Mountain Lions Hockey

Player and Parent Handbook

Camps and Travel Teams | 2027 Edition

Welcome and scope

Our purpose

Mountain Lions Hockey provides a positive, challenging environment where young athletes develop their skills, build confidence, and learn to contribute to a team. We value effort, respect, accountability, sportsmanship, and a willingness to learn. Player safety and development remain central to our work.

How to use this handbook

This handbook applies to Mountain Lions Hockey camps and travel team programs. Players, parents, guardians, coaches, and team staff should review the expectations before participation. Travel, hotel, roster, and competition provisions apply only when those activities are part of the registered program. Program descriptions, prices, and schedules are provided separately.

Player responsibilities

Players must arrive prepared and on time, give consistent effort, follow reasonable coaching instructions, and treat teammates, opponents, officials, coaches, and facility staff respectfully. Support teammates through mistakes, wins, and losses. Handle equipment responsibly, keep team spaces clean, and report injuries, illness, unsafe situations, or inappropriate behavior promptly.

Prohibited conduct

Bullying, hazing, discriminatory remarks, threats, theft, property damage, fighting outside permitted game play, and deliberate attempts to injure are prohibited. Locker boxing and dangerous initiation activities are not permitted. Players may not possess or use alcohol, tobacco, vaping products, illegal drugs, or another person's prescription medication at team activities.

Parent and spectator responsibilities

Encourage learning and teamwork, respect officials, and allow coaches to direct players during activities. Do not publicly criticize or humiliate any child, confront opposing families, or enter restricted team areas without authorization. Follow facility rules and staff instructions. Threatening, abusive, discriminatory, or disruptive conduct may result in removal from an activity or attendance restrictions, subject to review.

Participation and coaching

Attendance and preparation

Players are expected to attend activities to which they have committed. Notify the head coach as early as possible about absences, late arrivals, and scheduling conflicts. Follow the arrival and preparation times communicated by staff. Repeated unexplained absences or lateness may affect team responsibilities and lineup decisions; staff will discuss ongoing concerns with the family.

Health comes first

Illness, injury, school obligations, and family emergencies should be communicated promptly. Players must not participate while medically restricted or conceal symptoms to remain in the lineup. A medically required absence must never be treated as misconduct.

Playing time for travel teams

Every rostered player should have meaningful opportunities to participate and develop. Playing time is not guaranteed to be equal in every game. Coaches consider safety, effort, attendance, readiness, conduct, positional needs, and game circumstances. Line combinations, positions, special-team assignments, and late-game situations are coaching decisions. Fees do not guarantee a particular role or number of minutes.

Coaching expectations

Coaches must make age-appropriate decisions, provide constructive feedback, and address development concerns respectfully. No player may face reduced opportunities in retaliation for a good-faith safety report. Camp instruction and group assignments should reflect participant safety and learning needs; competitive playing-time provisions do not promise a particular camp format.

Rosters and eligibility for travel teams

Families must provide accurate birth dates and required registration documents. Divisions, eligibility, guest players, and roster changes are subject to event rules and organizer approval. Players may not join another team's roster during a Mountain Lions event without advance club approval and any required event authorization. Disclose outside commitments that conflict with agreed team activities.

Communication and safeguarding

Team communications

Crossbar and designated team communications are the primary channels for updates. Families must review messages and keep contact information current. Before activities begin, the club will identify the program director and provide a direct contact for concerns and an alternative contact for concerns involving that person.

Routine coaching concerns

For routine concerns about a game, wait at least 24 hours before requesting a private discussion with the head coach. Focus on your child's development and experience. Coaches will not discuss another child's confidential information. Unresolved concerns may be referred to the program director for review.

Urgent concerns

The 24-hour guideline does not apply to injuries, safety concerns, suspected abuse, discrimination, or other urgent matters. Report these immediately. A concern involving a coach or director may bypass that person. Internal discussions are never a prerequisite to contacting authorities.

Professional boundaries

Adult interactions with minor players must be appropriate, observable, and interruptible. Private, isolated meetings are prohibited. Necessary individual conversations should occur in visible settings. Team-related electronic messages to minors must include a parent or guardian, or another authorized adult. Staff may not use disappearing messages or ask a child to keep communications secret.

Adult readiness and supervision

Adults assigned to supervise children must complete the screening and training required for their role before beginning that assignment. Applicable governing-body and event requirements also apply. Adults responsible for supervision must remain capable of safe care and must not be impaired by alcohol or other substances.

Locker room privacy

The club will arrange appropriate adult monitoring during designated locker room periods. Access is limited to players and authorized personnel. Use only assigned rooms during approved times; no horseplay, bullying, fighting, or handling others' belongings. Photography and audio or video recording are prohibited. Recording-capable devices must remain stored and unused, with appropriate accommodation for necessary medical devices. Parents needing to assist a younger player must arrange access with staff. Private changing arrangements may be requested. An adult must not be isolated alone with a child in a locker room.

Travel equipment and health

Drop off and pickup

Staff will communicate meeting locations, supervision periods, and pickup arrangements. Before leaving, a parent or guardian must ensure that a coach or designated staff member has accepted responsibility for the child. Players may leave only with an authorized adult or under an arrangement approved in advance by the parent and staff. Notify staff promptly if pickup is delayed; children will not be left unattended.

Travel teams and hotels

Unless a separate written arrangement states otherwise, families are responsible for transportation, accommodation, and supervision outside designated team activities. Coaches do not provide automatic overnight supervision because they stay at the same hotel. Respect hotel rules, guests, meeting times, and communicated curfews. Follow event-required hotel bookings or obtain an organizer-approved exemption.

Club arranged travel

Club-arranged transportation or overnight supervision requires a written plan, necessary parental consent, and compliance with applicable safeguarding requirements. Staff must not share a hotel room with an unrelated minor or arrange isolated one-on-one transportation outside a permitted, documented exception.

Equipment and apparel

Players must wear properly fitted protective equipment required by the governing body, event, and facility. Coaches may remove a player until missing, damaged, or incorrectly worn equipment is corrected. Families must check equipment, label belongings, and bring required items. Wear designated game uniforms and team apparel when instructed; staff will communicate requirements in advance.

Medical information and emergencies

Provide current emergency contacts and relevant allergies, medical restrictions, and emergency action plans before participation. Share sensitive information privately with designated staff. Arrange medication storage or assistance in advance; do not assume coaches can administer medication. Report pain, injury, or illness promptly. Staff may stop participation for safety and request appropriate medical clearance. In emergencies, staff will contact emergency services when needed and notify the guardian as soon as practical. Separate emergency medical authorization is required during registration.

Suspected concussion

A player with a suspected concussion will be removed immediately and will not return that day. Return requires clearance from a qualified healthcare provider and completion of the provider-directed return-to-sport process. Coaches, parents, and players may not override a medical restriction.

Reporting privacy and discipline

Report safety concerns

Any player or adult may report suspected abuse, bullying, harassment, threats, or unsafe conduct. Proof is not required for a good-faith report. Contact a coach or program director, or an appropriate external authority. In immediate danger, contact emergency services. Suspected child abuse must be reported to appropriate authorities as required by law. Where USA Hockey or U.S. Center for SafeSport jurisdiction applies, their reporting procedures must also be followed. Club or sport-organization reporting does not replace legally required reporting to law enforcement or child protection authorities.

Protection from retaliation

Retaliation against anyone who raises a concern or assists with a review in good faith is prohibited. An unsubstantiated report is not, by itself, a knowingly false report. Information will be shared only as reasonably necessary for protection, reporting, and review; absolute confidentiality cannot be promised.

Social media and photographs

Online conduct must meet in-person standards. Do not publish threatening, discriminatory, humiliating, or abusive content, or share private contact details, medical information, or team communications without authorization. Good-faith complaints and safety reports are permitted. Promotional use of identifiable player photographs or videos follows a separate guardian media-consent selection. This handbook does not provide media consent. Respect other families' privacy preferences.

Property and facilities

Label equipment and avoid unnecessary valuables. Report theft, loss, and damage promptly. Respect arenas, hotels, vehicles, and personal belongings. Any request for payment for damage will be based on the circumstances and documented costs, with an opportunity for the family to respond.

Discipline and review

Responses consider age, seriousness, impact, and prior incidents. Measures may include corrective instruction, warnings, a family meeting, a behavior agreement, temporary restrictions, suspension, or removal for serious or repeated misconduct. Immediate protective action may be necessary and does not establish that an allegation is proven. For significant decisions, the club will explain the concern, allow a reasonable opportunity to respond, and communicate the decision in writing. Families may request reconsideration; an uninvolved reviewer should be designated when a decision-maker has a conflict. A child will not automatically be removed for parental misconduct when a safe alternative exists. Applicable event sanctions and governing-body procedures remain in effect. Review must not delay required external reporting.

Payments and refunds

Financial commitments

Fees, payment schedules, and inclusions are communicated separately during registration. Families must meet accepted payment obligations and should raise financial concerns privately as early as possible. Submit withdrawal and refund requests in writing through the club's designated registration or contact channel. The club will acknowledge requests within 10 business days and explain its determination.

Camp withdrawal before the start

Refunds are based on amounts paid, less documented, nonrecoverable costs reasonably attributable to the participant's reserved place. These may include committed facility costs and personalized items already ordered. If another participant fills the place, the club will reassess the refund to avoid recovering the same costs twice.

Camp withdrawal after the start

Voluntary withdrawal or missed sessions do not normally qualify for refunds for services already provided or costs already committed. A serious injury or medical condition preventing continued participation will be reviewed individually. Any refundable amount will reflect remaining services, recoverable costs, and the circumstances.

Travel team withdrawal before the start

Refunds are based on amounts paid, less documented, nonrecoverable costs reasonably attributable to the player's participation. These may include committed tournament and training costs and personalized items already ordered. If a replacement fills the roster position, the club will reassess the refund to avoid recovering the same costs twice.

Travel team withdrawal after the start

Voluntary withdrawal or missed activities do not normally qualify for refunds for services already provided or costs already committed. A serious injury or medical condition preventing further participation will be reviewed individually. The club may request limited documentation confirming the restriction and expected duration without unnecessary medical details.

Installments and disciplinary removal

Remaining installments will be reviewed using the same principles; withdrawal does not automatically resolve or accelerate the balance. Disciplinary removal does not automatically forfeit all payments. Any refund or balance will be assessed against services delivered, documented committed costs, and applicable law.

Cancellations and applicable rules

Entire program canceled by the club

If Mountain Lions cancels an entire camp or travel team program before it begins, program fees paid to the club will be refunded and unpaid program installments canceled.

Partial cancellation or event changes

If part of a program is canceled, the club will explain any replacement activity and the financial treatment of services not provided. Third-party recoveries will be considered in calculating refunds. Credits will be offered as an option rather than imposed instead of an otherwise due refund.

Items fees and family travel

Personalized items already produced and provided to the family are generally nonrefundable. Processing fees may be withheld only when actually nonrecoverable and permitted by law. Family travel expenses are outside the program refund calculation and remain subject to travel-provider terms. Nothing in this policy limits rights available under applicable law.

Operational changes

The club may make reasonable operational changes for safety, facility availability, or event requirements and will communicate material changes promptly. This handbook does not guarantee a specific tournament, coach, result, or player role. Specific program commitments are described in registration materials. Material financial changes will not be applied retroactively without agreement or a legal basis.

Applicable requirements

Applicable law and mandatory governing-body, tournament, and facility requirements take precedence over conflicting handbook language. This handbook does not state or imply a particular governing-body affiliation. Where event-specific requirements apply, the club will communicate them to families.

Safety resources

USA Hockey reporting information: https://www.usahockey.com/makingareport
CDC concussion response guidance: https://www.cdc.gov/heads-up/response/index.html

Handbook version

2027 edition | Version 1.0 | Prepared October 8, 2026
Keep a copy of the version acknowledged during registration. Contact the program director through the designated team or registration channel for clarification.

Player and parent acknowledgment

Review before signing

I confirm that I am the participant's parent or legal guardian. I have received and read the Mountain Lions Hockey Player and Parent Handbook, 2027 edition, Version 1.0, and reviewed the applicable expectations with my child in an age-appropriate way.

Agreement

We agree to follow the policies applicable to the registered camp or travel team program, including conduct, safety, communication, attendance, supervision, and refunds. We understand that travel and competition provisions apply only to activities that include those components. We understand how to raise concerns and that safety matters may be reported immediately.

Separate consents

This acknowledgment is not a release of liability, a waiver of legal rights, or a substitute for separate medical or media consent.

Participant information

Player full name: _____

Birth year: _____

Registered camp or team: _____

Parent or legal guardian

Full name: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Player acknowledgment

Player signature, as age-appropriate: _____

Date: _____

Electronic registration

When this acknowledgment is completed electronically, entering my full name and submitting it with an affirmative acceptance indicates my intent to electronically sign this acknowledgment. The registration record should retain the participant, signatory, acceptance date, and handbook version.