



PORT COLBORNE MINOR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION

Code of Conduct for Directors, Coaches Officials and Players

PURPOSE

The purpose of this Code of Conduct is to ensure a safe and positive environment by instituting a Zero Tolerance Policy. Port Colborne Minor Hockey Association (PCMHA) is committed to providing a sport environment in which all individuals are treated with respect and dignity. All individuals will be aware that there is an expectation, at all times, of appropriate behaviour consistent with the values of PCMHA. Conduct that violates this Code may be subject to disciplinary action enforced by the PCMHA's Risk and Safety Committee.

EFFECTIVE DATE

April 1st, 2022

Revised version: April 20th, 2024

APPLICATION

This Code of Conduct applies to the conduct that may arise during the course of PCMHA business, activities and events. This includes but is not limited to its office environment, and any sanctioned PCMHA activities including games, tournaments, practices, training camps, tryouts, travel and any meetings of PCMHA.

RESPONSIBILITIES

All individuals have a responsibility to:

- A. Maintain and enhance the dignity and self-esteem of PCMHA members and other individuals by:
 - i. Demonstrating respect to individuals regardless of body type, physical characteristics, athletic ability, gender, ancestry, colour, ethnic or racial origin, nationality, national origin, sexual orientation, age, marital status, religion, political beliefs, disability, or economic status.
 - ii. Focusing comments or criticisms appropriately and avoiding public criticism of athletes, coaches, officials, organizers, volunteers, employees and members.
 - iii. Consistently demonstrating the spirit of sportsmanship, sport leadership and ethical conduct.
 - iv. Consistently treating individuals fairly and respectfully.
- B. Refrain from behaviour that constitutes harassment, where harassment is defined as conduct, gestures or comments which are insulting, intimidating, humiliating, hurtful, malicious, degrading or otherwise offensive to an individual or group of individuals.
- C. Comply at all times with the bylaws, policies, regulations of PCMHA and the Hockey Canada playing rules.
- D. Avoid behaviours which bring PCMHA or the sport of hockey into disrepute including the but not limited to the abusive use of alcohol or non-medical use of drugs.

CONDUCT POLICY FOR DIRECTORS

Definition

It is a requirement of all member teams, leagues, and associations within PCMHA to assume responsibility for the conduct of athletes, coaches, officials and spectators under their jurisdiction.

Goal Statement

Any member, team, league or association within PCMHA will be expected to adhere to Hockey Canada's Fair Play Code for league organizers and this Code of Conduct policy for Directors.

Actions

In addition to the responsibilities of the PCMHA Code of Conduct, members within PCMHA will:

- Follow all PCMHA bylaws, policies and procedures

- Refrain from negative communications with or against any other member
- Support the game of hockey
- Ensure that all players, coaches, bench staff and officials participating in sanctioned activities are registered in good standing with PCMHA
- Avoid spectator-imposed pressures to win
- Be supportive of the players, team, coach, opponents and officials
- Maintain a supportive, constructive environment for all participants
- Be a Leader, positive influence, and a role model
- Seek the prior approval/authorization of the PCMHA league, district or association in which players and their families are currently registered in order to conduct surveys, for any purpose, of players and their families. If the surveys relate to a new Branch-wide policy or program initiative, the prior approval/authorization of the relevant PCMHA governance entity must be obtained.

CONDUCT POLICY FOR COACHES

Definition

Anyone who is registered in the Hockey Canada Registry to a team as a Head Coach, Assistant Coach, Instructor or On-Ice Assistant.

Goal Statement

Any coach participating in PCMHA sanctioned activity will be expected to adhere to Hockey Canada's Fair Play Code for coaches and this Code of Conduct policy for Coaches. Coaches within PCMHA will:

- Be a Leader, a positive influence and a role model.
- Obtain the proper training and continue to upgrade their coaching skills.
- Reward effort, Fair Play and commitment.
- Recognize and respect differences in their players.
- Demonstrate respect for all individuals involved in the game.
- Always consider the physical and emotional well-being of the athletes.
- Communicate in a positive and rational manner and use inoffensive language.
- Respect and coach within the spirit of the game.
- Always attempt to contribute to the betterment of the game of hockey.

Actions

In addition to the responsibilities of the PCMHA Code of Conduct, Coaches have added accountability. The coach-player relationship is a privileged one and plays a critical role in the personal, sport and athletic development of the players and must not abuse this relationship.

CONDUCT POLICY FOR PLAYERS

Definition

Anyone who is registered in the Hockey Canada Registry as a player, including but not limited to participation in games, practices, and tournaments.

Goal Statement

Any player participating in PCMHA sanctioned activity will be expected to adhere to Hockey Canada's Fair Play Code for players and this Code of Conduct policy for Players.

Actions

In addition to the responsibilities of the PCMHA Code of Conduct, players within PCMHA will:

- Follow Hockey Canada's Fair Play Code.
- Participate to the best of their abilities.
- Properly represent oneself and not attempt to enter a competition which one is not eligible.
- Participate for the love and enjoyment of the game.
- Respect the efforts and accomplishments of teammates and opponents.
- Respect officials, coaches, spectators and administrators.
- Respect that facility you visit or in which you play.
- Respect the rules of the game.

CONDUCT POLICY FOR BENCH STAFF

Definition

Anyone registered as a Trainer or Manager in the Hockey Canada Registry.

Goal Statement

Any bench staff participating in PCMHA sanctioned activity will be expected to adhere to Hockey Canada's Fair Play Code and this Code of Conduct policy for Bench Staff.

Actions

In addition to the responsibilities of the PCMHA Code of Conduct, bench staff within PCMHA will:

- Be a Leader, a positive influence and a role model.
- Obtain the proper training required for the bench staff role.
- Safety a primary concern.
- Strive to provide the highest standard of training appropriate to players' ages, strength, and skills and seek medical advice whenever necessary.
- Ensure players are providing the proper Return to Play documentation before coming back to participate in games or practice after injury.

CONDUCT POLICY FOR OFFICIALS

Definition

Individuals who are certified through the Hockey Canada Officiating Program (HCOP) for the current playing season.

Goal Statement

The purpose of this code of conduct is to establish a standard for officials who are working PCMHA sanctioned games. Officials will be expected to adhere to Hockey Canada's Fair Play Code for officials.

Actions

In addition to the Hockey Canada Fair Play Code, officials will:

- Obtain the proper training required by PCMHA in addition to the HCOP levels
- Be fully aware of the rules of the game and the mechanics to enforce the rules in a fair and impartial manner.
- Work with each other, leagues and associations in a constructive and cooperative manner.
- Uphold the dignity of the profession in all interactions with players, coaches, bench staff, timekeepers, convenors, league/association personnel and spectators.
- Be punctual and professional.
- Conduct all events according to Hockey Canada rules.
- Accept the fact that mistakes happen, but do not get frustrated or let the learning process affect performance or professionalism.
- Contribute to the continuing growth of the Hockey Canada Officiating Program and its officials within PCMHA through support, encouragement and positive attitude.
- Respect and accept constructive.
- By registering with PCMHA in the Hockey Canada Officiating Program it implies that you understand and will comply with the Official's Code of Ethics. Officials not complying will be subject to disciplinary action.

HOCKEY CANADA'S FAIR PLAY CODE

A copy of Hockey Canada's Fair Play code can be found at www.hockeycanada.ca.

SANCTIONS

Failure to comply with this Code of Conduct may result in disciplinary action, including, but not limited to, the loss or suspension of certain or all privileges connected with PCMHA including the opportunity to participate in PCMHA activities. Such discipline may include the removal or ban from an arena, games, practices and other team activities.