



## **CODE OF ETHICS AND CONDUCT**

The following ethical principles relate to the conduct and actions of all officers and individuals associated with the Southwest Ohio Inline Hockey Association and its members, including its officials. It shall be the responsibility of the President and Vice President of SOHA to enforce these ethical principles. All violations of these ethical principles shall be dealt with in a manner prescribed by the Board.

All individuals associated with SOHA or its members shall deport themselves with honesty and sportsmanship at all times, so that the sport of inline hockey, their teams and members, and they, as individuals, shall represent the honor and dignity of fair play and the generally recognized high standards associated with wholesome competitive sports.

All officers and individuals associated with SOHA, and its members should remember that the purpose of the League as stated in its by-laws, code of ethics and separate rules and regulations revolves around youngsters, and no action shall be permitted that shall have an injurious effect of a physical, mental or emotional nature on the youngsters participating in the program.

All officers and individuals associated with the SOHA Hockey League, and its members shall respect the integrity and role of each of the other members and shall not perform any activity that would demean or be injurious to another member, thereby weakening the entire League.

All items pertaining to SOHA, structure, budget, player

registration, scheduling, eligibility, team rosters, equipment, playing rules, exhibition games, playoffs, tournaments, supervision and coaching, and any other items pertaining to the League's operation shall conform to the provisions of the by-laws, code of ethics and separate rules and regulations, and shall be affected by all individuals and officers associating with SOHA. and its members in a manner reflecting adherence to all ethical principles.

## **CODES OF CONDUCT**

### **PARENTS CODE OF CONDUCT**

- 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 of its participants, your child will benefit.
- Emphasize skill development and practices and how they benefit your young athlete. De-emphasize games and competition in the lower age groups.
- Know and study the rules of the game, and support the officials on and off the rink. 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 both victory and 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 important to the development of your child and the sport. Communicate with them

- and support them.
- If you enjoy the game, learn all you can about hockey -- and volunteer.

### **PLAYERS CODE OF CONDUCT**

- 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 an official's decision.

### **SPECTATORS CODE OF CONDUCT**

- Display good sportsmanship. Always respect players, coaches and officials.
- Act appropriately; do not taunt or disturb other fans; enjoy the game together.
- Cheer good plays of all participants; avoid booing opponents.
- Cheer in a positive manner and encourage fair play; profanity and objectionable cheers or gestures are offensive.
- Help provide a safe and fun environment; throwing any items on the rink surface can cause injury to players and officials.
- Do not lean over or pound on the glass; the glass surrounding the inline surface is part of the playing area.
- Support the referees and coaches by trusting their judgment and integrity.
- Be responsible for your own safety - be alert to prevent accidents from flying pucks and other avoidable situations.
- Respect locker rooms as private areas for players, coaches and officials.
- Be supportive after the game - win or lose. Recognize good effort, teamwork and sportsmanship.

## **COACHES CODE OF CONDUCT**

- Winning is a consideration, but not the only one, nor the most important one. Care more about the child than winning the game. Remember, players are involved in hockey for fun and enjoyment.
- 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 and honest; be fair and just; do not criticize players publicly; learn 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. Explain the goals and objectives of your association.
- 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.

## **OFFICIALS CODE OF CONDUCT**

- Act in a professional and businesslike manner at all times and take your role seriously.
- Strive to provide a safe and sportsmanlike environment in which players can properly display their hockey skills.
- Know all playing rules, their interpretations and their proper application.
- Remember that officials are teachers. Set a good example.
- Make your calls with quiet confidence; never

- with arrogance.
- Control games only to the extent that is necessary to provide a positive and safe experience for all participants.
  - Violence must never be tolerated.
  - Be fair and impartial at all times.
  - Answer all reasonable questions and requests.
  - Adopt a "zero tolerance" attitude toward verbal or physical abuse.
  - Never use foul or vulgar language when speaking with a player, coach or parent.
  - Use honesty and integrity when answering questions.
  - Admit your mistakes when you make them.
  - Never openly criticize a coach, player or other official.
  - Keep your emotions under control.
  - Use only USA Hockey-approved officiating techniques and policies.
  - Maintain your health through a physical conditioning program.
  - Dedicate yourself to personal improvement and maintenance of officiating skills.
  - Respect your supervisor and his/her critique of your performance.

### **ADMINISTRATORS CODE OF CONDUCT**

- Follow the rules and regulations of USA Hockey and your association to ensure that the association's philosophy and objectives are enhanced.
- Support programs that train and educate players, coaches, parents, officials and volunteers.
- Promote and publicize your programs.
- Communicate with parents by being available to answer questions and address problems throughout the season.
- Work to provide programs that encompass fairness to the participants and promote fair play and sportsmanship.
- Recruit volunteers, including coaches, who demonstrate qualities conducive to being role models to the youth in our sport.
- Encourage coaches and officials to attend USA Hockey clinics, and advise your board members

- of the necessity for their training sessions.
- Make every possible attempt to provide everyone, at all skill levels, with a place to play.
  - Read and be familiar with the contents of the USA Hockey Annual Guide and Official Playing Rules.
  - Develop other administrators to advance to positions in your association, perhaps even your own.

**Any violation resulting from non-compliance of above code of conduct could result in suspension and/or termination of any and/or ALL privileges determined by the Executive Board in a timely manner.**