

La Crescent Youth Hockey
2026 - 2027
Coaches Code of Conduct

The following Code of Conduct was prepared by USA Hockey's Youth Council.

- Winning is a consideration, but not the only one, nor the most important one.
- Care more about the child than the winning of 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, honest; be fair and just; do not criticize players publicly; learn to be a more effective communicator and coach
- 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 and with the players on your team. Explain the goals and objectives of your association.
- Be concerned with the overall development of your players. Stress good health habits and clean living. Teach, promote and hold accountable for good eating and sleeping habits.
- ***To play the game is great, to love the game is greater.***

COACHING CODE OF ETHICS

COACHES: La Crescent Youth Hockey fully adheres to and adopts all provisions of the USA Hockey Coaching Ethics Code. All coaches are required to follow this code. The General Principles and Ethical Standards must be adhered to in their entirety. These include, and are not limited to:

- Competence
- Integrity
- Professional Responsibility
- Respect of Participants and Dignity
- Concern for Others' Welfare
- Responsible Coaching

At the beginning of the season, coaches must sign a statement indicating that they have read and will comply with the USA Hockey Coaching Code of Ethics. For a full reading, refer to the USA Hockey Website at www.usahockey.com.

Head coaches are expected to follow all Association rules. This includes, but is not limited to:

1. Addressing player behavior issues and enforcing discipline as outlined above.
2. Managing behavior of assistants and parents. Coaches are responsible for parent conduct during and outside of games at home and away arenas.
3. Following all safety rules, including assurance that all required player equipment is used.
4. Using only certified coaching assistants at the levels required by USA Hockey.
5. Representing the Association in a positive manner and not creating discord with other teams or Association members. The Parent Code of Conduct Rules also applies to coaches.
6. One member of the coaching staff or designated locker room monitor must be present in the locker room from the time players are required to be present at the practice/game until the last player leaves. **All player and coach cell phones and other devices with recording capability must be off and stowed away.**
7. In extreme circumstances and with LYHA Board approval, the Coaches Coordinator could assume the position of Head or Assistant Coach on any traveling team.
8. Coaches are expected to be present at all scheduled games and practices, barring illness, family emergency, or other activities as approved by the Coaches Coordinator.
9. Coaches will treat referee officials with respect. Appropriate language will be used at all times.

Failure to follow the Association rules will result in disciplinary proceedings as outlined below.

Matters of Coaching Discipline

All matters pertaining to coaches' misconduct are to be reported immediately to the Coaches' Coordinator. The Coaches' Coordinator will investigate the matter and gather information from all sides. He or she may also confer with LYHA Board Members and has the authority to issue warnings and temporary suspensions. If it is determined that the matter involves a severe violation of the USA Hockey Coaches' Code of Conduct or LYHA's rules, the Coaches' Coordinator will refer the matter to the LYHA Board. The LYHA Board will convene to resolve the matter. Disciplinary decisions are final.

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Coaching Agreement Signature Page

As a member of the coaching staff for La Crescent Youth Hockey, I acknowledge that I have read, understand, and agree to fully comply with the LYHA and USA Hockey Coaches Code of Conduct and Ethics.

I understand that this Code of Conduct outlines the standards of behavior, professionalism, ethics, and responsibility expected of all coaching personnel. I recognize that my actions directly impact the athletes, the organization, and the broader community.

By signing this agreement, I commit to:

- Uphold and model the values and principles outlined in the Coaches Code of Conduct and Ethics.
- Create and maintain a safe, inclusive, respectful, and positive environment for all participants.
- Adhere to all organizational policies, procedures, and applicable laws or regulations.
- Demonstrate integrity, fairness, and respect in all interactions with athletes, parents, staff, officials, and others.
- Accept accountability for my conduct and decisions as a coach.
- Cooperate with any investigation or review process related to conduct concerns.

I understand that failure to comply with the Code of Conduct may result in disciplinary action, up to and including suspension or termination of my coaching responsibilities.

Coach Name (Printed): _____

Coach Signature: _____ **Date:** _____