

# Airdrie Stars Athletic Association Guiding Policy

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January 28, 2016

## **Airdrie Stars Athletic Association**

### **Guiding Policy.**

#### **Mission**

The mission of the Airdrie Stars Athletic Association (ASAA) is to stay focused on mastering an elite level of coaching, developing hockey skills as well as other athletic skills, giving back to our community and helping underprivileged children to play the game. To help build inner strength in our players, work toward our goals with integrity while encouraging others and most importantly having fun.

#### **Definitions**

ASAA Member: An ASAA member includes any child that is registered to participate in the ASAA program, the parents or guardians of the participating child, and any Coach, Assistant Coach, and Team manager of an ASAA team.

Position of Authority: Any ASAA member that is on the ASAA Board, or entrusted with the privilege of occupying the position of Coach, Assistant Coach, or Team Manager.

#### **Statements of Principal**

- The ASAA is a registered not for profit athletic group bound by the rules and regulations of the Alberta Societies Act.
- Participation in ASAA is a privilege and not a right.
- All ASAA members will be held to the highest standards of appropriate conduct, however an ASAA member occupying a position of authority will be held to the highest standard level as a leader within the organization

# Airdrie Stars Athletic Association Guiding Policy

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- ASAA recognizes that children participating in a competitive sporting event can invoke strong emotions from people, however it is a basic ASAA expectation that members demonstrate proper conduct at all times.

## **Coaching Expectations**

- Coaches and Assistant coaches occupy a position of authority over children and parents of the team and must therefore adhere to strict behavioural expectations.
- Coaches and Assistant Coaches primary role is to provide quality on-ice coaching with a view to maximize the development of each ASAA participant.
- This is to be achieved while fostering a mutual environment of respect and candour with other ASAA members.
- Coaches must provide a police criminal record check and vulnerable sector search to ASAA dated within the last 2 years. Once it has been submitted, it must be re-submitted every 3 years to ASAA
- Coaches and Assistant coaches must wear appropriate coaching attire while on the ice (Coaching track suit is preferred) and helmet so as to present a professional appearance to ASA members. Jeans are specifically prohibited.

## **ASAA Member Conduct**

All ASAA members are expected to adhere to standard and customary behavioural guidelines of a professional minor hockey association at all times as adopted by Hockey Alberta. ASAA subscribes to the ethics and principles outlined in the National Respect in Sport program. It is the responsibility of the ASAA member to be well versed in this program and exhibit appropriate behaviour at all times.

Unacceptable behaviour that will not be condoned or tolerated includes but is not limited to:

- a) Bullying
- b) Emotional Abuse
- c) Harassment
- d) Physical Abuse
- e) Profanity
- f) Referee Abuse

# Airdrie Stars Athletic Association Guiding Policy

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g) Sexual Abuse

h) Verbal Abuse

Any behaviour that is deemed inappropriate by ASAA that may place the reputation of ASAA into disrepute internally with other ASAA members or external to the organization is unacceptable and may carry consequences at the discretion of the ASAA Board.

By its' very nature a spring hockey season occurs over a short period of time. ASAA does not have the time or resources to institute a formal complaint process however if the ASAA Board forms the opinion that an ASAA member has demonstrated behaviour not congruent with the aforementioned principles, that member may be subject to expulsion.

Wherever possible ASAA members are encouraged to address issues of conflict within ASAA with the other party involved, however ASAA has instituted a 24 hour rule. The complainant must allow 24 hours to pass prior to addressing the situation. This is to allow the complainant the opportunity to reflect objectively on a particular incident and not allow strong emotions to get the better of them.

ASAA members are encouraged to report breaches of this conduct policy to their team's representative, should there be a conflict of interest situation, and the member is to contact an ASAA Board member to report the behaviour.

## **Participation Policy**

ASAA is committed to providing an equal opportunity for participants throughout the spring season to play hockey.

ASAA is also committed to maintaining a competitive spirit throughout the season.

It is the expectation that ASAA coaching staff achieve an appropriate balance between maximum participation of all players and maintaining a competitive edge.

This is to say that at the discretion of an ASAA coaching staff, should the specific situation of a game exist, a competitive approach may be used to maximize the competitive edge of the ASAA team.