



Player Code of Conduct - 2026-2027 Season

The Geauga Youth Hockey Association is committed to developing its youth into the best versions of themselves as hockey players as well as well-rounded young members of society by offering a fun, safe learning environment in which to build upon an athlete's skills and abilities. Excellent sportsmanship, in the form of healthy competition, coincides with the overall attitude of community awareness and the desire to be a good citizen. Therefore, each player will be expected to follow our code of ethics, of which each parent is expected to verify their child has read, and to help enforce throughout the season.

Code of Conduct:

1. Above all, treat others as you wish to be treated.
2. Cell phone use in any capacity in the locker room is expressly prohibited. Exceptions for documented medical uses is accepted.
3. Players will understand that hockey is a team sport and any absences, whether from practices or games, affect the overall team. Players unable to attend practice or games will notify the coach or manager through the crossbar platform as soon as the coming absence is known.
4. Players will show respect to the referees and accept responsibility for all calls made, whether agreed with or not. Players will positively acknowledge the referees' efforts after a game regardless of the game's outcome.
5. Players will show respect to any opponent players, coaches, managers, and parents.
6. Players will not taunt an opposing player or bench of an opposing team.
7. Players will show respect to their teammates, coaches, managers, and parents. We will positively represent our organization.
8. Players are expected to put forth just as much effort during practices as they do during games. Failure to perform and commit to practice may result in decreased ice time at your coaches discretion.
9. Players will respect the facilities we are provided for practices and games. Players will not damage equipment, or be disruptive to rink staff or patrons. Players are expected to clean up their locker room after all practices and games.

10. Players understand when it comes to bullying, hazing, violence, GYHA has a zero tolerance policy. This includes in-person behavior as well as any social media, team chat conduct and online presence. Players will respect their teammates and be a positive role model for younger athletes in our organization. Violating this zero tolerance policy can result in expulsion from GYHA.

Penalties for Violations:

An athlete who is found in violation of any of the conditions of the Code of Conduct by their coaching staff will receive one of the penalties outlined below. Any complaints or appeals with a discipline ruling should follow the steps of the GYHA Complaint Pathway.

Tier 1 Penalty – Minor infractions

- Verbal communication to athlete from Coaching staff with parent(s) in attendance
- Expectations clarified
- Written summary documented and distributed to parties involved and kept on record by team manager

Tier 2 Penalty – Formal Warning (Moderate violations or continued minor infractions)

- Formal written warning from Coaching staff to athlete and parent(s)
- Required corrective action plan
- Single game suspension of athlete

Tier 3 Penalty – Probationary Status (Serious conduct concerns)

- Minimum 2-game suspension of athlete
- Formal GYHA DMember Advocacy Committee hearing to discuss any further action.
- Written improvement contract signed by athlete and parent(s).

Tier 4 Penalty – Removal from organization

- Immediate permanent removal of athlete from team activities for remainder of the season.
- Formal review by GYHA board and vote on refund of dues (if any).
- Board review and vote on future eligibility to return to GYHA.

By signing below, I agree to the GYHA Code of Conduct and understand that by accepting the conditions stated above I agree to comply with them. I further acknowledge that the penalty for violating the Code of Conduct will be determined by the organization based on how often the violations have occurred and the nature of my conduct at the time of the violations.

Athlete Signature:_____ **Team:**_____

Parent Signature:_____ **Date:**_____