



**LITTLETON HOCKEY ASSOCIATION
Littleton Hawks and Colorado 14ers**

**SafeSport Travel Policy
2026-2027 Season**

The following provisions apply to participation in hockey programming with Littleton Hockey Association (“LHA”).

LHA recognizes the importance of travel for competitive hockey teams. LHA has teams that travel regularly to play individual games, two or three games at a time, or in tournaments, has teams where travel is limited to only a few events per year, and has some teams where there is no travel other than local travel to and from our own arena. LHA has established additional SafeSport policies to guide our travel, minimize one-on-one interactions and reduce the risk of abuse or misconduct. Adherence to these travel guidelines will increase player safety and improve the player’s experience while keeping travel a fun and enjoyable experience.

LHA distinguishes between general travel to training, practices and games (“player travel”), and team travel involving a coordinated overnight stay (“team travel”).

Player Travel

Player travel occurs when LHA does not sponsor, coordinate, or arrange for a player’s travel to or from training, practices or games. Player travel occurs where travel arrangements are made on an individual basis and/or players are not required to travel as a team. Player travel includes “stay-to-play” hotel accommodations, where players are required to stay at a particular hotel as a condition of a team’s participation in a tournament or other event but where specific accommodations are made on an individual basis and not by LHA.

Players and/or their parents/guardians are responsible for making all arrangements for player travel. The team and its coaches, managers or administrators are not responsible for arranging or coordinating player travel. It is the responsibility of the parents/guardians to ensure the person transporting the minor player maintains the proper safety and legal requirements, including, but not limited to, a valid driver’s license, automobile liability insurance, a vehicle in safe working order, and compliance with applicable state laws.

Provisions with respect to player travel are as follows:

- The employees, coaches, and/or volunteers of LHA or one of its teams, who are not also acting as a parent, should not drive alone with an unrelated minor player and should only drive with at least two players or another adult at all times, unless otherwise agreed to in writing by the minor player’s parent.

- Where an employee, coach and/or volunteer is involved in an unrelated minor player's travel, efforts should be made to ensure that the adult personnel are not alone with the unrelated player, by, e.g., picking up or dropping off the players in groups.
- Employees, coaches, and volunteers who are also a player's parent or guardian may provide shared transportation for any player(s) if they pick up their player first and drop off their player last in any shared or carpool travel arrangement.
- It is recognized that in some limited instances it will be unavoidable for an employee, coach or volunteer of LHA or one of its teams to drive alone with an unrelated minor player. However, efforts should be made to minimize these occurrences and to mitigate any circumstances that could lead to allegations of abuse or misconduct.

Team Travel

Team travel is travel that occurs when LHA sponsors, coordinates or arranges for travel. Team travel occurs where travel arrangements are made by LHA on behalf of all or a majority of a team and/or where players are generally required to travel as a team. The entire duration of team travel is considered an LHA sponsored event or activity. Team travel will generally only apply to 15U, 16U, 18U and/or 19U Tier II teams. Because of the greater distances, coaches, staff, volunteers and chaperones will often travel with the players.

Provisions with respect to team travel are as follows:

- When possible, LHA travel teams will provide reasonable advance notice before team travel. Travel notice will also include specific travel itineraries, designated team hotels for overnight stays as well as a designated contact person within the team, typically the team manager.
- LHA will provide adequate supervision of players through coaches and other adult chaperones. LHA will make efforts so that there is at least one coach or adult chaperone for each five to eight players. If a team is composed of both male and female players, then LHA will attempt to arrange chaperones of both genders.
- All coaches and chaperones shall have been screened in compliance with the USA Hockey Screening Policy. A parent that has not been screened may participate in team activities and assist with supervision/monitoring of the players, but will not be permitted to have any one-on-one interactions with any unrelated player.
- All team drivers shall have been screened, and shall have valid drivers' licenses, automobile liability insurance as required by applicable state law, and a vehicle in safe working order. All team drivers shall remain in compliance with applicable state laws.
- Coaches, chaperones and team drivers should not drive or transport players alone, unless an emergency need exists.
- All sleeping arrangements and room assignments will be determined by a coach or chaperone. Room assignments may take into consideration the player's age. Players may not switch room assignments for any reason without prior approval from a coach or chaperone.

- Regardless of gender, a coach or chaperone shall not share a hotel room or other sleeping arrangement with a player unless the coach is the parent, guardian or sibling of the player.
- Players staying with their parent, guardian or sibling will abide by all the same rules and regulations as other players and will follow the same agenda including curfew, team meals, required meetings, team transportation, etc.
- Players shall share rooms only with other players of the same gender, with the appropriate number of players assigned per room depending on accommodations. Players will be assigned their own sleeping arrangement (bed, pull-out coach, roll-away bed, etc.) in the room.
- Players involved in a romantic relationship shall not share a hotel room or sleeping arrangements with each other.
- The coach will establish a curfew by when all players must be in their hotel rooms or in a supervised location. Regular monitoring and curfew checks will be made of each room by at least one properly screened adult. Players who do not follow curfew rules will face disciplinary action consistent with their infraction.
- Players shall have access to their parents without permission of the coach, but such access must be within the parameters of curfew times. Visits with parents outside of curfew times must be preapproved by a coach.
- All players will be permitted to make regular check-in phone calls to parents. Team personnel shall allow for any unscheduled check in phone calls initiated by either the player or parents.
- Individual meetings between a player and coach may not occur in hotel sleeping rooms and must be held in public settings or with additional adults present. If a meeting inadvertently begins in private, the meeting should be moved to an open and observable location.
- Drugs, alcohol and other illegal substances are not permitted in players' rooms.
- Pornographic material is not allowed among players or in players' rooms during team travel.
- Roommates will shower alone and will allow for privacy of others when changing.
- Family members who wish to stay in the team hotel are permitted to do so.
- Guests, other than teammates or parents, are not allowed in players' rooms.
- No fraternization between genders will take place inside of players' rooms. Any visiting between genders will take place with adult supervision in the hallway outside of the room or in the hotel lobby.
- Large groups of players are not permitted to gather inside a single hotel room. Group meetings held by a coach or chaperone should take place in a common space. No more than five (5) players should ever be gathered in a room without prior approval of a coach or chaperone.

- Players are not permitted to leave the premises of the team hotel unless they are accompanied by a coach or chaperone. If a player is leaving an event, the hotel, or any other team activity, they must get prior approval from the head coach. After obtaining head coach approval, players may only leave with parents or guardians.
- Except where immediate action is necessary, if disciplinary action against a player is required during team travel, parents will be notified before or immediately after any action is taken; provided, however, this provision will not apply to disciplinary action that only involves playing time during a game.
- No coach or chaperone shall at any time be under the influence of alcohol or drugs while performing their coaching and/or chaperoning duties.
- In all cases involving team travel, parents have the right to transport their minor player and have the minor player stay in their hotel room.
- Prior to any team travel, coaches will endeavor to make players and parents aware of all expectations and rules. Coaches will also support chaperones and/or participate in the monitoring of the players for adherence to curfew restrictions and other travel rules.

Prohibited Conduct and Reporting

LHA prohibits all types of physical abuse, sexual abuse, emotional abuse, bullying, threats, harassment, hazing and other types of misconduct. LHA has a **zero tolerance** position when it comes to player safety and preventing abuse and misconduct.

Any breach of the SafeSport Travel Policy may result in disciplinary action, up to and including suspension or expulsion from LHA with no refund.

Any misconduct, abuse or violation should be immediately reported to the appropriate LHA segment leader, the LHA Hockey Director, the Colorado 14ers Hockey Director and/or the LHA Disciplinary Committee.

Acknowledgment

By registering online and/or by signing below, I certify that I have read and understand this SafeSport Travel Policy, and that I agree to abide by all procedures and policies set forth by LHA.

Player Signature: _____ **Date**

Parent 1 Signature: _____ **Date**

Parent 2 Signature: _____ **Date**