter. If the suspended party chooses not to return to KYHC and participate elsewhere, the notice of suspension will be forwarded to AHAI and the new organization will be notified of the time remaining on the disciplinary action. It is up to said new organization to take enforcement and/or uphold the sanctions levied by KYHC. Should a player, coach, team official, parent, or spectator move to another organization and NOT serve said suspension, and returns to KYHC at a later date, the pending, unserved suspension will be reinstated and must be served in its entirety.