

I. ZERO TOLERANCE POLICY

The Vikings Hockey Club continues to strive for the highest standards of sportsmanship in ice hockey. Every participant; whether player, coach, parent, or spectator, has a responsibility to comply with Zero Tolerance and to behave in a respectable manner.

Listed below are the changes to the Vikings Youth Hockey Club Zero Tolerance Policy for the 2025 fall season. Zero Tolerance essentially means that everyone involved in ice hockey shall act in a respectful and sportsmanship like manner so that ice hockey will be a desirable and rewarding experience for our children. Disrespectful and/or unsportsmanlike conduct will not be tolerated. Loss of self-control is NEVER acceptable. Zero Tolerance Classifications (Including but not limited to the following examples)

- Inappropriate verbal or non-verbal abuse during NIHL, CSDHL, AHAI or USA Hockey sanctioned events, and any Vikings related function and/or team activity.
- Confrontation or reaction to specific events or triggers during NIHL, CSDHL, AHAI or USA Hockey sanctioned events, and any Viking related function and/or team activity.
- Complete loss of self-control during NIHL, CSDHL, AHAI or USA Hockey sanctioned events, and any Vikings related function and/or team activity.
- Open disputing or arguing with the decision of an official, coach, spectator or player whether on or off the ice.
- Obscene or vulgar language or the use of a physical act that is vulgar or obscene, racial or swearing.
- Visual or verbal sign(s) of dissatisfaction with any official, coach or administrator's decision.
- Encouraging abusive or unsportsmanlike behavior in any player, coach, official, or spectator.
- Taunting or ridiculing of officials, coaches, players, or spectators.
- Throwing of any object directed at a spectator, at a person in the playing area (including bench area) on the ice or as to create the potential of a safety hazard or issue.
- Intentional physical contact using the body or stick after the whistle is blown or the buzzer has sounded.
- Not stopping Zero Tolerance conduct once advised to do so.
- Not voluntarily leaving a facility once advised to do so by any official, rink administrator or security personnel.
- Off-ice physical violence, fighting or abusive physical contact.
- Threats of any nature.
- Returning to the facility after being ejected.
- Any actions that require the use of third parties to control the conduct or situation, such as rink personnel, league personnel, or security personnel.

II. VIOLATIONS

General

1. Penalties listed are the minimum and may be more severe, as in the case of aggravating circumstances, multiple offenses or frequency and severity of prior season filed offenses.

2. Suspensions and any appeals must comply with USA Hockey By-law 10 and AHAI By-laws, Rules and Regulations. Each organization should review these items and specifically the Affiliate Guidelines and AHAI Rule Articles IX and X.

First offense: 1 game suspension for any player, parent, spectator or coach with right of appeal.

Second Offense: 3 game suspension for player, parent, spectator or coach with right of appeal.

Third Offense: Suspension for the remainder of the season and forfeiture of all fees paid.

Appeals of any Vikings Youth Hockey Club, Rules and Ethics Committee decision may be made to the Board of Directors. The appeal must be submitted to the President of the Vikings Youth Hockey Club, in writing, within three (3) calendar days of the Committee's decision.

III. INDIVIDUAL RESPONSIBILITIES

A. General

1. All individuals must comply with the Zero Tolerance Policies, By-laws, rules, regulations and policies of all governing bodies.
2. In addition, the following are some specific areas of responsibilities.

B. Coaches

1. On-ice tolerance issues.
2. Mutual respect of officials, coaches and opposition.
3. Strict control of players both on and off ice.
4. Monitoring of the locker room.

C. Player

1. Strict and complete self-control both on and off ice at all club functions.
2. Mutual respect of officials, coaches and opposition.
3. Locker room horseplay and/or locker room boxing will not be tolerated.

D. Parent

1. Mutual respect of officials, coaches, players, opposition, parents and spectators.
2. Absolute self-control.
3. Work with officials, coaches, and league and organization personnel to assure a positive experience for all.
4. Remember that minor officials (e.g. timekeepers, penalty box monitors) are to be professional, impartial, respectful and sportsmanlike.

IV. ALCOHOL, DRUG AND TOBACCO POLICY

Coach, Player and Club understand and agree that the best interests of the Coach, Player and Club as well as the League are vitally dependent upon the elimination of any and all use of alcohol, drugs or tobacco by a Player; use of alcohol and any and all use of drugs by a Coach during a Vikings-sanctioned event. Vikings-sanctioned events include games, practices, off-ice sessions, and any other athletic event deemed to be under the Vikings supervision. Players therefore warrant that at no time during the term of the season will he or she abuse alcohol, drugs and tobacco. Coaches therefore warrant that at no time during a Vikings-sanctioned

event will he or she use alcohol, drugs or tobacco. Coaches attending team parties, banquets or other get-togethers are exempt from this policy, but it is encouraged by the Vikings organization for coaches not to use alcohol, drugs or tobacco in front of minor-aged players. Coach or Player further agree to abide by the Board of Director's policy regarding alcohol, drugs and tobacco, their sale, purchase, use, possession and physical detection, which may be promulgated and modified from time to time and shall be published to the Club and all Coaches and Players. Coach or Player agrees that the Vikings Youth Hockey Club Board of Directors shall have the power and absolute discretion to suspend or terminate any Coach or Player for a violation of this policy.

The Board of Director's findings and decisions shall be binding and conclusive on all parties. Coach or Player hereby releases Vikings Youth Hockey Club and waives every claim he/she may have against Vikings Youth Hockey Club, coaches, officers and directors, the Commissioner and/or League for damages and for all claims and demands arising out of, or in connection with, the decision of this matter by the Board of Directors.

PENALTIES

DRUGS AND ALCOHOL:

1st Offense: One game suspension plus mandatory drug counseling.

2nd Offense: Permanent suspension from the Vikings Youth Hockey Club and forfeiture of all fees paid.

TOBACCO:

1st Offense: One game suspension.

2nd Offense: Three game suspension. Permanent suspension from the Vikings Youth Hockey Club and forfeiture of all fees paid.

**ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF RECEIPT OF ZERO TOLERANCE POLICY AND ALCOHOL,
DRUG AND TOBACCO POLICY**

The undersigned, being the Player, Parents or Legal Guardians of the Player, or Coach hereby acknowledge receipt of the Vikings Youth Hockey Club Zero Tolerance Policy and agree to be bound by the terms of the policy and the penalties imposed for violation of the policy. Violation of policy will not result in a credit or refund of season fees.

Dated: _____ Player (print name): _____

Player (sign name): _____

Parents or Legal Guardian #1 (print name): Parents or Legal Guardian #1 (sign name):

Parents or Legal Guardian #2 (print name): Parents or Legal Guardian #2 (sign name):

Coach (print name): _____ Coach (sign name): _____