



COCHRANE RECREATION HOCKEY LEAGUE  
The Cougars

## **CODES OF CONDUCT FOR COACHES**

### *Purpose*

The purpose of this Code of Conduct is to ensure a safe and positive environment by instituting a Zero Tolerance Policy. The Cochrane Recreation Hockey League (the “League”) is committed to providing a sport environment in which all individuals are treated with respect and dignity.

All coaches will be aware that there is an expectation, at all times, of appropriate behaviour consistent with the values of the League. Conduct that violates this Code may be subject to disciplinary action and removal from coaching responsibilities.

### *Definition*

Anyone who is designated as a Head Coach, Assistant, Instructor or On Ice helper by the League or its representative.

### *Application*

This Code of Conduct applies to the conduct that may arise during the course of League business, activities and events. This includes but is not limited to games, tournaments, practices, travel and any meetings of the League.

### *Responsibilities*

All coaches have a responsibility to:

- Maintain and enhance the dignity and self-esteem of members and other individuals by:
  - Demonstrating respect to individuals regardless of body type, physical characteristics, athletic ability, gender, ancestry, colour, ethnic or racial origin, nationality, national origin, sexual orientation, age, marital status, religion, political beliefs, disability, or economic status.
  - Focusing comments or criticisms appropriately and avoiding public criticism of athletes, coaches, officials, organizers, volunteers, employees and members.
  - Consistently demonstrating the spirit of sportsmanship, sport leadership and ethical conduct.
  - Consistently treating individuals fairly and respectfully.
  
- Refrain from behaviour that constitutes harassment, where harassment is defined as conduct, gestures or comments which are insulting, intimidating, humiliating, hurtful, malicious, degrading or otherwise offensive to an individual or group of individuals.

- Comply at all times with the bylaws, policies, regulations of the League, Hockey Alberta and Hockey Canada playing rules and codes of conduct.
- Avoid behaviours which bring the League or the sport of hockey into disrepute including but not limited to the abusive use of alcohol or non-medical use of drugs.

Any coach participating in League activity will be expected to adhere to Hockey Alberta and Hockey Canada's Fair Play Code and the Conduct Policy for Coaches. Coaches will:

- Be a Leader, a positive influence and a role model to all athletes, parents and stakeholders involved in League activity.
- Obtain the proper training
- Reward effort, Fair Play and commitment.
- Recognize and respect differences in your players.
- Demonstrate respect for all individuals involved in the game.
- Always consider the physical and emotional well-being of the athletes.
- Communicate in a positive and rational manner and use inoffensive language.
- Respect and coach within the spirit of the game.
- Always attempt to contribute to the betterment of the game of hockey.

#### *Actions*

Coaches have added accountability. The coach-player relationship is a privileged one and plays a critical role in the personal, sport and athletic development of the players and must not abuse this relationship.

All coaches are required are responsible to take or provide the following at their own cost:

- A vulnerable sector police check. A Vulnerable Sector Police Information Check includes a check of local police records to determine the existence of a pattern of behaviour that may result in harm to vulnerable persons.
- Completion of the Respect in Sport Parent Program from Hockey Alberta.
- Completion of the Respect in Sport Activity Leader/Coaches Program from Hockey Alberta.

Coaches will not interact inappropriately at any time with players. This includes physical conduct with a player. A coach is in a position of authority over players and will not exhibit behaviour that will raise questions about activity. Coaches are to remain professional when interacting with players, coaches, parents and stakeholders. Coaches will not engage in sexual harassment which includes but is not necessarily limited to sexual solicitation, unwelcome physical advances and verbal or non-verbal conduct.

Failure to adhere to the Code of Conduct will result in immediate removal from coaching responsibilities.