

# **RED LAKE FALLS BLUE LINE CLUB**

## **ATHLETIC CODE OF CONDUCT**

### **I. INTRODUCTION**

Athletics is a voluntary activity. Therefore, when an athlete signs accepting the code, it means that he/she accepts it as part of his/her athletic responsibility while participating in Red Lake Falls Blue Line Club (RLF BLC) Youth Hockey Association. Participants are expected to adhere to all the provisions of this Athletic Code.

All alcohol and other drug (AOD) and criminal violations, and other violations will be enforceable during the season in which the athlete is actually participating in the RLF BLC Youth Hockey program beginning with the tryout period and ending with the final game of the season.

No fees will be refunded should there be suspension due to violations of the Code of Conduct.

### **II. ELIGIBILITY**

#### **A. General**

- High School C (HSC) Athletes must attend a high school or Department of Public Instruction (DPI) approved home school program.
- Bantam eligible athletes will not be eligible for the HSC team.
- HSC Registration will be open first to RLF BLC district athletes. Registration will be open to athletes outside the district only if space remains on the team.
- In addition, all levels of participation will follow USA Hockey and Minnesota Hockey eligibility requirements.

#### **B. Scholastic and Attendance**

- Although participating as a member of the RLF BLC is not an official school sponsored activity, the RLF BLC association expects that all athletes will maintain passing grades and will not be truant from school during the hockey season.

### **III. CODE VIOLATIONS**

#### **A. AOD/Tobacco**

- Any athlete involved in the use or possession of alcohol or tobacco or the use, possession, buying or selling of illegal drugs shall be suspended from athletic competition.

#### **B. Criminal**

- Any athlete who commits a legally punishable criminal act shall be suspended from athletic competition, whether or not the athlete is prosecuted by governmental authorities.

#### **C. Other**

- Hazing - will not be tolerated. Athletes involved in hazing activities will be subject to consequences in accordance with RLF BLC Code of Conduct, city ordinances, and state statutes. RLF BLC coaches may establish dress and grooming standards.
- Gambling - there shall be no gambling by athletes at any RLF BLC related activity.
- Travel - Transportation is the responsibility of parent(s)/guardian(s) and athletes.
- Overnight - Athletes must be chaperoned for overnight stays by a parent/guardian or appointed adult chaperone twenty one years of age or older.
- Practice Attendance - Athletes are required to attend all practices unless prior permission has been obtained from the coach.

## **DUE PROCESS FOR CODE OF CONDUCT VIOLATIONS**

### **A. Introduction**

The procedures outlined hereafter will be adhered to as closely as possible when suspending athletes from participation for violations of the Athletic Code.

### **B. Notification**

The athlete shall be notified of any alleged major violation of the Athletic Code and given a copy of these procedural guidelines by the RLF BLC Policy Board as soon as they know it. The Policy Board will then render a decision, which will result in one of three actions:

1. The athlete has admitted the violation and a suspension will be assessed and served.
2. The athlete has denied the charge; however, the Policy Board will assess a suspension based on the evidence.
3. The alleged violation will be dropped due to insufficient evidence. If a suspension is assessed at this time, the Policy Board shall send a letter to the parent(s)/guardian(s) informing them of the decision and the basis for it.

### **C. Appeals**

If the athlete or his/ her parent(s)/guardian(s) are dissatisfied with the decision rendered by the Policy Board in Section B, they may appeal the decision to the Policy Board who made the decision within five (5) days after receipt of the letter notifying them of the decision in Section B.

A decision will be made after reviewing the appeal. The RLF BLC Association shall consider this decision final.

Conduct Violations will be reviewed by and are at the discretion of the RLF BLC Policy Board.

## **IV. PENALTIES**

AOD/Tobacco and criminal violations and penalties shall be cumulative for each individual season of participation. Violations may be carried over from one season to the next at the discretion of the Policy Board. Serious violations committed at the end of the season will be carried over.

### **A. AOD/Tobacco Violations**

1. First Violation - Violators will be suspended from further competition for two (2) consecutive games or two (2) weeks whichever is greater and from being on the bench for any game; however, may be allowed to practice at coach's discretion.
2. Second Violation - Violators will be suspended from further hockey practices and games for the remainder of that season.

### **B. Criminal Violations**

Any athlete who commits a legally punishable "criminal act" shall be suspended from athletic competition, commensurate with the severity of the offense, whether or not governmental authorities prosecute the athlete.

### **C. Other Violations**

These violations and penalties shall not be cumulative. Athletes who have committed "other" code violations shall be disciplined according to the RLF BLC Code of Conduct.

### **D. General**

Suspensions shall begin immediately after the athlete has been found to commit a violation. Coaches may enforce the code of conduct and are encouraged to take immediate disciplinary action if valid evidence is available.

### **E. Valid Evidence**

Any information or evidence considered to be relevant, valid, and accurate by any person(s) reviewing a particular alleged violation shall be considered. Parties who provide anonymous information will be asked to provide specific names, dates, times, and infractions. If hearsay evidence cannot be substantiated on the basis of subsequent investigation, it will be treated as rumor.

This document can not identify all possible code violations that may arise. It is intended to provide guidelines for defining athletic conduct and handling violations.