

# Rochester Youth Hockey

## Parent Code of Conduct

As a parent/legal guardian/immediate family member and, thus, a representative of RYH, I agree to support the following Code of Conduct:

- Do not force your children to participate in sports, but support their desire to play their chosen sport. Organized youth sports are for your child's enjoyment.
- Encourage your child to play by the rules. Remember, children learn best by example, so applaud the good plays of both teams.
- Do not embarrass your child by yelling at players, coaches, or officials.
- By showing a positive attitude toward the game and all of its participants, your child will benefit.
- Emphasize how skill development and practice can benefit your young athlete. De-emphasize games and competition in the younger age levels.
- Know and study the rules of hockey and support the officials on and off the ice. This approach will help in the development and support of the game. Any criticism of the officials only hurts the game.
- Applaud a good effort in victory and in defeat, and enforce the positive points of the game. Never yell or physically abuse your child after a game or practice.
- Refrain from ranting in the stands or social media about any member of the organization; including players, coaches, and other parents. If you have an issue please contact your Board of Directors (BOD) level representative or any other member of the BOD.
- Recognize the importance of our volunteer coaches. They are important to the development of your child and the sport. Communicate with them, support them.
- If you enjoy the game, learn all you can and dedicate time as a volunteer.
- Follow the 24-hour rule. "When I have an issue which needs to be discussed with a coach, I agree to wait 24 hours after an event before contacting the coach in person, by phone or email."

**Effective January 1, 2025, New Hampshire Senate Bill 327 (NH SB 327) establishes strict penalties for individuals who assault, harass, or threaten sports officials during their duties at sports events.** Under this law, individuals convicted of such offenses may be banned from participating in or attending any sports events in the state of New Hampshire for a period determined by the court, which could be up to life for repeat offenders.

As representatives of Rochester Youth Hockey (RYH), we expect all parents and family members to adhere to this law and to treat all sports officials with the utmost respect. We encourage everyone to familiarize themselves with the details of NH SB 327 and to continue fostering a positive and respectful environment for our players, coaches, officials, and fellow parents.

The above rules are not intended to suggest in any way that the Rochester Youth Hockey Board feels that there are serious behavior problems among our parents. Rather, it is intended to convey, in writing, our program's expectations for fair play and sportsmanship.

**Any behavior deemed detrimental to Rochester Youth Hockey will be reviewed by the Board of Directors, who will determine appropriate actions, which may include temporary or permanent removal from participation in the organization's activities**

Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_