



**USA HOCKEY
PARTICIPANT
CODE OF CONDUCT**

NAME: _____

To be read and signed by you as a member of Team: _____

Participating in USA Hockey for the _____ season.

1. No swearing or abusive language on the bench, in the rink, or at any team function.
2. No lashing out at any official no matter what the call is. The coaching staff will handle all matters pertaining to officiating.
3. Anyone who receives a penalty will skate directly to the penalty box.
4. Fighting will not be tolerated. Fighting will result in an appearance before a Discipline Committee.
5. There will be no drinking, smoking, chewing of tobacco or use of illegal substance at any team function.
6. I will conduct myself in a befitting manner at all facilities (ice rink, hotel, restaurant, etc) during all team functions.
7. Any player or team official who cannot abide by these rules or violates them will be subject to further disciplinary action.

Signed: _____ Date: _____



USA Hockey Zero Tolerance Policy

USA hockey is committed to creating a safe and fair environment for all participants. Respect for the game, the opponents, coaches, and officials is a critical part of the environment that is created. This Zero Tolerance Policy summarizes required actions to be taken when violations occur.

All players, coaches, officials, team officials, administrators, and parents/spectators must maintain a sportsmanlike and educational atmosphere before, during and after all USA Hockey-sanctioned games. Thus, the following points of emphasis must be implemented by all USA Hockey participants and spectators.

Players

A minor penalty for unsportsmanlike conduct (zero tolerance) shall be assessed whenever a player:

- 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 demonstrates any sign of dissatisfaction with an official's decision.

Any time that a player persists in any of these actions, they shall be assessed a misconduct penalty. A game misconduct shall result if the player continues such action.

Coaches

A minor penalty for unsportsmanlike conduct (zero tolerance) shall be assessed whenever a coach:

- 1) Openly disputes or argues any decision by an official.
- 2) Uses obscene or vulgar language in a boisterous manner to anyone at any time.
- 3) Visually displays any sign of dissatisfaction with an official's decision including standing on the boards or standing in the bench doorway with the intent of inciting the officials, players or spectators.

Any time that a coach persists in any of these actions, he/she shall be assessed a game misconduct penalty.

In addition, any player/coach who uses language that is offensive, hateful, or discriminatory in nature anywhere in the rink before, during or after the game shall be penalized under Rule 601(e.3) resulting in a *Match Penalty*. Such behavior is reprehensible and has absolutely no place in our game. The offender shall be immediately suspended until a hearing is conducted by the governing USA Hockey Affiliate or Junior League.

Officials

Officials are required to conduct themselves in a businesslike, sportsmanlike, impartial and constructive manner at all times. The actions of an official must be above reproach. Actions such as "baiting" or inciting players or coaches are strictly prohibited.

Officials are strongly encouraged to introduce themselves to the coaches prior to a game, to establish a basis of mutual respect and to facilitate/define in-game communication.

Officials are ambassadors of the game and must always conduct themselves with this responsibility in mind.

Parents/Spectators

Parents are expected to be a positive role model by treating all players, coaches, officials and fellow spectators with respect and support.

The game will be stopped by game officials when parents/ spectators displaying inappropriate and disruptive behavior interfere with other spectators or the game. The game 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 subject to further disciplinary action by the local governing body.

This inappropriate and disruptive behavior shall include:

- 1) Use of obscene or vulgar language in a boisterous manner 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, players bench, penalty box or on ice surface, directed in any manner as to create a safety hazard.

USA Hockey strongly recommends that each local youth hockey registered team designate a volunteer to serve as a parent/spectator monitor during all team games. This monitor will, ideally, address inappropriate spectator behavior prior to the situation escalating to the point it has an impact on the game. This designated monitor shall have the full support of the youth hockey association and the arena management to remove any spectator in violation of the Zero Tolerance Policy.

Administrators

Administrators are the key to building a positive, growing and safe USA Hockey Community.

Create a culture that is:

- Welcoming
- Protected
- Respected
- Connected
- Valued

Administrators are responsible for enforcing the rules and policies established and approved by USA Hockey, their Affiliate, and their Association or Club. This includes taking disciplinary action, as deemed appropriate, towards any parent/spectator removed from a game as a result of a violation of the Zero Tolerance Policy.

PARENT CODE OF CONDUCT

As a parent, you are a representative of Whaler Nation and must conduct yourself within the governing rules, regulations, policies and procedures of USA Hockey and Whaler Nation bylaws. As a Whaler Nation representative, you agree to:

1. Adhere to USA Hockey governing rules, regulations, policies, and procedures as well as by-laws and decisions as determined by Whaler Nation.
2. Be a positive role model to the players, display emotional maturity and be alert to the physical safety of players.
3. Promote and maintain a drug and alcohol free sports environment for the team.
4. Display sportsmanship at all times and treat players, opponents, coaches, officials, parents and other fans, regardless of race, sex, or creed with respect, and not to engage in abusive language, actions, and gesture.
5. Encourage my child to play by the rules.
6. Show a positive attitude toward the game and all of its participants by not yelling at players, coaches or officials.
7. Know and study the rules of the game, 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.
8. Applaud a good effort in both victory and defeat, and enforce the positive points of the game. Never yell or physically abuse my child after a game or practice. Work toward removing the physical and verbal abuse in youth sports.
9. Recognize the importance of the coaches. They are important to the development of my child and the sport. Communicate with them and support them, but leave the coaching to the coaches. Do not coach from the stands.
10. Not be critical of the hockey program or other players in front of my children or other players. If I have a problem, speak directly to the coach or Director of Whaler Nation.

Violation of this code of conduct or any action that is detrimental to the organization may result in suspension or termination from any or all Whaler Nation activities. UPON SUCH SUSPENSION AND/OR TERMINATION IT IS ACKNOWLEDGED AND AGREED THAT NEITHER THE PLAYER NOR THE PARENT/ LEGAL GUARDIAN SHALL BE ENTITLED TO ANY REFUND OF WHALER NATION MEMBERSHIP OR PROGRAM FEES AND EXPENSES, AND THAT THE FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS UNDER THE CONTRACT SHALL REMAIN IN FULL FORCE AND EFFECT UNTIL PAID IN FULL.