



Player Conduct Policies

Cell Phones

Any electronic device containing photo, recording or video capabilities is **not permitted** in the dressing room. Failure to adhere to this policy may result in disciplinary action.

It is strongly recommended that cell phones are collected by a bench staff member or designate prior to the players entering the dressing room and then having the phones returned when leaving the dressing room at the conclusion of the game or practice. Players may also leave their phones with a guardian or other designate.

Violation of the cell phone policy will result in players facing loss of ice time with possible suspensions of up to 5 games, depending on the severity of the situation. Coaches may assess applicable discipline for cell phone policy infractions.

Dressing Room Supervision and Female Supervisors

Players must have active supervision in the dressing room, with an adult female representative actively supervising the dressing room before and after games and practices.

EGHA strongly suggests the “Two Deep Method” of supervision, where more than one female representative is actively supervising the dressing room.

Teams may have a combination of Female Player Assistants (FPAs), female coach(es)/bench staff and female dressing room supervisors to assist in this role.

Access to Dressing Rooms

For players in U11, U13, U15, U18 and U21, **males are not permitted** to be in the dressing rooms before and after games and practices. Players who need assistance with equipment or skates may seek assistance from a FPA or must go to the hallway for assistance if the guardian present is male.

For players in U7, U9 or U11, **one** parent/guardian may come to the dressing room to assist a player with dressing for a game or practice. Other children who are not playing are **strongly recommended to not** be in the dressing room. Dressing rooms are small at some arenas, and having too many people in the dressing room can interfere with other players being able to dress. Due to skates, injuries can also occur when there are young children in the dressing room.

Dressing rooms are not available for social gatherings. Spectators such as grandparents, siblings, multiple parents/guardians, friends, etc., are **not permitted** in the dressing room at any time. EGHA does understand that there are times when a parent may bring a child to the arena and may have had to bring younger children along that need supervision while assisting a child with dressing for a game or practice. If this is the case, please quickly come into the dressing room and assist your player and leave the dressing room as quickly as possible.

For players in U13, U15 and U18, under no circumstances are non-players allowed in the dressing room without the prior permission of the coach. Non-players should wait outside in the lobby to see a player after a game or practice.

Access to Player Benches during Games and Practices

Parents, guardians, young children and spectators are **not permitted** to be on a player's bench during a game or practice. Only coaches and players who are rostered are permitted access to the player's bench.

Alcohol, Cannabis and other Drugs

It is strictly prohibited for players under the age of 18 to have in their possession any alcohol, cannabis or other drugs or paraphernalia when participating in any league or exhibition games (including finals), practices, Hockey Alberta sanctioned tournaments or other team events. All players, regardless of age, are also prohibited from participating in any team event if they are impaired or under the influence of alcohol, cannabis or other drugs.

Any player who has been found to have alcohol, cannabis or other drugs or paraphernalia in their possession while at a team event will be immediately suspended from team events, with other possible sanctions.

Team Conduct at Games and Practices

Coaches are responsible for the conduct of their team during games, practices and team events. Coaches and players are responsible for:

- ❖ Ensuring that dressing rooms are left in a clean and safe condition when exiting the premises

- ❖ Showing respect to other teams and spectators at the arena
 - Warmups must not be disruptive to teams and spectators
 - Warmups must be conducted in areas approved by arena staff
 - Music must not be so loud that it is disruptive to games and practices
 - Benches must be kept clean and left in the state they were found in when leaving the ice

Player Conduct (social media, bullying, harassment and unacceptable behaviour)

EGHA will **not tolerate** unacceptable conduct of players. Unacceptable behaviour will result in loss of ice time, suspensions and possible further disciplinary actions. Bullying and harassment may result in players being released from their hockey teams and EGHA for the remainder of a season.

Examples of unacceptable conduct include, but are not limited to:

- Bullying, harassment, intimidation or threats of any type
- Making negative or derogatory comments about, or statements deemed detrimental to the welfare of, any individual or group
- Divulging confidential information or any other matter of a sensitive nature
- Posting photographs, video or comments promoting negative influences or criminal behaviour, including but not limited to drug use, alcohol abuse, public intoxication, hazing and sexual harassment
- Undertaking activity that contradicts the current policies of Hockey Alberta, Hockey Edmonton, Edmonton Federation Hockey League and Edmonton Girls Hockey Association
- Undertaking activity that is meant to alarm other individuals or to misrepresent fact or truth.

EGHA will **not tolerate** unacceptable conduct by players using any means, such as in person or by use of social media, email, texting or any other means of communication.

Any player who is deemed to demonstrate unacceptable conduct by any means will be suspended immediately. Suspensions will range between 1-5 games depending on the severity and may also result in a player being released from her team and EGHA.

Discipline Process

Coaches are the first point of contact when dealing with players and conduct issues. Coaches do have the ability to reduce/limit ice time and to issue one (1) game suspensions to address conduct issues.

Offence	Suspension
Alcohol, cannabis and other drugs	
Possession by a minor at any Hockey Alberta sanctioned event	Indefinite suspension for discipline committee to assess
Intoxication of a player or coach at any Hockey Alberta sanctioned event (that is not already addressed by a game write up)	
Cell Phone use	
Players use of cell phones in the dressing room before, during or after games and practices	The greater of two weeks or two games
Posting of photos or videos by players of anything occurring in the dressing room before, during or after games and practices	The greater of four weeks or four games
Unbecoming Conduct	
Making inappropriate or unsuitable remarks	The greater of two weeks or two games
Discrimination (race, ethnicity, religion, gender, sexual orientation, language)	The greater of four weeks or four games
Bullying and Harassment	
Bullying of any player in any manner	Indefinite suspension for discipline committee to assess sanctions, which could include a player being released from EGHA
Harassment of any player in any manner	
Defiance of Suspensions and Repeated Suspensions	
If need be, the player attached to the suspended individual will serve the suspension until the individual has agreed to do so (refer to Hockey Alberta rule 7.1.c)	
First Offence	Doubling of suspension
Second Offence	Doubling of suspension and review by the discipline committee
Third Offence	Indefinite suspension for the discipline committee to review and assess sanctions

For information on further suspensions, please refer to [EGHA Respect the Game](#)

EGHA's Ability to Discipline

1. EGHA Coaches have the authority to limit/reduce ice time of their players due to player conduct issues
2. EGHA Coaches, in consultation with Category Directors shall have the authority to assess one (1) game suspensions to their players in order to deal with conduct issues. Further conduct issues should be referred to the Category Director
3. The EGHA President, in consultation with the Vice President of Discipline, the Vice President of Hockey Operations and the Category Directors shall have the authority to suspend summarily any player, coach, trainer, manager or official of any team under the auspices of EGHA for any conduct on or off the ice that is deemed to be unbecoming or detrimental to the game. Such suspensions to be effective until dealt with by the EGHA Discipline Committee
 - a. This authority may be delegated to EGHA officials
4. The EGHA President, in consultation with the Vice President of Discipline, the Vice President of Hockey Operations and the Category Directors can prevent any spectator from viewing any EGHA game or other activity or entering a facility to view such game or activity under the auspices of EGHA for any conduct that is deemed to be unbecoming or detrimental to the game
 - a. This authority may be delegated to EGHA officials
5. This authority granted to the EGHA President, Vice President of Discipline, Vice President of Hockey Operations and Category Directors allows for effective and quick action against conduct unbecoming or detrimental to the game and its members as well as action against the team of the contravening spectator
6. EGHA will establish a Discipline Committee which will serve the purpose of hearing complaints received through the EGHA Respect the Game program. The Chair of the Discipline Committee will be one of the EGHA Discipline Directors

Player conduct issues such as bullying, harassment and repeated conduct issues may result in a player being released from EGHA for the remainder of the season.

Appeals Process

Ice time limits/reductions and one game suspensions assessed by the coaches and category directors may not be appealed. Suspensions of greater than one game may be appealed in writing, to the Vice President of Discipline (discipline@egha.ab.ca). A fee of \$250 will be assessed for all appeals.

The Vice President of Discipline will arrange an Appeal Committee to meet with the appellant. The Appeal Committee will consist of:

- Appeal Committee Chair: Vice President of Discipline
- Three additional EGHA representatives, who will be selected from the following:
 - EGHA President
 - EGHA Vice President Operations
 - EGHA U7 Category Director(s)
 - EGHA U9 Category Director(s)
 - EGHA U11 Category Director(s)
 - EGHA U13 Category Director(s)
 - EGHA U15 Category Director(s)
 - EGHA U18 Category Director(s)