



State College Youth Ice Hockey Association

The SCYIHA Board, in conjunction with the Discipline Officer, developed and adopted in December 2015 a Code of Conduct and discipline procedure. See Appendix G. This document will become part of the policy manual and any changes will be affected through a change to this manual.

Spectator Conduct Policy

SCYIHA members and their invited guests, as agreed to at the time of registration within the acknowledged Code of Conduct, are required to conduct themselves in a manner befitting of the expectations established by the Code of Conduct.

SCYIHA members are reminded that when attending events, they are spectators of an amateur youth hockey event, not a “fan” of a paid professional team or player. As spectators, SCYIHA members are expected to support those participating in the game by creating a positive atmosphere while setting an example for the youth athletes, coaches, game officials and other spectators. Spectators should refrain from critiquing the players, coaches or officials, and should not attempt to influence the game on the ice with their words or actions. While acknowledging that hockey is a fast paced and exciting game, spectators must remain an observer and not become a participant of the game based on their conduct. An emotional response to the game on the ice or opposing fans in the stands leading to a lack of judgement is not acceptable cause for violating the following rules. Matching or responding to misguided behavior of opposing fans is equally unacceptable cause for violating these rules.

SCYIHA has adopted this Spectator Conduct Policy for violations of our Code of Conduct specifically as it pertains to the actions and language of our members and their guests as a spectator at any sanctioned event (home or away), including but not limited to:

1. Taunting, bullying, ridiculing, baiting, or threatening any officials, coaches, players, facility personnel, or spectators.
2. Use of obscene, profane, vulgar or abusive language or gestures towards any officials, coaches, players, facility personnel, or spectators.
3. Verbal comments that make officials, coaches, players, facility personnel, or spectators uncomfortable after being told to stop.
4. Making physical contact with any officials, coaches, players, facility personnel, or spectators.
5. Throwing of any object onto the ice surface, into the player's area, or at another individual.
6. Confronting an official, coach, player or facility personnel following a game while they are exiting the ice, walking to their locker rooms, or leaving the facility.

The following disciplinary action shall be imposed on any spectator that was either (i) removed from a USA Hockey sanctioned event by a game official, security personnel, facility personnel, or Association personnel (herein referred as ejected spectator), or (ii) found culpable after-the-fact of a violation of SCYIHA's Code of Conduct based on a preponderance of evidence resulting from an investigation by the Association and/or USA Hockey initiated by a submitted Spectator Incident Report (herein referred as a culpable spectator).

1. Spectators that are removed from an event shall leave the facility and shall not be allowed re-entry to the facility for a minimum of (24) hours.
2. Ejections shall be documented by a team official (Coach, Assistant Coach or Team Manager) using the Spectator Incident Report and sent to the SCYIHA Discipline Coordinator and SCYIHA President. For incidents where an ejection did not take place, a Spectator Incident Report may be filed by any SCYIHA member that will initiate an investigation.



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3. Ejected spectators or culpable spectators will immediately be subject to mandatory suspension from all USA Hockey activities with a SCYIHA team for the following periods:
 - a. 1st offense: automatic 30-day suspension and subject to additional supplemental discipline review as determined by SCYIHA based on the incident up to and including permanent lifetime suspension from all USA Hockey sanctioned SCYIHA events.
 - b. 2nd offense within 2 years of the previous: automatic 60-day suspension, required hearing with the SCYIHA Discipline Coordinator and Discipline Committee, and subject to additional supplemental discipline up to and including permanent lifetime suspension from all USA Hockey sanctioned SCYIHA events.
 - c. 3rd offense within any 2-year period: Automatic permanent lifetime suspension from all USA Hockey sanctioned SCYIHA events.
 - d. Suspension periods begin with the date of the incident for ejections and with the date of notice to the culpable spectator following the conclusion of the investigation for all after-the-fact reports. Suspensions apply to all USA Hockey sanctioned SCYIHA activities regardless of the team or event at which the incident occurred.
 - e. Suspensions earned which extend beyond the end of the scheduled SCYIHA season will carry over to the following season and will begin with the first scheduled game.
4. Any individual SCYIHA Team which has incurred multiple spectator suspensions at any time in the same playing season may be subject to additional supplemental discipline review as determined by SCYIHA up to and including a suspension on all parent/spectator attendance for future games of said team for up to the remainder of the season.
5. SCYIHA Discipline Coordinator will maintain a record of past offenders of the Spectator Conduct Policy and will use that in determining additional supplemental discipline for any future events. As required by the District, all violations of the Spectator Conduct Policy will also be reported by SCYIHA to MidAM.
6. Any individual found in willful violation of imposed suspension shall be considered in violation of the Spectator Code of Conduct and will be subject to additional suspension in accordance with the number of offenses.

During the course of an investigation of spectator violation of the Code of Conduct, any member(s) that does not reasonably cooperate or reasonably attempt enforcement of the above disciplinary action will be subject to a hearing with the SCYIHA Discipline Coordinator and SCYIHA Executive Committee, which may include discipline up to and including suspension from USA Hockey SCYIHA events for the member(s) for up to 30-days. Refer to Appendix for Incident Report Example (standalone document available).

Locker Room Policy & Access

USA Hockey requires all staff (coaches, managers, locker room monitors) with unrestricted access to the team to have completed USA Hockey Clearances (including Pennsylvania State background checks) and Safesport Training. For 12U and up teams, only members of the team listed on the roster as staff will be permitted, with the Head Coach's permission, access to the locker room. Parents should meet their players outside the locker room if they need to assist them with equipment at the 12U and up age groups.