

Cranbrook Minor Hockey Association



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Cranbrook Minor Hockey Association (CMHA) Mentorship Policy

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Purpose:

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidelines for the participation of CMHA players as on-ice mentors during practices. The goal is to promote leadership development, encourage community involvement, while ensuring a safe and fair environment for all participants.

Definition:

A “Mentor” is defined as a player registered with CMHA who assists certified team officials during practices in a supervised and supportive role.

Policy Guidelines:

1. Eligibility Criteria:

- Mentors must be at least two (2) age divisions older than the team or group they are assisting.
 - Example: A U15 player may mentor with a U11 team, but not with a U13 team.

2. Coach Supervision:

- Mentors are not to be used as substitutes for certified coaching staff.
- A certified coach must be present on the ice at all times when a mentor is assisting.

3. Role of the Mentor:

- Support the coach by assisting with drills, encouraging younger players, and modeling positive behavior.
- Mentors are not responsible for discipline or making instructional decisions independently.

4. Conduct and Safety:

- Mentors **18 years and older are required to complete Respect in Sport, and a Criminal Record Check.**
- Mentors **16 and 17 years old are required to complete Respect in Sport**
- Mentors **14 years and younger are required to wear full gear.**
- Mentors **15 years and older are not required to wear full gear but are required to wear a helmet with a full cage and gloves.**
- Mentors are expected to uphold the highest standards of sportsmanship and leadership.
- Any inappropriate behavior or breach of this policy may result in removal from mentorship opportunities.

5. Insurance and Registration:

- All mentors must be registered with CMHA and covered under the association's insurance policy.
- Coaches must keep a record of mentor participation for each session in case of injury or incident.

6. Approval Process:

- Coaches wishing to include a player as a mentor must submit a request to their division head for approval before participation begins.