



## **WYHA Coach's Code of Conduct**

Wildcat Youth Hockey supports the USA Hockey Zero Tolerance policy as it relates to conduct by coaches, players, parents, and fans in the sport of youth hockey. It is our hope that by enforcing this policy, everyone has a pleasant youth athletic experience.

### **Coach's Code of Conduct**

- Never verbally or physically abuse a player, official, parent, spectator or other coach.
- Care more about the child than winning the game--winning is a consideration, but not the only one, nor the most important one.
- Be concerned with the overall development of your players. Stress good health habits and clean living.
- Give all players the opportunity to improve their skills, gain confidence, and develop self-esteem.
- Adjust to each player's personal needs and challenges. Be a good listener.
- Encourage all your players to be team players
- Be a positive role model to your players, display emotional maturity and be alert to the physical safety of your players.
- Be generous with your praise when deserved, be consistent, honest, fair and just. Never criticize players publicly.
- Maintain an open line of communication with your players and their parents. Reinforce the goals and objectives of WYHA.
- Teach the basics, continue to study and learn the game to become a better coach and communicator.
- Know the rules, techniques, and strategies of hockey.
- Organize practices that are challenging and fun for your players.

As a coach, you will be held accountable for your actions both on and off the ice. As a member of Wildcat Youth Hockey, you represent our teams and association at practices, games, hotels, restaurant, etc. WYHA expects you to conduct yourself in a sportsmanlike manner at all times and to observe the following coach's rules:

- Respect – You are to show respect at all times for coaches, officials, players, spectators and opponents. Do not argue with referees, linesman, timekeepers, scorekeepers, spectators or coaches. Disrespect will not be tolerated and will result in appearing before the Discipline
- Profanity – ZERO TOLERANCE. Use of profanity is strictly prohibited on the ice, in locker rooms, hotels, restaurants while representing WYHA. The first violation of this policy will result in a verbal warning. A second violation will result a one (1) game suspension. The WYHA Executive Board shall determine the penalty for repeated violations.
- Intentionally damaging WYHA equipment and or facilities will result in appearing before the Discipline Committee.
- Conduct on the ice – If a coach receives a misconduct or a game misconduct, the coach will be suspended for one (1) game immediately following a report to the WYHA Executive Board per USA/WAHA rules.
- Other inappropriate behavior – will be handled in accordance with the Grievance Procedures.

# USA HOCKEY ZERO TOLERANCE POLICY

In an effort to make ice hockey a more desirable and rewarding experience for all participants, the USA Hockey Youth, Junior, and Senior Councils have instructed the Officiating Program to adhere to certain points of emphasis relating to sportsmanship. This campaign is designed to require all players, coaches, officials, league officials and administrators to maintain a sportsmanlike and educational atmosphere before, during and after all USA Hockey sanctioned events. Thus, the following points of emphasis must be implemented by all on-ice referees and linesman:

## 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 with 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 signs 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, they shall be assessed a game misconduct penalty.

## WYHA Extensions

The above constitutes the USA Hockey "Zero Tolerance" policy in its entirety. WYHA extends the policy to include parents and spectators at WYHA events. Should a parent or spectator violate the above standards, their team may be assessed a bench minor for unsportsmanlike conduct. Should the parent or spectator persist in such actions, the game may be halted until they can be removed from the rink.

In addition, WYHA will investigate all situations involving parent/fan violations of the "Zero Tolerance Policy". If the situation was found to be a violation of the policy, a warning letter will be issued from the Board of Directors to the offending person or persons. This letter will outline the offense and stipulate possible consequences for any further violations. These stipulations could include, but are not limited to, verbal reprimands, written reprimands, games suspensions, season suspensions, and (in extreme cases) termination from the WYHA with no refund for season fees. Individual appeals will be conducted following the WYHA Appeal Procedure.

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Coach Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Coach Name (Printed): \_\_\_\_\_

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