

# Code of Conduct & Disciplinary Guidelines - For players and parents/guardians

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The purpose of this document is to communicate the WYHA Player and Parent/Guardian Codes of Conduct (COC), the process for reporting concerns, and the disciplinary guidelines for offenses.

WYHA expects all players and adults associated with WYHA to thoroughly read the Codes of Conduct and understand the consequences for violations.

The Codes of Conduct exist to set expectations of behaviors and actions, in order to best represent the purpose of WYHA which is *to promote, sponsor, provide facilities for, and organize a program dedicated to recreation, sportsmanship, and excellence in ice hockey for youth in school district #284 in order to make them better citizens.*

The Codes of Conduct are subject to change per the Board of Directors.

## **PLAYER CODE OF CONDUCT**

As a WYHA hockey player I want to help create a fun and positive environment and become the best player and person that I can be. Therefore, I agree:

1. All players will engage in good sportsmanship and will represent WYHA in a positive manner.
2. All Players will take pride in their team and contribute to the team's unity. Players will adhere to the coach's rules and be supportive of the coach's practice plans, game plans, and other decisions. Players will be at the rink by the appointed time as set by the coach; participate in all games and practices unless properly excused; and notify the coach or manager in advance when the player will be absent.
3. No player shall criticize another teammate's play or demean, threaten, or harass a teammate. Hockey is recognized as a team sport; as such the interests of the team shall take precedence over individual achievements. WYHA has adopted the USA Hockey and SafeSport policies for, among other things, physical and emotional misconduct, abusive behavior, bullying, threats, and harassment. There is zero tolerance for abusive behavior (including social media) intended to demean or harass a teammate. Additionally, obscene language or gestures, and other detrimental behavior directed toward teammates, coaches, other WYHA members, referees, opponents, or

spectators will not be tolerated. This section also applies to conduct and interactions with players from other associations.

4. No player shall criticize referees. The only individuals who may speak to officials are the coaches and/or designated captains under the instructions of their coaches. Players will not openly dispute or argue any decision by an official and will not use obscene or vulgar language or gestures at any time. There is zero tolerance for disrespectful conduct toward referees and officials.
5. All players are expected to conduct themselves in a respectable manner. All players are expected to be attentive when coaches explain practice drills, game strategies, or pass along other information or instructions; and to be respectful to coaches. Demeaning, divisive and/or disruptive behavior in the locker room and/or before, during, or after a game or practice, will not be tolerated.
6. All players are expected to be committed to cultivating an environment where diverse backgrounds and experiences are welcome. Players will support all teammates, coaches, fans, officials, facilities workers, volunteers and opponents who provide their time and effort to make hockey possible. All interactions should be safe and inclusive of all walks of life regardless of race, color, religion, national origin, gender, disability, sexual orientation or social-economic status.
7. No attempt should be made to deliberately injure another player(s). Any player incurring a MATCH PENALTY for "Attempt to Injure" or other offense deemed equally serious by the coach shall be subject to suspension beyond the USA HOCKEY rules and District Disciplinary Board's determination, as deemed appropriate by the WYHA Board. The WYHA President, VP of Administration and VP of Travel (or VP of Girls Travel) will be notified immediately if this occurs.
8. WYHA adopts the MSHSL approach to chemicals. In short, the policy states students shall not, regardless of the quantity, use or consume, have in possession, buy sell or giveaway away any substance or product where the intent of such use is to induce intoxication, excitement or stupefaction of the central nervous system, except under the direction and supervision of a medical doctor. This includes beverages containing alcohol, tobacco, controlled substances, or drug paraphernalia.
9. All players will adhere to the WYHA and SafeSport policies regarding social media. Cell phones and other mobile devices with recording capabilities, including voice recording, still cameras and video cameras, are not permitted to be used in the locker rooms.
10. Players agree to abide by all the rules set forth by USA Hockey, Minnesota Hockey, District 3, Safe Sport and WYHA.

## **PLAYER CODE OF CONDUCT DISCIPLINARY GUIDELINES**

### **1. First Offense:**

- a. **The player will be verbally warned by the coach.**
- b. The Coach will document the incident with an email/written communication sent to the parent/guardian
- c. The Coach will notify the Level Coordinator via email

### **2. Second Offense:**

- a. **The player will be verbally warned by the coach with the parent/guardian present.**
- b. The Coach will document the incident with an email sent to the parent/guardian
- c. The Coach will notify the Level Coordinator via email

### **3. Third Offense:**

- a. **The player will be verbally warned by the coach with the parent/guardian present.**
- b. The Coach will document the incident with an email sent to the parent/guardian
- c. The Coach will notify the Level Coordinator via email
- d. **A Code of Conduct hearing will take place under the direction of the WYHA President, VP of Administration, VP of Travel/VP of Girls Travel, and the Safesport Coordinator.** That hearing will produce a decision on penalty ranging from a three game suspension to removal from the team for the remainder of the season, or longer including future seasons.

Any player misconduct not specifically addressed above will be dealt with on an individual basis by the WYHA Board. The Board reserves the right to modify the disciplinary guidelines case by case. The Board reserves the right to conduct a hearing for any offense, first or subsequent.

All conduct deemed to be in violation of the Player Code of Conduct, and resulting sanctions will, to the extent possible, be maintained in confidence by the WYHA Board of Directors and be cumulative throughout the families' participation in WYHA. If appropriate, all sanctions will be forwarded to Minnesota Hockey and District 3 for enforcement at any away games and tournaments.

The WYHA Board of Directors, or any committee appointed by the WYHA Board of Directors, will enforce all violations and notify the individual(s) in writing, after any applicable disciplinary hearing, outlining the sanction that is being set forth. This will be done in a timely manner.



## ISSUE REPORTING

All COC issues should be reported to the Level Coordinator, WYHA President, VP of Administration, VP of Travel (or VP of Girls Travel), and SafeSport Coordinator.

- Complete the form found on the Code of Conduct or SafeSport page of [www.WayzataHockey.org](http://www.WayzataHockey.org)
- Or send an email to the Level Coordinator, WYHA President, VP of Administration, VP of Travel, VP of Girls Travel, and SafeSport Coordinator (emails are listed on Code of Conduct and SafeSport Pages).

Any WYHA member witnessing or involved in a violation of the WYHA Player Code of Conduct can bring the issue forward, after the 24-hour rule (described on the Parent/Guardian Code of Conduct) where applicable, to the Board of Directors by:

- Completing the Code of Conduct/SafeSport Issue Reporting form found on the WYHA website
- Contacting a Board member directly
- Bringing issues to the monthly scheduled board meeting

In situations involving safety concerns, or the need to report issues of abuse, harassment, bullying, or other misconduct, including possible SafeSport violations, the 24-hour rule does NOT apply and the President, VP of Administration, VP of Travel, or VP of Girls Travel should be contacted immediately.

Failure to sign and follow the code of conduct will result in an incomplete registration status for tryouts and the start of the season.



## **PARENT/GUARDIAN CODE OF CONDUCT**

In an effort to provide a positive athletic environment and represent Wayzata Youth Hockey Association (WYHA) to our community AND the ones we visit as a guest, WYHA the Parent/Guardian Code of Conduct is:

As a parent/guardian of a WYHA player, I understand the importance of embracing the values of good sportsmanship while demonstrating fairness, respect, and self control by supporting ALL players, coaches, team managers, team treasurer, referees and parents. Therefore, I agree:

1. It is a privilege, not a right, for my child to play hockey in the WYHA.
2. 24 HOUR RULE: WYHA has adopted a 24-hour waiting period for discussing certain problems or concerns that occur during the season. No parent/guardian of any WYHA player, in a fit of frustration or anger, shall contact the Coach, Assistant Coaches, Level Coordinator, or any member of the WYHA Board of Directors, regarding a player's ice time, position, game time, practice time discipline, coach's strategy decisions regarding a player, and/or a player's team selection/status during try-outs, until 24 hours have expired from the incident in question. This 24-hour waiting period applies to any communication whether in-person, or via email, phone call, text message, written/typed letter or any means of social media. After 24-hours have passed from the conclusion of said event or incident, the parent/legal guardian can then contact the Coach with the issue. If communication with the Coach is not possible, or not advisable due to extenuating circumstances, contact with the Level Coordinator, WYHA Board of Directors President and VP Administration is advised. In situations involving safety concerns, or the need to report issues of abuse, harassment, bullying, or other misconduct, including possible SafeSport violations, the 24-hour rule does NOT apply. The SafeSport issue should be reported immediately.
3. No parent/guardian of a WYHA player may contact the coaching staff, Team Manager or Team Treasurer in a derogatory manner about another WYHA player. It is highly recommended that any derogatory comments among parents about another WYHA player be avoided at all times.
4. I will respect the officials and their authority during the games and refrain from questioning, discussing or confronting officials during or immediately after a game.
5. I will respect the locker rooms as private areas for players, coaches, managers and officials and seek approval before entering.
6. I will encourage good sportsmanship by demonstrating positive support for all players, coaches, fans, volunteers, building facilities workers and referees at every game.
7. Intoxication pre, during, or post games (while representing WYHA such as at a team celebration dinner) is strictly prohibited.
8. I will recognize the importance of volunteer Coaches, Team Managers and Team Treasurer and act accordingly. At no time will I publicly accuse, question or slander any



of these volunteers, nor will I harass them about decisions as applied to my player's team.

9. I agree to follow proper reporting procedures for WYHA. Any concerns and complaints I have will be first brought to the attention of the Level Coordinator and the VP Administration. From there, these issues will be redirected as necessary.
10. I understand that my actions are subject to the USA Hockey Playing Rules, SafeSport, WYHA Bylaws, WYHA Code of Conduct and Minnesota Hockey District 3 guidelines and that regardless of my knowledge of the same, I understand that my actions will be gauged by their content and agree to conduct myself accordingly.
11. I will not use social media to make inappropriate or disrespectful comments or convey disregard towards members of my player's teammates, teammate's families, coaching staff or other team volunteers.
12. I understand that it is my responsibility to respect all equipment, supplies and facilities and to ensure that my player does the same.
13. I understand that while traveling/representing WYHA at other rinks or in other cities that I will positively reflect the association in all my actions, language, and behaviors including displaying respectful demeanor to opponents, hotel staff and any outside vendor or facility.

#### **PARENT/GUARDIAN CODE OF CONDUCT DISCIPLINARY GUIDELINES**

Violation of the Parent Code of Conduct is detrimental to the team and may be brought forward to the WYHA Board by either the team's coach, manager or a parent. A meeting with the WYHA Board of Directors (or appointed committee) will occur as soon as possible. The WYHA Board may set forth a penalty ranging from a verbal warning up to suspending a parent from all team functions for one week to the duration of the season. Continual abuse of conduct may result in permanent removal from WYHA. During the sanction, the parent will not be allowed in any facility during a youth hockey event, regardless if that parent has another child on a different team.