



## Respect in Sport

26-April-12

Dear Parents:

The Respect in Sport program is an online certification program designed to protect our youth as well as enhance Hockey Alberta's mandate of providing a safe and fun environment for all participants. It is Canada's leading online bullying, abuse, harassment, and negligence prevention program for parents, coaches, and community leaders.

This one hour online certification program reinforces a parent's role in a child or youth's activities, encouraging positive sport behaviours, and providing insight into the various roles other individuals such as coaches and officials play. This program empowers parents to ensure the safety of their children, to encourage positive and effective communication, and to enhance a child's fun and camaraderie of the activity.

The Respect in Sport Parent program is one of the three pillars of hockey's respect platform. The Respect in Sport Activity Leader program will be a condition of participation for both coaches and officials and represents the final two pillars of respect when considering our athlete's needs.

As you are likely all aware, in the 2012-2013 hockey season at least one parent or guardian of each player registered in minor hockey in Alberta will need to complete the online RIS Parent Program as a condition of their participation.

The Respect in Sport Parent program is a proactive, educational program that empowers parents with the tools to ensure the game is enjoyable and respectful for themselves, their children and all other stakeholders in the game.

Each Local Minor Hockey Association in Alberta is charged with the responsibility for implementing the program according to their needs, bylaws and policies.

The Hockey Edmonton Operating Directives General Rules of Registration speaks to the requirement for all players and team officials to be registered in the Registry (HCR). Further, clause 1.8 requires that: "All players, team officials and teams are to be duly registered in the Registry prior to any on-ice activities." Therefore, Hockey Edmonton policy mandates that at least one parent or guardian of each player registered in minor hockey in Edmonton will need to complete the online RIS Parent Program as a condition of their participation **prior to any on-ice activities inclusive of the first tryout skate for any team / program**

The links to the Respect in Sport program can be found on the Hockey Edmonton, Hockey Alberta and most district and operating area websites.

If you have questions, suggestions or require additional support documentation please refer to the Hockey Edmonton and Hockey Alberta websites, contact your registrar or the Hockey Edmonton office staff.

Thank you, for your assistance with this program rollout and ensuring that our hockey experiences are safer, more respectful and enjoyable.

Sincerely,  
Betty Chmilar  
President