

Coach's Pledge

It is the intention of this pledge to promote proper behavior and respect for all participants within the Association.

All coaches must adhere to this pledge to the best of their ability and must continue to observe the principles of fair play.

The following tenants are a guideline for all coaches. They are as follows:

- I will be reasonable when scheduling games and practices, remembering that players have other interests and obligations.
- I will teach my players to play fairly and to respect the rules, officials and opponents.
- I will ensure that all players get equal instruction support and playing time.
- I will not ridicule or yell at my players for making mistakes or performing poorly.
- I will remember that players play for fun and must be encouraged to have confidence in themselves.
- I will make sure that equipment and facilities are safe and match the player's ages and abilities.
- I will remember that participants need a coach they can respect. I will be generous with praise and set a good example.
- I will obtain proper training and continue to upgrade my coaching skills.
- I will co-operate with officials for the benefit of the game.
- I will teach all players to respect the rules. I will not challenge judgement calls by officials in an aggressive or threatening manner. I understand it is acceptable to challenge the interpretation of a rule, but only in a courteous and non-confrontational manner. I will not confront any official at the rink before, during or after a game. If necessary, I will take the time to calmly and rationally discuss any situation or call made during a game with a league official or by emailing my concerns to my level director.
- I will have a positive attitude and will always praise my players for trying hard, playing fair and doing their best, regardless of the outcome of the game. I will not criticize or yell at any player for making a mistake or losing a game. I will not tolerate physical or verbal abuse in youth sports. I will remember that children need a coach they can respect. I will be generous with praise and set a good example. I shall refrain from comments or behaviours which are disrespectful, humiliating, demeaning, offensive, abusive, racist or sexist. Behaviour which constitutes bullying, abuse, harassment, or discrimination will not be tolerated.
- I will ensure all players receive equal instruction, discipline, support and appropriate, fair playing time. I specifically understand that: a) all players pay the same fee to participate in SHC programs; b) all players are selected in tryouts to be a member of a team; c) minor hockey is a developmental activity, physically, mentally and socially; d) winning is an "end result", development is the "means" and statistically, very few players will go on to play professionally. I will strive to use all players in all situations, including the Power Play, Penalty Kill, and "goalie-out" situations.

- I will follow SHC and Hockey Canada Rules and Regulations for dressing room supervision. I will ensure that coaches and staff must supervise players at all times. If not in the dressing room, coaches must be outside the dressing room with the door propped open to ensure they can hear what is going on in the dressing room. I understand that cell phones should be prohibited from dressing rooms, to avoid inappropriate use of cameras. Behaviour that is disrespectful, humiliating or offensive will not be tolerated in our dressing room.
- I will maintain an open line of communication with my players' parents. I will explain my goals and objectives for the team, as well as the rules of the game and the policies of the league, whenever requested or necessary, to the best of my ability. I will appoint a parent liaison who will be able to communicate with all parents on the team and bring any issues to me in a timely fashion. I will provide my explanation to my parent liaison to be brought back to the concerned parent. If the issue can't be resolved, I will bring it to the attention of my level director immediately.

Incidents that will warrant disciplinary action when brought to the attention of SHC board (Game and Conduct) by the coach are:

- Any form of bullying, abuse, harassment or discrimination;
- Profanity by players, team officials, or club representatives;
- A coach, who in the opinion of the Executive Committee, is being assessed to many penalties of a serious nature;
- A team member or a team follower who repeatedly brings discredit to the team and the association, through violent, abusive, or gross behaviour, on or off the ice; and
- Any other inappropriate incident (SHC Bylaws, excerpt)

Print Name: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____