

**Parent and Spectator Code of Conduct Contract ’25–’26**

Parents play the most important role in influencing their players to display good sportsmanship. The adult spectators at our games—parents, grandparents, family, and friends— are role models for appropriate conduct toward coaches; teammates; the opposing teams’ players, coaches, and parents; referees; and other adults.

This code of conduct establishes a policy to bring a level of mutual respect to the game and to our organization. Every parent affiliated with each player will sign and return this form prior to their child taking the ice as a member of the Geauga Maple Leafs. The parents who sign this are responsible for the behavior of any guests they bring to games. The first failure to abide by the code will result in a warning. Second and subsequent offenses will incur penalties of increasing severity— these penalties may include consequences for the offenders’ affiliated player.

**The Golden Rule of Geauga Youth Hockey**

As parents, we must acknowledge and respect the relationship and commitment our daughters and sons make to be a member of a team. We must also acknowledge that our players need to adhere to the values and goals of their coach and the Geauga Youth Hockey Association in order to learn individual and team skills. As role models for their children, parents agree to conduct themselves in a manner that allows the team and the organization to succeed. This code of conduct has been created to help parents, players, and the Geauga Youth Hockey Association to uphold a level of mutual respect that will allow all participants to enjoy the full benefits of the upcoming hockey season.

**Above all remember: it is a pleasure and a privilege to watch these young people learn, improve, work hard, create lifelong bonds of friendship, and play their hearts out. Parental behavior should acknowledge and encourage that joy. Encouraging your player to respect their coaches, teammates, and opponents and to recognize a good effort whether in victory or defeat goes a long way toward creating and fostering an environment of mutual respect and camaraderie in which these remarkable young people can achieve their full potential, whether as hockey players or good humans.**

Abiding by the 24 Hour Rule will help players, parents, and coaches address any potential issues with civility and respect. Parents ought not discuss any concerns from a game, practice, or team event with any member of the team staff for a period of 24 hours after the event. Parents will review the issue with their player first. Then, if they determine the issue should be addressed, parents will approach the coaching staff and respect the process in place for the resolution of team issues.

**Parental Agreements**

1. Treat everyone with consideration in the manner you would wish to be treated.
2. Understand that when your child is on the ice, the coaches do the coaching. Do not give your player instructions counter to those of the coach.
3. Recognize the importance of the coaches and the time and effort they take to improve your player’s skills and experience. Attend team meetings and learn your player’s coach’s philosophy, expectations, and guidelines. Communicate with your player’s coaches and support them. Ensure your player understands that you respect their coach and their coach’s decisions.
4. Remember that success is measured by your child’s performance, teamwork, and playing by the rules.
5. Support Geauga Youth Hockey’s zero tolerance policies by:
	* **Not publicly criticizing players, coaches, referees, volunteers, or other parents.**
	* **Not using profane, insulting, demeaning, harassing, or otherwise offensive language.**
6. Understand that team performance goals take precedence over individual goals.
7. Treat opponents and officials with due respect both in victory and defeat and encourage players to act accordingly.
8. Actively encourage players to uphold the rules and the spirit of the rules.
9. Respect that locker rooms are private areas for players and coaches.
10. Discuss all concerns with team staff in a responsible, respectful, and open-minded manner.

**Penalties for Breach of Parent Promises**

 A parent who breaks any of the promises in this Parent Contract will be given a warning or asked to leave the rink. In-game sanctions against parents by game officials will automatically be considered breaches of these promises and will result in the suspension of the associated player for the next game. Continued breach of these promises will result in a meeting with the coach or the Disciplinary Committee of the Geauga Youth Hockey Association, and the parent in breach will be barred from attendance for one or more games. Beyond that, a parent who continuously refuses to comport themselves in accordance with the above promises may be barred from the rink and their player also may be suspended from games.

**I agree to the Code of Conduct Contract for the Geauga Youth Hockey Association and understand that by accepting the terms here I agree to comply with them. I further acknowledge that the penalty for breaking my promises will be determined by the organization based on how often I have broken them and the nature of my conduct and the circumstances of the incidents.**

**Player Name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Team\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Parent 1 Signature\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Date\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Parent 2 Signature\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Date\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**