



# **Dayton Icehounds Youth Hockey**

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## **Dayton Icehounds Coaches Code of Conduct policy**

In effort to adhere to the Dayton Icehounds Youth Hockey Club core values and beliefs related to youth hockey, the Dayton Icehounds Coaches must adhere to the following:

1. I understand that my primary responsibility as an Icehounds coach is to provide a leadership role for promoting sportsmanship and skill development for players and parents. I will explain sportsmanship and athletic skill development in all my activities and avoid a *“Win at all cost”* behavior.
2. I will play all players on my team in games who have attended practice regularly (applies to A level teams and below).
3. I will never engage in profanity.
4. I will never openly argue or criticize an official’s decision in front of my players. If I disagree with an official’s decision, behavior, or game outcome, I will make my sentiments known privately and use the proper process available to me.
5. I will treat my players with the respect they are due, be generous in praise when deserved, and never humiliate them in front of others.
6. I will commit sufficient time and effort to make my practices worthwhile and fun.
7. I will maintain open communications with players and parents regarding skill development, discipline problems, and practice/game schedules.
8. At all times, both on and off the ice, I will conduct myself in a manner that reflects positively on my team, the Dayton Icehounds organization, and myself.
9. Abide by USA Hockey Coaches’ Code of Conduct (see attached) as well as the Dayton Icehounds Code of Conduct, as in effect from time to time
10. Coaches must have the appropriate level of USA Hockey coaching certification.
11. Coaches must work with and support the Dayton Icehounds Director of Coaching and the Icehounds player development initiatives, including attending development sessions from time to time and coordinating and executing upon development plans.
12. Take responsibility for players in the arena, arriving (to the maximum extent possible) at least 30 minutes before each session and establishing a presence among players in the locker room. Make every effort to ensure appropriate language and behavior at all times. Coaches are responsible for the condition in which their team leaves the locker room.
13. Allow only rostered players and certified coaches on the ice and/or bench.
14. I agree to abide by the Dayton Icehounds policies in effect.

\* Per USA Hockey rules, all coaches must wear helmets during when on the ice.

*By signing below, I hereby acknowledge that I have completely read and fully understand the Dayton Icehounds Coaches Code of Conduct policy guidelines.*

Name (Printed): \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_



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## **USA Hockey Coaches Code of Conduct**

- Winning is a consideration, but not the only one, nor the most important one. Care more about the child than winning the game. Remember that players are involved in hockey for fun and enjoyment.
- Be a positive role model to your players, display emotional maturity and be alert to the physical safety of players.
- Be generous with your praise when it is deserved, be consistent, honest, fair and just, do not criticize players publicly, and study to learn to be a more effective communicator and coach. Do not yell at players.
- Adjust to personal needs and problems of players, be a good listener, never verbally or physically abuse a player or official, give all players the opportunity to improve their skills, gain confidence and develop self-esteem, teach the basics.
- Organize practices that are fun and challenging for your players. Familiarize yourself with the rules, techniques and strategies of hockey, encourage all your players to be team players.
- Maintain an open line of communication with your player's parents. Explain the goals and objectives of your association.
- Be concerned with the overall development of your players. Stress good health habits and clean living.
- To play the game is great, to love the game is greater.