

West Virginia Vipers Player Code of Conduct

As a member of the West Virginia Vipers hockey program, you are expected to uphold the highest standards of sportsmanship, respect, and responsibility both on and off the ice. By participating in this program, you agree to follow the rules below, which are designed to ensure a positive experience for all players, coaches, and families.

Respect and Sportsmanship

- Treat all teammates, coaches, officials, opponents, and spectators with respect at all times.
 - Show good sportsmanship whether winning or losing. Taunting, disrespect, or unsportsmanlike behavior is unacceptable.
 - Respect all referee decisions. **If you receive a penalty, skate immediately to the penalty box without arguing with the officials.** Discussions with referees are the responsibility of the coaches only.
 - **Do not engage in verbal altercations** with coaches, opponents, officials, players from either team, parents, or spectators. If an issue arises, report it immediately to your coach or a member of the Viper staff. You are expected to carry yourself with respect and sportsmanship and represent the West Virginia Vipers with integrity at all times.
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Commitment and Appearance

- Attend all games, practices, and team events unless excused by a coach. **IF YOU DO NOT HAVE TRAVEL PRACTICE YOU WILL BE EXPECTED TO ATTEND PRACTICE.**
- Practice uniform - Viper practice reversible jersey only. No other clubs will be allowed.
- Players (or parents) must mark availability for **every game and practice** using the team app, **Spond**, to ensure coaches can plan accordingly.
- Arrive on time, fully prepared with all required equipment.
- **Uniform Requirement:** All players must wear the official Vipers uniform for games, including:
 - Vipers jersey
 - Vipers shell
 - Vipers socks matching the jersey
- **Socks or shells from travel teams, other clubs, or any non-Vipers apparel are strictly prohibited. Players will be sent to the locker room to change before participating.**

Team Conduct

- Support your teammates and contribute to a positive, inclusive team environment.
- Bullying, harassment, or exclusion of others will not be tolerated.
- Communicate openly and respectfully with teammates and coaches to resolve conflicts.

Personal Responsibility

- Maintain academic responsibilities; school comes first.
- No use of drugs, alcohol, vaping, tobacco, or other harmful substances.
- Conduct yourself with integrity in the rink, at school, and within the community.
- Social media posts that are offensive, inappropriate, or harmful to teammates, coaches, officials, or the organization will result in disciplinary action.

Theft Policy

- **Theft will not be tolerated under any circumstance.**
- First offense: Suspension for a period determined by the administrator and coaches.
- Any theft following the initial suspension will result in immediate removal from the team.

Consequences for Violations

Failure to follow this Code of Conduct may result in:

- Verbal or written warnings
- Loss of playing time
- Suspension from games or practices
- Permanent removal from the team for serious or repeated violations

Player Acknowledgment

By signing below, I acknowledge that I have read and understand the West Virginia Vipers Player Code of Conduct. I agree to follow these rules and understand the consequences for violations.

Player Name: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____