



Berlin Youth Hockey Association, Inc.

PO Box 571
Berlin NH 03570

BERLIN YOUTH HOCKEY CODE OF CONDUCT

Berlin Youth Hockey strives itself on creating a fun and welcoming environment to play, watch and enjoy the sport of ice hockey. To that end, we have adopted the USA Hockey guidelines for Player, Coach and Participant codes of conduct. All guidelines can also be found at www.usahockey.com -Any player, parent, coach or team official who cannot abide by these rules or violates them will be subject to further disciplinary action.

Please read each item thoroughly. It's our unwavering expectation that each member abides by these guidelines.

PLAYERS:

- Play for fun.
- Work hard to improve your skills.
- Be a team player-- get along with your teammates.
- Learn teamwork, sportsmanship and discipline.
- Be on time for practices and games.
- Learn the rules and play by them. Always be a good sport.
- Respect your coach, your teammates, your parents, opponents and officials.
- Never argue with the official's decision.

COACHES:

- Winning is a consideration, but not the only one, nor the most important one. Care more about the child than winning the game.
- Be a positive role model to your players, display emotional maturity and be alert to the physical safety of players.
- Be generous with your praise when it is deserved; be consistent, honest; be fair and just; do not criticize players publicly; team to be a more effective communicator and coach; don't yell at players.
- Adjust to personal needs and problems of players, be a good listener, never verbally or physically abuse a player or official; give all players the opportunity to improve their skills, gain confidence and develop self-esteem; teach them the basics.
- Organize practices that are fun and challenging for your players. Familiarize yourself with the rules, techniques and strategies of hockey; encourage all your players to be team players.
- Maintain an open line of communication with your players' parents.
- Be concerned with the overall development of your players. Stress good health habits and clean living.
- To play the game is great; to love the game is greater.

PARENTS:

- Do not force your children to participate in sports, but support their desires to play their chosen sport. Children are involved in organized sports for their enjoyment. Make it fun.
- 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 its participants, your child will benefit.
- Emphasize skill development and practices and how they benefit your athlete. De-emphasize competition in the lower age groups.
- Know and study the rules of the game, and support the officials on and off the ice. Any criticism of the officials only hurts the game.

(TURN OVER)

- 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- it is destructive. Work toward removing the physical and verbal abuse in youth sports.
- Recognize the importance of volunteer coaches. They are very important to the development of your child and the sport. Communicate and support them.
- If you enjoy the game, learn all you can about the game and volunteer.

GENERAL GUIDELINES:

- Foul, vulgar or abusive language shall not be used by anybody associated with Berlin Youth Hockey (coaches, players, parents, spectators).
- Treat everyone with respect.
- If a player or assistant coach cannot make a game or practice, they should contact the coach as soon as possible so he/she may make the necessary arrangements.
- No players are allowed on the ice without a coach on the ice.
- Respect locker rooms as private areas for players, coaches and officials. Parents of younger players may enter locker rooms to assist with the coach's permission.
- Any player, parent, or team official who cannot abide by these rules or violates them will be subject to further disciplinary action.

I understand that:

- If any player/parent/guardian is disrespectful or obstructs/interferes with a coach during the instruction time (on or off ice), the player may be suspended. The Board of Directors will make this decision after reviewing the situation.
- If any player/parent/guardian is verbally or physically abusive to a coach, official, or player, the parent/guardian may be suspended from the program or other disciplinary action may be taken. The Board of Directors will make this decision after reviewing the situation.

I have read the above; I agree to abide by the code of conduct established by USA Hockey and Berlin Youth Hockey. I am fully aware that failure to abide by the agreement can result in disciplinary action that may include my child's suspension from participation in activities with Berlin Youth Hockey.

Player Name (Printed)_____

Season: _____

Team: _____

Player Signature

Date:

Mother / Guardian Signature

Date:

Father / Guardian Signature

Date:
