

Blues Parent, Guardian and Spectator Fair Play/Code of Conduct Policy

The intention of this policy is to promote fair play and respect for all participants within the Blues organization, opponents, referees and anyone associated to any event or activity that the Blues teams and/or members participates in.

Before a player is allowed to participate in Blues hockey (including tryouts), parents are required to carefully read, comprehend, and sign or electronically agree/accept to abide by this document.

The registering parent accepts this policy and undertakes to communicate its contents to any individuals who stand in the place of a parent and/or attends with the registered player.

For the purpose of this document, a parent/guardian/spectator herein will be referred to as “parent(s)” or “I” of the Blues Hockey program.

I agree that I will:

- Not force my child(ren) to participate in hockey.
- Remember that all players in the Blues program are our children, including those in U18.
- Remember that my child(ren) plays hockey for their enjoyment, not mine.
- Familiarize myself with the rules of the game and the policies of Hockey Canada, Hockey Eastern Ontario, GHA, Blues, Ottawa B Minor Hockey league and shall support and uphold them to the best of my ability.
- Be a positive role model for the child(ren) by always displaying good sportsmanship, respect, courtesy and will encourage good sportsmanship and fair play at all times.
- Teach my child(ren) that doing their best is as important as winning so that they never feel defeated by the outcome of the game, or their performance.
- Not coach my child(ren) or other players from the stands or sidelines during games and practices.
- Recognize that officials are human and, like all humans, they sometimes make mistakes. I will remember that my child cannot play hockey games without referees.
- Understand that officials do not make the hockey rules, they only apply them. I understand that officials are responsible to ensure that the game is played in a safe and fair manner for all participants.
- Respect the referees and game officials and their authority during every game. Parents are not to dispute, challenge, question or argue any call, nor confront any referee or league official, at any time.
- Understand that the game of hockey is a team sport and will encourage teamwork and being a team player.
- Not swear, use profanity or make obscene gestures, or engage in inappropriate behaviour or conduct.
- Respect the good plays of both teams. I will not engage in taunting and will not disturb the other spectators with my actions, language or behaviour, but will enjoy the game together.
- Never criticize, ridicule or yell at any of the players (including my own) for making a mistake or losing a competition.
- Respect the coach's and/or Blues Executive decisions and abilities. I will not interfere at any time with the duties and responsibilities of the coach and/or Blues Executive.

- Respect the rights and feelings of officials, coaches, trainers, players, volunteers and board members.
- Support all efforts to remove verbal and physical abuse from children's hockey games.
- Communicate with and fully support my child's coach. I will address any questions, issues, concerns or grievances, about a particular game/practice/event with the team coach, manager/liaison in an appropriate and respectful manner. Coaching concerns or any issues/concerns that could be contentious may be addressed after a 24-hour cooling off period.
- Observe a 24-hour waiting period before contacting coaches, or team manager/liaison after any incident.
- Understand that playing a sport involves a commitment to the team. Parents will make every attempt to always get their child(ren) to every game and practice on time. Where this is not possible, they will contact the coach or team manager in advance.
- Am responsible to immediately inform the Host Level Director if a coach does or says anything inappropriate in the presence of my child(ren), or any other players on the team, at any time.
- Not be a bystander if I become aware of any bullying, harassment or behaviour that may be deemed unsuitable for children's hockey. I am obligated to report such actions to the team manager or appropriate Executive member immediately.
- Respect and show appreciation for all volunteers who give their time to the hockey experience for my child(ren).
- Be respectful with bench staff, team volunteers and board members in all communications. I am responsible for my guests at my child's hockey games/practices; encouraging my guests to respect and abide by the Blues Parent, Guardian and Spectator Fair Play/Code of Conduct.
- Not throw any object in the spectators viewing area, player's bench, penalty box, or ice surface, directed in any manner as to create a safety hazard.
- Not make any inappropriate physical contact with any player, coach, official, league representative, spectator, or arena personnel.
- Remove myself from an ice rink at any Blues event if asked to do so by an official, rink personnel and/or board member/league organizer.
- Not use social media to make inappropriate or disrespectful comments or convey disregard towards others before, during, and/or after a game. If filming/streaming a game, any commentary shall align with the Blues Social Media Policy.
- Abide by the Blues Social Media Policy.
- Be aware of and comply fully with Hockey Eastern Ontario's [6.44 Spectator Zero Tolerance Policy](#)

Reported Violations of this policy or any governing policy will be addressed and may result in course corrective measures, consequences and/or disciplinary action by the Blues and/or by a governing body above the Blues.

Reported Violations will be dealt with in a fair and progressive manner. The Blues adheres to a progressive model of discipline where issues are addressed as they arise, and members will typically be provided with the opportunity to correct the issue based on the nature and severity of the offense(s). Should the offence(s)/incident(s) be determined as unsafe or warrants quick actions, the progressive disciplinary process may need to be waived.

Violations will be subject to disciplinary action as determined appropriate based on the nature, frequency and severity of the offense(s). Disciplinary action could include, but is not limited to, the following examples. Please note that the list below does not represent an order or progressive steps.

Any of these (and other) disciplinary actions may be imposed depending on the nature and gravity of the situation:

- Verbal or written reprimand; which may outline the ramifications of future violations
- An apology, either written or verbal, to any affected party
- A suspension from participation in or at association activities; this may include spectating depending on the location of the team activity
- May be required to take the Respect in Sport online course at their own expense within 14 days of receipt of written notification
- Season suspension
- Disciplinary hearing
- A recommendation for an expulsion from the association; or
- A combination of two or more of the above

The Association may apply its own discipline process should conditions warrant and may issue its own disciplinary action, which shall be in addition to any discipline imposed by the league governor.

Initially, most infractions will be handled by team officials; however, depending on the nature, frequency and severity, the host level director, president, vice-president, discipline chair, discipline committee or other league official may become involved.

The Blues Discipline Committee will typically consist of, but is not limited to: the host association President, host Vice-president/Discipline chair, host Director of competitive or their delegate from their association. Based on the nature/severity and/or availability, the committee may also include the other Blues association President, Vice-president/Discipline chair, and/or Director of competitive.

I agree to abide by the principles of this policy. I also agree to abide by the Constitution, By-Laws, Rules, Regulations and decisions set by Hockey Canada, Hockey Eastern Ontario (HEO), Gloucester Hockey Association, Blues, Eastend Minor Hockey Association, Blackburn Minor Hockey Association and the Ottawa B Minor Hockey League.

This agreement will govern my/our accountability to the Blues. I/we understand that my/our ability, and possibly that of my/our child(ren), to attend and participate in Blues events, as well as team sanctioned activities (games, team events, tournaments, etc.) may be prohibited by the Blues or governing body above the Blues.

Date:

Player Name:

Parent/Guardian Name:

Parent/Guardian Signature: