

**HINSDALE CENTRAL HOCKEY CLUB**  
**CODE OF CONDUCT**  
**INTRODUCTION**

HCHC, in order to provide for and to ensure a safe and productive atmosphere for players, coaches, parents, and fans, establishes the Code of Conduct as outlined below. This Policy applies to all games, practices, tournaments and school functions.

It is the goal of the Club to encourage participation and enjoyment of the game of ice hockey, but at the same time, ensure discipline, teach teamwork and respect for rules and for others. As the Club's hockey players represent Hinsdale Central on and off of the ice, the Club expects each player to exemplify the highest level of standards and conduct themselves accordingly at all times.

The Hockey Board believes that the following Policy and guidelines will contribute to a safer and more enjoyable experience for all involved. The coaches will advise each player of their personal responsibilities and what will be expected, and the consequences for rule violations. **Players are to be familiar with the HCHC Conduct Policy. In addition, the Board reserves the right to apply additional sanctions as deemed appropriate by the Rules and Ethics Committee.**

If at some point during the season this policy is breached, coaches reserve the right to discipline players for violations. Consequences may include: verbal reprimands, speaking with a player's parents, benching, or temporary or permanent removal from the team. While we hope these steps are not necessary, we believe that a responsible player is vital to a team's growth and success, and that is best accomplished through cooperation. Coaches will be available to discuss individual concerns throughout the season.

All of this is in the spirit of building a Championship Culture and environment conducive to all players to have a great hockey experience.

Please take time to familiarize yourself with all of the information provided. Parents and players should discuss the guidelines together. If you have any questions, please contact your Team Manager, Coach, or a Board member.

## **HINSDALE CENTRAL HOCKEY CLUB CODE OF CONDUCT SUMMARY GUIDELINES**

The Hinsdale Central Hockey Club (HCHC) feels very strongly that in addition to the development of our hockey players and enjoyment of the sport of hockey, the safety and protection of our participants is central to HCHC's goals of building a championship culture. In addition, the Club will not tolerate poor behavior from its players, whether on or off the ice. We expect our players to "set the example." To help prevent abuse, misconduct or behavior that is detrimental to our club's image and objectives, HCHC has adopted the following guidelines as core to its Code of Conduct. The HCHC Board and Coaching Staff will be responsible for exercising sanctions for violations of the Code. These sanctions will typically involve some level of discipline up to and including removal from the program.

- There will be absolutely no verbal or physical abuse by a HCHC player toward another player, coach, official, parent, or others
- **There will be no use of alcohol, smoking, vaping or illegal drugs**
- Any sort of fighting – whether on or off the ice – is prohibited by the club. The club reserves the right to assess suspensions for fighting above and beyond any league-assessed discipline.
- All club members will adhere to the Social Media policy as described below
- All club members will adhere to the Locker Room policy as described below
- The Club expects all Parents and other spectators to conduct themselves appropriately at all games; **if a parent is removed from a game by a referee or other official this could result in club enforced suspensions from additional games**

Coaches are expected to monitor their players' behavioral status on a continuous basis. Individual coaches will report Code violations and sanctions taken to the Hockey Director, whether they arise from on or off ice incidents. The Hockey Director will report the details of the incident to the Board and HCHC Rules and Ethics committee for review if necessary. The Hockey Director will also notify the appropriate coach and manager of any player ineligibility due to code of conduct violations as soon as it is known. Players and parents will be notified as soon as possible, but especially prior to games, to avoid misunderstandings.

The HCHC adheres to USA Hockey's SafeSport Program as a means to help protect its participants from physical abuse, sexual abuse and other types of misconduct, including emotional abuse, bullying, threats, harassment and hazing, all as described in the USA Hockey SafeSport Handbook. Participants, employees or volunteers in HCHC may be subject to disciplinary action for violation of these policies or for engaging in any misconduct or abuse or that violates the USA Hockey SafeSport Policies. Reports of any actual or suspected violations, you may email USA Hockey at [SafeSport@usahockey.org](mailto:SafeSport@usahockey.org) or may call 1-800-888-4656.

# HINSDALE CENTRAL HOCKEY CLUB GENERAL RULES/GUIDELINES

The following are general guidelines for all players to follow:

## GENERAL

- All players will be expected to act as mature young adults at all times
- Players will act respectfully toward others
- Players will consider the goals of the team above individual goals
- Players will not swear or use profanity
- Players will promote teamwork, not promote negativity
- Players will respect the rights and property of others
- Players will be mindful that they represent Hinsdale Central and the Club, and act accordingly
- Players are expected to display good conduct when in the stands as spectators
- Players will respect any practice facility, facility staff and facility neighbors
- Players are expected to respect and listen to the coaching staff, managers and Board members in regards to their behavior
- Players are expected to meet the academic qualification standards consistent with Hinsdale Central Athletics; failure to meet these academic standards could result in ineligibility to participate as part of the club
- **There will be no use of alcohol, smoking, vaping or illegal drugs**
- **There will be absolutely no verbal or physical abuse by a HCHC player toward another player, coach, official, parent, or others**

## PRACTICES

- Players need to direct notification of absences from practices to their coach, along with reason for the absence, at least two hours prior to the practice/game; Coaches will explain their policies regarding missing practices and/or games
- Coaches expect 100% effort 100% of the time; Practice as hard as you play the game

## GAMES

- Upon arrival at the rink, keep all equipment out of the public's way until a locker room is obtained
- It is every player's responsibility to ensure they are aware of rink rules and that they conform to them
- Referees are to be given total and complete respect; profanity, gestures or negative attitude is 100% unacceptable
- Any sort of fighting is prohibited by the club; the club reserves the right to assess suspensions for fighting above and beyond any league-assessed discipline
- Only the coaches and/or the team captain will discuss any conflicts with the referees
- You will conduct yourself on the bench in a mature and respectable manner
- **All player absences from the games should be communicated to BOTH the coaching staff and the Varsity and JV team managers**

## DRESS CODE

- Game and practice dress code will be decided by mutual agreement of the Board, Coaching Staff and Team Captains and **adhered to by all players without exception**

## **Hinsdale Central Hockey Club Social Media Policies**

For the purposes for this policy, key definitions are as follows:

*Online social networking* – an online service, platform, or site that allows users to share information, ideas, comments, events, or media.

*Hinsdale Central Hockey Membership* - people that are directly involved in activities of the organization, including coaches, team managers, team support staff, players, parents, and administrative staff.

The HCHC understands and appreciates the importance of social networking as it relates to the personal and professional lives of its members and its stakeholders. This immediate and public forum provides unique opportunities for networking and promotion; however, it also provides an unsupervised medium for inappropriate conduct to occur. This conduct may be deemed detrimental to the welfare of HCHC, its membership, and not in the best interests of the game. HCHC holds its entire membership who participates in online social networking to the same standards as it would with all forms of communication including television, radio and print.

These policies are designed to protect all parties from harassment, bullying, stalking, inappropriate contact or behavior, however they are intended. The following are some examples of behavior in online social networking mediums that will result in appropriate disciplinary action at the discretion of the HCHC Rules and Ethics Committee:

- Picture taking, voice or video recording in any locker room is strictly prohibited and violation of this rule subjects the offender to suspension or other appropriate disciplinary action as determined by the HCHC R&E Committee or Board
- Posting or divulging confidential information that includes but is not limited to: member's personal information, contact information, medical conditions, injuries and/or other sensitive matters pertinent to HCHC and its membership
- Posting negative or derogatory comments about any of HCHC's or competing programs' staff, programs, members, stakeholders, or program participants
- Posting photographs, video or comments regarding fights, penalties, or other in-game incidents
- Posting photographs, video or comments promoting negative influences or criminal behavior including but not limited to: drug use, alcohol abuse, public intoxication, sexual exploitation, etc.
- Participating in any online activity that contradicts the current policies of HCHC
- Posting any inappropriate, derogatory, racist, or sexist comments contradictory to HCHC's policies on these matters

Hinsdale Central Hockey Club members should assume at all times that they are representing Hinsdale Central Hockey. Members are expected to demonstrate discretion and respect over these

sites; if a photo or comment would be inappropriate for all other forms of media, then it should be considered inappropriate for online social networking sites. Any material, comments or actions through these portals deemed inappropriate will be reviewed by the HCHC Rules & Ethics Committee for possible sanctions up to and including suspension and/or expulsion from the program.

Additionally, HCHC will be implementing USA Hockey's new and innovative Social Media, Mobile and Electronic Communications policy as outlined, below, in the SafeSport handbook.

### ***USA Hockey SafeSport Program: SOCIAL MEDIA, MOBILE AND ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS POLICY***

As part of USA Hockey's emphasis on participant safety, communications involving our minor participants should be appropriate, productive, and transparent. Effective communication concerning travel, practice or game schedules, and administrative issues among coaches, administrators, players and their families is critical. However, the use of mobile devices, web-based applications, social media, and other forms of electronic communications increases the possibility for improprieties and misunderstandings and also provides potential offenders with unsupervised and potentially inappropriate access to participants. The improper use of mobile and electronic communications can result in misconduct. Adherence to the Social Media, Mobile and Electronic Communications Policy helps reduce these risks.

All electronic communication between coach and player must be for the purpose of communicating information about team activities. Coaches, players and all team personnel must follow common sense guidelines regarding the volume and time of day of any allowed electronic communication. All content between coaches and players should be readily available to share with the public or families of the player or coach. If the player is under the age of 18, any email, text, social media, or similar communication **must** also copy or include the player's parents.

#### **Social Media**

Social media makes it easy to share ideas and experiences. USA Hockey recognizes, however, that social media, mobile and other electronic communications can be especially concerning where minor participants are involved. Coaches are prohibited from having players joined to their personal Facebook page or any other similar social media application. To facilitate communication, an official organization or team page may be set up and players and parents may join (i.e., "friend") the official organization or team page and coaches can communicate to players through the site. All electronic communication of any kind between coach and player, including use of social media, must be non-personal in nature and be for the purpose of communicating information about team activities or for team oriented motivational purposes.

#### **Email, Text Messaging and Similar Electronic Communications**

Coaches, team managers and players may use email and text messaging to communicate. All email and text message content between coaches/team managers and players must be non-personal in nature and be for the purpose of communicating information about team activities. Emails and text messages from a coach to any minor participant **must** include a copy to parents. Group text messages to the entire team shall be an exception to this rule.

### **Request To Discontinue All Electronic Communications or Imagery with Athlete**

Following receipt of a written request by the parents of a minor player that their child not be contacted by any form of electronic communication by coaches or other adults, the local program, team, coaches and administrators shall immediately comply with such request without any repercussions for such request.

### **Abuse and Misconduct**

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 Member Program will not be tolerated and are considered violations of USA Hockey's SafeSport Program.

### **Reporting**

Infractions of USA Hockey's Mobile and Electronic Communications Policy should be reported to the hockey director, team manager, or board member.

A USA Hockey participant or parent of a participant who violates this Social Media, Mobile and Electronic Communications Policy is subject to appropriate disciplinary action including but not limited to suspension, permanent suspension and/or referral to law enforcement authorities.

***PLEASE REVIEW LOCKER ROOM POLICY ON THE NEXT PAGE***

# Hinsdale Central Hockey Club's Locker Room Policy

To maintain personal privacy while preventing abuse or misconduct from occurring in our locker rooms, HCHC has adopted the following locker room policy. Regardless of whether we are home or away this locker room policy remains in effect. The HCHC adheres to USA Hockey's SafeSport Program as a means to help protect its participants from physical abuse, sexual abuse and other types of misconduct, including emotional abuse, bullying, threats, harassment and hazing.

While constant monitoring inside of locker rooms and changing areas might be the most effective way to prevent problems, we understand that this would likely make some players uncomfortable and may even place our staff at risk for unwarranted suspicion. The coaches will typically be in the office, just outside the locker room or in the stall area talking to the players. **All players, coaches and volunteers making use of the locker room agree to adhere to all SafeSport Policies.** Parents are not permitted to enter the locker room under any circumstances unless otherwise agreed with the coaching staff or a Hinsdale Board member (if the coaching staff is not present).

## Respect for Our Home Locker Room

At Willowbrook Ice Arena, there is a dedicated locker room available for our program's use. Access to our dedicated locker room in our home rink is a privilege, not a right. We have this locker room thanks to the financial contributions of a number of club members. We absolutely need to respect and preserve the status of this locker room for many future generations of players. Our expectation is that every time we leave the locker room it is left in the condition we found it day 1. All players will be expected to maintain their lockers and their equipment in that locker in a manner that defined by the coaches and club leadership. All players will be expected to contribute to regular cleaning and upkeep of the locker room, including the bathroom area. No outside food is permitted in the locker rooms. The use of alcohol, tobacco, vaping products or illegal drugs is absolutely prohibited. The locker room stalls are not private and nothing is locked. Coaches or managers have the right to go through personal areas and if anything is found that is related in any way to conflict with the alcohol, tobacco, drug or vaping policy, it will be reported and suspensions will be issued through Rules & Ethics.

## Cell Phones, Mobile Recording Devices and Other Property

While music is allowed, picture taking, voice or video recording in any locker room is strictly prohibited and violation of this rule subjects the offender to suspension or other appropriate disciplinary action as determined by the HCHC R&E Committee or Board. If phones or other mobile devices must be used, they should be used outside of the locker room only. It is the player's responsibility to secure their own cell phone and all other personal items, and HCHC, its board members, coaches, and/or anyone else assumes no responsibility for damage, loss, theft, repair, reimbursement, and/or replacement of same.

**Any player found to be violating the agreed locker room policies and/or causing damage to the locker room will no longer be allowed to access the locker room with the rest of the team. Any damage caused to the locker room will be the responsibility of the player's family.** Failure to take responsibility for any damage caused will result in a suspension for a period that shall last until compensation for the damage is secured. All players must acknowledge receipt and understanding of these policies as well as the consequences of violating them. No player will be allowed use of the locker room until they sign the policy.

## **SIGNATURE PAGE**

**I hereby acknowledge that I have received and have read the Hinsdale Central Hockey Club Code of Conduct, Locker Room and Social Media Policy. My signature below demonstrates my understanding of the policies and expectations as a member of the HCHC, and my compliance with them.**

**Player's Last Name (Please print):** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Player's Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent's Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**This signature is understood to cover my compliance from August 1<sup>st</sup> 2020 through July 31<sup>st</sup> 2021.**