

GAME AND CONDUCT

Table of Contents

I. INTRODUCTION	2 -
II. COCHRANE MINOR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION PHILOSOPHY:	3-
A. THE GAME AND CONDUCT MANAGEMENT PLAN	3-
B. OBJECTIVES OF THE GAME AND CONDUCT MANAGEMENT PLAN	3-
C. DEFINITION OF "UNACCEPTABLE BEHAVIOR"	
D. PROVIDING AN INCIDENT REPORT	
III. CODE OF CONDUCT – ZERO TOLERANCE POLICY	
IV. COMPLAINT HANDLING PROCEDURE	
A. REPORTING PROCESS	
B. INVESTIGATION TEAM	
C. ENFORCEMENT	
i. Reports handled by an Investigation Team:	
ii. Reports handled by the President	
iii. Authority	
iv. Power and Delegation	- 6 -
D. APPEAL PROCESS	7-
V. IMPLEMENTATION PROCESS	
A. INCORPORATION INTO CMHA BYLAWS	
i. By-Law 6(x)	7-
ii. By-Law 6(xi)	
B. INTRODUCING THE PROGRAM	7-
i. Season Start	7 -
ii. Team Packages	
VI. COMMUNICATION PROTOCOL	8 -
A. COMMUNICATION FLOW CHART (CMHA)	8 -
B. ACCOMPANYING PROCEDURE	8 -
VII. APPENDICES	8 -
APPENDIX A - PARENTS PLEDGE	9 -
APPENDIX B - PLAYERS PLEDGE	
APPENDIX C - COACHES PLEDGE	
APPENDIX D - OFFICIALS PLEDGE	
APPENDIX E- INCIDENT REPORT FORM	
APPENDIX F - DISCIPLINE GUIDELINES	- 14 -
Severity of Discipline (Game and Conduct – Zero Tolerance)	
APPENDIX G - HOCKEY ALBERTA GAME & CONDUCT MANAGEMENT	16 -

I. INTRODUCTION

A. The Cochrane Minor Hockey Association administers a minor hockey program of approximately 1,000 players from within the Hockey Alberta Draw Zone

http://cochraneminorhockey.com/files/cochraneminorhockeymap 2.pdf

- i. Elite Level (AA) "South Central Alberta Hockey League"
- ii. REP "Central Alberta Hockey League"
- iii. RHL "Rockies Hockey League
- iv. Female "Rocky Mountain Female Hockey League
- v. Intro to Hockey (U7 & U9)
- B. The program exists for players from 5 years 18 years of age. CMHA has formulated a constitution that is registered with Hockey Alberta, and the Government of Alberta under the societies act.
- C. Within CMHA administers the Elite level of hockey through our High Performance Director:
 - i. AA the draw zone for this level of hockey includes Canmore, Banff, Cremona & Cochrane
 - ii. U16 AA Minor Midget TBD as this is a new team that is made up of Cochrane and Airdrie players and their perspective draw zones.
- D. The Cochrane Minor Hockey Association Executive Committee and Board of Directors is elected by the general membership at the Annual General Meeting, thus responding to the needs of the membership. Part of the mandate is that the Executive Committee and Board of Directors is to establish conduct management guidelines for all participants in the hockey program.
- E. It has become evident over the last couple of years that CMHA needs to establish a clear and concise Conduct Management Program for all members of the association. With this program, CMHA wants to address the fundamental values of the game:
 - i. Shared Respect for all participants of the game
 - ii. Development of the players involved in the game
 - iii. Fun while participating in the game
 - iv. To achieve this CMHA wants to focus on respect, positive development, and fun.
- F. The Game and Conduct Management Plan is not a short term solution to the serious problems that the game is facing. It has been created as a long term guiding principle for the minor hockey program in Cochrane.

II. COCHRANE MINOR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION PHILOSOPHY

A. The Game and Conduct Management Plan:

The Cochrane Minor Hockey Association views the Game and Conduct Management Plan as support and confirmation to our many coaches, players, officials, parents, and volunteers who are in the majority, and who have always participated in the game, following the fundamental principles of respect, positive development, and fun. We see this program as a vehicle to assist them to further these values and make the game even better and more enjoyable.

- B. Objectives of the Game and Conduct Management Plan:
 - i. To provide a program that plays a significant role in the development of a young person's values, morals, social maturity, physical fitness and mental fitness. To promote acceptable conduct which provides:
 - a. Respect for other participants.
 - b. Respect for the great game of hockey.
 - c. Protection from harm.
 - d. Development of ethical conduct towards others.
 - e. Notions of justice, fairness, equity.
 - f. Caring attitudes.
 - g. Freedom to enjoy.
 - ii. It is a must that every participant abides by these principles. A participant is defined as (but not limited to) a player, coach, official, or spectator.
 - iii. This program is not intended to be a new process for complaints about officiating or general hockey rules. The objective is to promote and ensure acceptable behavior.
- C. Definition of "Unacceptable Behavior":
 - i. An individual is displaying unacceptable behavior if they are verbally or physically harassing and/or abusing a game participant (coach, player, official or spectator).
 - ii. When there is a situation of "unacceptable behavior", the responsibilities of CMHA coaches, players, officials, spectators and administrators are outlined below. The focus is on achieving the Game and Conduct Management Plan objectives.
 - iii. Confrontation should be avoided. Practice the "24 Hour" rule and then report the incident, as it is an important step in attaining the programs objectives.

- D. Providing an Incident Report:
 - i. Rumors, innuendo and supposition will not be accepted by CMHA. Complainants not willing to present their observations/concerns in writing with their name provided will NOT receive standing.
 - ii. ALL those who do provide this, will receive a formal response.
 - iii. For the protection of all those involved, at minimum, two CMHA representatives should be present to hear/address a complaint.

III. CODE OF CONDUCT – ZERO TOLERANCE POLICY

- A. Members, players and participants are asked to, and are expected to, abide by the Bylaws, Rules, and Policies of the Cochrane Minor Hockey Association. Their behavior is expected to align with the spirit of the Bylaws, Rules, and Policies of this code.
- B. All members and participants of the Association shall respect other members, officials, parents, players, fans, team officials, volunteers, executive committee members, employees and property of the association. Any inappropriate conduct, threats, harassment or abuse (including the use of profanity) directed towards game or team officials, members, parents, fans, volunteers, executive committee members, employees, damage to the property of the Association or another Association will not be tolerated.
- C. All members, fans, and participants of the Association shall respect the game of hockey and shall behave in a manner so as not to make a travesty of the game.
- D. Cochrane Minor Hockey Association will not tolerate LOUD, obscene, obnoxious coaches, managers, assistants, players, parents, or fans. Such individuals will be subject to disciplinary action as outlined in the disciplinary section.
- E. Parents and fans are not permitted in the dressing room except as expressly permitted by the respective division head and/or coach to assist their child in changing before or after a game or practice.
- F. Under no circumstances will a parent or fan is to enter the opposing team's dressing room.
- G. Within the Cochrane Minor Hockey membership Coaches and other team official's players, parents, and fans are not permitted under any circumstance in the official's dressing room, nor are they to confront game officials about the game.

- H. Violation by any member, fan, or participant of any provision of this Code of Conduct Zero Tolerance will result in disciplinary action being taken by the Association against such individuals as provided in this document.
- I. Harassment and Bullying in all its forms, including cyber bullying (i.e. Facebook, Twitter, etc.) will not be tolerated during the course of any Cochrane Minor Hockey activity or program. All those involved with Cochrane Minor Hockey, including its volunteers, players and parents/guardians of players are responsible for making every reasonable effort to uphold this commitment. Specifically, this includes refraining from harassing or bullying behavior, responding promptly and informally to minor incidents of harassment or bullying and following Local or National policy guidelines for reporting or responding to more serious complaints of harassment or bullying. Everyone is encouraged to report incidents of harassment or bullying.
- J. The inappropriate use of Cameras, Cell Phones, PDA's (iPad's, iTouch, Blackberry's) or any other type of recording device is strictly prohibited in dressing rooms OR the inappropriate use of any Camera's, Cell Phones, PDA's (iPad's, iTouch, Blackberry's) or any other type of recording device is also strictly prohibited in and around player's benches. This includes coaches, parents, players, and visitors.

 Disciplinary action, including possible suspension will follow any breach of this rule.
- K. Any Vaping paraphernalia or related equipment is not allowed in the dressing rooms or rinks.
- L. Coaches and Assistant Coaches will have their Cell phone available in Case of Emergency for that use only. A Coach can deem one device to be used for music purposes only.
- M. Also, after a game a picture may be taken by a team official or parents for a memory photo of the team under a special occasion such as a tournament or playoff win. Privacy Rules apply to any of these photos taken.
- N. Parents, Dressing Room Moms who are engaging in team activities during games and practices are required to have a Police Record Check.

ANY VIOLATION OR BREACH OF THE PROVISIONS IN THIS CODE OF CONDUCT – ZERO TOLERANCE BY MEMBERS, FANS, OR PARTICIPANTS OF CMHA WILL RESULT IN DISCIPLINARY ACTION BY THE ASSOCIATION AGAINST SUCH INDIVIDUALS WHICH WILL INCLUDE SUSPENSION AS OUTLINED IN THE DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES OF THIS CODE OF CONDUCT – ZERO TOLERANCE.

IV. COMPLAINT HANDLING PROCEDURE

A. Reporting Process:

- If an incident occurs which meets the definition of unacceptable behavior then an Incident Report Form (Appendix E) must be completed and forwarded to CMHA Division Director within seven days of occurrence.
- ii. The Incident Report Form will then be submitted to the appropriate Division Director for the review and action.

B. Investigation Team:

- i. If an Investigation Team is required, it will consist of 3 members of the Board of Directors, including VP of Operations, Division Director and one more Director appointed by the VP of Operations based on the nature of the incident.
- ii. They will be given a copy of the Game and Conduct Management Plan to ensure they conduct the investigation according to the objectives of the plan.

C. Enforcement

i. Reports handled by an Investigation Team:

After the investigation, the Cochrane Minor Hockey Association VP of Operations shall have the authority to implement the recommendations of the Investigation team that could include suspending any player, coach, official, spectator, or administrator of any team of Cochrane Minor Hockey Association.

ii. Reports handled by the President:

In the event there exists a conflict with the VP of Operations the President shall act as a designate in lieu of the VP of Operations and shall assume all said authority.

iii. Authority

- a. The President and or VP of Operations shall have the authority to prevent any spectator from viewing any game or other activity or entering a facility to view such game or activity under the auspices of the Association for any conduct which in the sole discretion of the President are deemed to be unbecoming or detrimental to the game. Further, the President or Designate has the power to suspend the player, coach, team official or the team to which the spectator is attached.
- b. The authority granted by the President and the Vp of Operations allows for effective and quick action against conduct considered detrimental to the game and its participants. The Cochrane Minor Hockey Association is prepared to enforce these provisions as required and is an integral part of the reporting and enforcement initiatives.

D. Appeal Process

- i. Upon receiving a request for an appeal, the Cochrane Minor Hockey Association will establish an appeal committee made up of either the Vp of RHL and/or VP of Administration along with 2 other Board of Directors to hear the appeal related to any disciplinary action handed down as a result of an investigation.
- ii. Appeals should be heard as quickly as is practical (within 7 days).
- iii. The appeal must contain a clear and concise summary stating the grounds for the appeal. Notice of the appeal must be submitted, in writing, to the President of the Cochrane Minor Hockey Association within five (5) days from the date of discipline notification was received.
- iv. If the appeal is denied, further appeals can be made to Hockey Alberta under Hockey Alberta Rules & Regulations 13.03 "Appeal from Decision of Local Minor Hockey Association".

V. IMPLEMENTATION PROCESS

A. Incorporation into CMHA Bylaws

i. By-Law 6(x)

The President shall have the power to suspend any team, player, team official, and member, for unbecoming conduct on or off the ice, abusive language to any of the officials, or for failure to comply with the Association Constitution, By-Laws, and Regulations.

ii. By-Law 6(xi)

The President shall have the power to prevent any spectator from viewing a game, other activity, or entering a facility to view a game or other activity that is being conducted by the Cochrane Minor Hockey Association for conduct the President has deemed to be detrimental to the game. Further, the President shall have the power to suspend the coach, player, team official, or the team to which the spectator is affiliated. Such action to be effective until dealt with by the Board of Directors.

B. Introducing the Program

i. Season Start

At the start of each season, a meeting is to be held with all participants of the game to present the program. At this meeting, the Cochrane Minor Hockey Association representative (Coaching Staff) will:

- a. Detail the objectives
- b. Outline the expectations
- c. Lay out the consequences
- d. Explain the team's responsibilities
- e. Explain the Association's responsibilities
- f. Explain the distribution & collection method that will be used

ii. Team Packages

The teams will be given packages with the Fair Play Pledge forms (Appendix A, B, C, D) and a program outline. Players, parents, and coaches will have access to a copy of the CMHA Game and Conduct Management Plan as early as practical in the season. Players, parents and coaches may be required to sign a statement agreeing to abide by the CMHA Conduct Management Plan. CMHA members refusing to sign the CMHA Game and Conduct Management Plan will be immediately suspended from all member privileges.

VI. COMMUNICATION PROTOCOL

Prior to reporting and or filing a complaint all members must wait 24 hours before submitting their concern. This will be strictly enforced.



A. Communication Flow Chart (CMHA)

Step One: Player / Parent

Step Two: Team Manager /Coach

Step Three: Appropriate Division Director Step Four: Appropriate Vice-President(s)

Step Five: Hockey Alberta

B. Accompanying procedure

Under no circumstances shall issues be advanced without first seeking resolution at the correct level. If a resolution cannot be secured at the appropriate level the communication must be delivered as per the flow chart as above. Once the communication has been received you will be contacted by a representative of CMHA. Please note that if the Communication Flow chart is not followed or the 24-hour rule is not adhered to, your complaint, concern or issue will be immediately deleted and not be addressed but your name and email will be forwarded on to the VP of Operations for potential discipline.

VII. APPENDICES

Appendix A – Parents Pledge Form

Appendix B – Player Pledge Form

Appendix C - Coach Pledge Form

Appendix D – Officials Pledge Form

Appendix E – Incident Report Form

Appendix F – Discipline Guidelines

Appendix G – Hockey Alberta Game & Conduct Management and Abuse & Harassment Description

Appendix A - PARENTS PLEDGE

It is the intention of this pledge to promote proper behavior and respect for all participants within the Association. All parents are asked to sign this pledge to show their support for the principles of Fair Play.

CODE OF CONDUCT FOR PARENTS:

- 1. I will not force my child to participate in hockey.
- 2. I will remember that my child plays hockey for his or her enjoyment, not mine.
- 3. I will encourage my child to play by the rules and to resolve conflict without resorting to hostility or violence.
- 4. I will teach my child that doing one's best is as important as winning so that my child will never feel defeated by the outcome of the game.
- 5. I will make my child feel like a winner every time by offering praise for competing fairly and hard.
- 6. I will never ridicule or yell at my child for making a mistake or losing a game.
- 7. I will remember that children learn by example. I will applaud good plays and performances by both my child's team and their opponents.
- 8. I recognize officials are being developed in the same manner as players, and will be supportive of their decisions during games.
- 9. I will support all efforts to remove verbal and physical abuse from the hockey environment.

10. I will respect and show appreciation for the volunteers who give their time to hockey for my child.

I agree to ab	ide by the principles of this	s CODE as set and supported by this Association
I also agree t	o abide by the rules, regul	ations and decisions as set for this Association.
PRINT		
NAME		DATE

PARENT_____PARENT___

Appendix B - PLAYERS PLEDGE

It is the intention of this pledge to promote proper behavior and respect for all participants within the Association. All players are asked to sign this pledge to show their support for the principles of Fair Play.

CODE OF CONDUCT FOR PLAYERS:

- 1. I will play hockey because I want to, not because someone else wants me to.
- 2. I will play by the rules of hockey and in the spirit of the Game.
- 3. I will control my temper so I do not spoil the activity of everyone.

PLAYER_____

- 4. I will respect my opponents.
- 5. I will do my best to be a true team player.
- 6. I will remember that winning isn't everything that having fun, improving skills, making friends and doing my best are also important.
- 7. I will acknowledge all good plays and performances those of my team and my opponents.
- 8. I will remember that coaches and officials are there to help me. I will accept their decisions and show them respect.

Lagree to ahide	by the principles of this CODE as set and supported by this Association.
ragice to ablac	by the principles of this cost as set and supported by this 76500141011.
I also agree to al	bide by the rules, regulations and decisions as set for this Association.
PRINT	
NAME	DATE

TEAM_____

Appendix C - COACHES PLEDGE

It is the intention of this pledge to promote proper behavior and respect for all participants within the Association. All coaches are asked to sign this pledge showing their support for the principles of Fair Play.

CODE OF CONDUCT FOR COACHES:

- 1. I will be reasonable when scheduling games and practices remembering that young athletes have other interests and obligations.
- 2. I will teach my athletes to play fairly and to respect the rules, officials, opponents and Teammates.
- 3. I will ensure all athletes receive equal instruction, discipline, support and appropriate, fair playing time.
- 4. I will not ridicule or yell at my athletes for making mistakes or for performing poorly. I will remember that children play to have fun and must be encouraged to have confidence in themselves.
- 5. I will make sure that equipment and facilities are safe and match the athlete's ages and ability.

7. I will obtain proper training and continue to upgrade my coaching skills.

6. I will remember that children need a coach they can respect. I will be generous with praise and set a good example.

I agree to abide by the princi	iples of this CODE as set and supported by this Association.
I also agree to abide by the r	rules, regulations and decisions as set for this Association.
PRINT	
NAME	DATE
TURE:	
COACH	TFAM

Appendix D - OFFICIALS PLEDGE

It is the intention of this pledge to promote proper behavior and respect for all participants within the Association. All officials are asked to sign this pledge showing their support for the principles of Fair Play.

CODE OF CONDUCT FOR OFFICIALS:

- 1. I will make sure that every player has a reasonable opportunity to perform to the best of his or her ability, within the rules.
- 2. I will avoid or remedy any situation that threatens the safety of the players.
- 3. I will maintain a healthy atmosphere and environment for competition.
- 4. I will not permit the intimidation of any player either by word or action. I will not tolerate unacceptable conduct towards myself, other officials, players, coaches or spectators,
- 5. I will be consistent and objective in calling all infractions, regardless of my personal feelings towards a team or individual player.
- 6. I will handle all conflicts firmly but with dignity.
- 7. I will accept my role as teacher and role model for fair play, especially with young participants.
- 8. I will be open to discussion and contact with players before and after the game.
- 9. I will remain open to constructive criticism and show respect and consideration for different points of view.
- 10. I will obtain proper training to upgrade my skills.
- 11. I will work in cooperation with coaches for the benefit of the game.

I agree to abide by the principles of this CODE as set and supported by this Association.			
I also agree to abide by the rules, regulations and decisions as set for this Association.			
PRINT			
NAME	DATE		
SIGNATURE:			
OFFICIAL_			

Appendix E - INCIDENT REPORT FORM

Submit completed form to:

Game and Conduct C/O

ATTENTION: "Appropriate Division Director"

Cochrane Minor Hockey Box 1033, Cochrane, Alberta T4C 1B1
This form is to be utilized by anyone in the Cochrane Minor Hockey Association to report an incident of unacceptable behavior. An individual is considered to be displaying unacceptable behavior if they are verbally or physically harassing and/or abusing a game participant (player, coach, spectator, or official).
DATE & TIME OF
INCIDENT
NAME OF OFFENDING
INDIVIDUAL
ASSOCIATED WITH (TEAM NAME)
NAME(S) OF ADDITIONAL WITNESSES
On a separate attachment, please provide a clear description of the unacceptable Behavior witnessed. Please use black ink or type the report. Reports that are not legible will not be reviewed.
You can expect an investigation into your report. Unfortunately a written response to all reports is not possible as our volunteers do not have the resources to do so. We do however hope to be able to contact complainants at some point during or after the investigation.
Resolution typically takes 2 to 4 weeks from receipt.
Please summarize your expectation of the outcome resulting from your report:
If additional space is required, please use the reverse side or attach separately.
Name:
Address:
City/Town:
PHONE:
SIGNATURE: DATE:

Appendix F – DISCIPLINE GUIDELINES

In many instances, offences that are similar to those identified in the Hockey Alberta Minimum Suspension Guidelines will be dealt with in the same manner. The only difference being that when we are dealing with adults who should know better, they would be given an additional game suspension. When an individual is suspended, they are suspended from all Minor Hockey activities. This includes attending other sibling's games if they are a parent with other children playing hockey. It also includes refereeing games if they are a referee.

ALL SUSPENSIONS SHOULD BE REVIEWED BY THE SAME PERSON TO ENSURE CONSISTENCY IN THE APPLICATION OF DISCIPLINE IS MAINTAINED.

SEVERITY OF DISCIPLINE

The investigation team should use the guidelines below when administering discipline. The Investigation team will both consider the severity of the offence as well as the frequency of the individual when determining the appropriate discipline.

A. Mild (Verbal Reprimand + Possible Suspension)

This would be applied when it is a first offence which is less severe in nature. The offending individual has shown true remorse and the actions are out of character. There is little chance of this person reoffending.

B. Moderate (Written Reprimand + Minimum 2 game suspension)

This is for offences which are mild to moderate in severity. Application of this type of discipline would be for a second offence. It would also be applied to individuals who have not accepted responsibility for their actions, show no remorse and the likelihood of re-offending is high.

C. Severe (Written Reprimand + Min. 5 games to Max. 3 year suspension)

This is for the most serious offences. An example could be physically threatening or assaulting another individual. Application of this type of discipline would be for individuals who have reoffended multiple times or have not accepted responsibility for their actions, show no remorse and are likely to reoffend.

i. 1st Offence

Minimum 1 week (7 days) to a maximum of twenty one (21) days suspension from participating in any Cochrane Minor Hockey activity. This will include all dryland, exhibition, games, league games, arenas, tournaments as well as any team functions.

ii. 2nd Offence (or failure to comply with 1st Offence ruling)

Will result in: instant removal of the offending player, parent (s), or guardian (s) from any and all activities within CMHA, for the remainder of the season from the date of the infraction.

iii. 3rd Offence (or failure to comply with 1st or 2nd Offence rulings)

Will result in: instant removal of the entire family (all family members) from any and all activities within CMHA, for the remainder of the season from the date of the infraction. The Code of Conduct checked off at registration is good for one season. The season is from the registration date to the end of that upcoming season. Any Physical abuse of another person will carry an indefinite suspension form all CMHA events until reviewed by CMHA for further discipline. A permanent suspension will entail NO refund of registration monies depending on the severity of the infraction.

Use Appendix E – Incident report Form to document and file the Zero Tolerance breach with CMHA. Once received it will be forwarded to the Vp of Operations for review. The CMHA Secretary or designate will be present as a neutral party at all disciplinary hearings to record and document all proceedings.

All formal complaints will be kept on file for the time the offender is a member of CMHA.

Appendix G - HOCKEY ALBERTA GAME & CONDUCT MANAGEMENT ABUSE & HARASSMENT DESCRIPTION

3.0 MATTERS OF UNACCEPTABLE CONDUCT AND BEHAVIOUR

- 3.1 Abuse and Neglect
- 3.1.1 When any person has reasonable grounds, in the course of Hockey Alberta business, activities or events that a child is being abused or neglected, he or she shall report this belief to the child protection authorities and/or Police. Hockey Alberta's General Manager should also be advised of the intent to report.
- 3.1.2 Hockey Alberta shall take no further action until such time as the authorities and/or Police have concluded their investigation, unless there is cause for an immediate suspension on an interim basis to protect the child from further harm.
- 3.1.3 The matter shall then be dealt with as a disciplinary matter pursuant to this policy, and the report of the investigation carried out by authorities may be utilized as required by Hockey Alberta.
- 3.2 Harassment is a form of discrimination. Harassment is prohibited by human rights legislation. In its most extreme forms, harassment can be an offence under the Criminal Code of Canada.
- 3.2.1 Harassment is defined as conduct, which is disrespectful, insulting, intimidating, humiliating, offensive or physically harmful. Types of behavior which constitute harassment include, but are not limited to:
 - a) Unwelcome jokes, innuendo or teasing about a person's looks, body, attire, age, race, religion, sex or sexual orientation.
 - b) Condescending, patronizing, threatening or punishing actions which undermine self-esteem or diminish performance.
 - c) Practical jokes that cause awkwardness or embarrassment endanger a person's safety or negatively affect performance.
 - d) Unwanted or unnecessary physical contact including touching, patting or pinching.
 - e) Any form of hazing.
 - f) Any form of physical assault or abuse.
 - g) Any sexual offense.