



## **NORTH OKANAGAN MINOR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP CODE OF CONDUCT**

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This code of conduct identifies the standard of behaviour which is expected of all NOMHA members including players, coaches, officials working for NOMHA, parents, directors and volunteers.

NOMHA is committed to providing a hockey environment in which all individuals are treated with respect. Members of NOMHA shall conduct themselves at all times in a fair and responsible manner. Members shall refrain from comments or behaviours which are disrespectful, offensive, abusive, racist, or sexist. In particular, behaviour which constitutes harassment or abuse will not be tolerated by NOMHA.

During the course of all NOMHA activities and events, members shall avoid behaviour which brings NOMHA or the sport of hockey into disrepute, including but not limited to abusive use of alcohol and non-medical use of drugs.

NOMHA recognizes the Canadian Centre for Ethics in Sports policy on penalties for doping in sport. Members shall not use illicit drugs/narcotics or performance enhancing drugs or methods.

NOMHA members shall at all times adhere to NOMHA policies and guidelines and those of our governing bodies, OMAHA, BC Hockey and Hockey Canada, and those rules governing events or activities in which the member participates on behalf of NOMHA

Members of NOMHA shall not engage in any activity or behaviour which interferes with a competition, or which endangers the safety of others.

Failure to comply with this code of conduct may result in disciplinary action in accordance with the discipline policy of NOMHA. Such action may result in a member losing the privileges that come with membership in NOMHA, including the opportunity to participate in NOMHA activities.

## **EXPECTATIONS OF COACHES AND TEAM OFFICIALS**

Those individuals accepting the position of coach do so knowing that they become the most important individual and ultimately responsible for their team. By leadership, the coach establishes a model that players will use to mold a significant portion of their attitude toward the game. This facet is especially true in minor hockey where players are in the formative years of their life.

Therefore, coaches and other team officials that circumvent the rules and regulations as established by hockey's governing bodies must be dealt with severely. Because in doing, so those individuals are not only expressing their attitude toward the game but are molding the attitudes of the players surrounding them.

Following are a few points that Team Officials must keep in mind:

- 1) Abusive language by any team member is not tolerated. The adults must set the standards and the controls;
- 2) Do not abuse the Officials; and do not allow them to be abused;
- 3) The official game report is in fact the official record of the contest. The coach must make sure that the information recorded on the game sheet is correct before signing;
- 4) Know the eligibility of all team members. Ensure that members have all been properly carded or suspensions fully served before playing them;
- 5) Make sure games, tournaments or other events are properly sanctioned before entering;
- 6) Know the procedure for registering any complaints. For any action to result concerns must be properly channeled;
- 7) See the BCAHA Guide for Hockey Administration for the Code of Ethics for traveling teams;
- 8) The illegal use of alcohol or drugs will not be tolerated. Anyone found guilty will be subject to suspension or expulsion from NOMHA;
- 9) Shall be subject to a Criminal Records and Vulnerable Persons search.

## **COACHES CODE OF ETHICS**

- 1) I will treat each player, opposing coach, official, parent and administrator with respect and dignity.
- 2) I will do my best to learn the fundamental skills, teaching and evaluation techniques, and strategies of my sport.
- 3) I will become thoroughly familiar with the rules of my sport.
- 4) I will become familiar with the objectives of the youth sports program with which I am affiliated. I will strive to achieve these objectives and communicate them to my players and their parents.
- 5) I will uphold the authority of officials who are assigned to the contests in which I coach, and I will assist them in every way to conduct fair and impartial competitive contests.
- 6) I will learn the strengths and weaknesses of my players so that I might place them into situations where they have a maximum opportunity to achieve success.
- 7) I will conduct my practices and games so that all players have an opportunity to improve their skill level through active participation.
- 8) I will communicate to my players and their parents the rights and responsibilities of individuals on our team.
- 9) I will cooperate with the Executive of our organization in the enforcement of rules, regulations, and NOMHA policies and I will report any irregularities that violate sound competitive practices.
- 10) I will protect the health and safety of my players by insisting that all of the activities under my control are conducted for their psychological and physiological welfare, rather than for the vicarious interest of adults.
- 11) I will be committed to and ensure that the “two deep” method of supervision is used at all times by my team including in the players dressing rooms.
- 12) I will do my part to enhance NOMHA so that people can be proud to be a part of it.

## **DISCIPLINE COMMITTEE**

This committee is comprised of the Division Director for the division in question (if applicable or not in conflict), the Risk Manager, President or Vice-President and Head Coach.

## **APPEALS COMMITTEE**

This committee is comprised of a total of 5 persons – typically the Vice President and three or four other selected people. This is not restricted to members of the NOMHA Board. See the Appeals procedure in the NOMHA Policy Manual, Section 7.

## **DISCIPLINE GUIDE FOR TEAM OFFICIALS**

Team Officials (Coaches, Assistant Coaches, Safety Persons and Managers) shall be responsible for supervising and controlling the conduct of their players before, during and after each game. Failure by Team Officials to control the conduct of their players before, during or after each game (i.e. dressing room vandalism, bench brawls, lobby and parking lot altercations, etc.) may result in suspension and/or other disciplinary action to the player(s) and Team Official(s) responsible. In addition, the cost of any damages shall be paid by those involved.

If a coach is ejected from a game it will be the responsibility of the ejected coach to report their ejection to the NOMHA Executive in writing within 48 hours of the ejection along with all the details in writing. The director may be asked by the Executive to gather any additional information surrounding the event for presentation to the discipline committee. The discipline committee will then follow the guidelines in helping make a decision.

## **DISCIPLINE GUIDE FOR PLAYERS**

The Discipline Guidelines are to be administrated in accordance with By-Laws and policies. It should be noted that the best discipline can be achieved through positive reinforcement. The guide below should be used only when positive avenues have been exhausted.

- 1) Discipline can be applied by any team official through the coach. However, any suspension of more than one game must be approved by the President or designate or applied by the Discipline Committee. The executive and/or president reserve the right to apply extra discipline should they feel it is warranted.
- 2) Any incident occurring during a game to be handled by the Discipline Committee must be in the form of a written submission or official time sheet handed into the President within 48 hours of the alleged incident. Incidents where awareness of responsible individual may not be immediately known (e.g., theft) should be reported within 48 hours of a team official becoming aware of and confirming the responsible individual.
- 3) BC Hockey suspensions are minimum suspensions and further suspensions or discipline may be added to by the Discipline Committee or the Executive and or the President as per the Discipline Guide.
- 4) All infractions during a game or when the players are under the direct control of a Referee will be dealt with as per Hockey Canada and BC Hockey rules.
- 5) At each discipline meeting minutes of the meeting shall be recorded and filed with the Secretary of the Association.

- 6) All written records other than the final decision of the Discipline Committee shall be held in confidence on file and may be reviewed by the Discipline Committee or the President or the person to whom the discipline complaint applies.
- 7) Under no circumstances will such documentation be copied or communicated in any way other than what is required to further the appeals procedure.
- 8) Any discipline rulings will be forwarded in writing and posted to the last known address to the said individuals.

## **OFFENCE LEVELS**

### **First Level Offence:**

- 1) Horseplay: Any activities unrelated to hockey that has the potential to cause injury to the participant or participants.
- 2) Refusing to participate.
- 3) Lateness or unexcused absence.
- 4) Messing up the dressing room.
- 5) Swearing.
- 6) Other minor misbehavior.

### **Second Level Offence:**

- 1) Fighting (off ice, practices, and dressing rooms).
- 2) Insubordination to Coaching Staff.
- 3) Harassment of Arena Staff.
- 4) Hindering others from participating.
- 5) Harassment of others.
- 6) Other major misbehavior.

### **Third Level Offence:**

- 1) Drugs/Alcohol: Any player while at a NOMHA sponsored event is found with drugs and/or alcohol on his/her possession or is under the influence of a drugs or alcohol.
- 2) Theft: Any player proven to have engaged in thievery at NOMHA sponsored activity or venue.
- 3) Vandalism or other illegal misbehavior: Any player proven to have engaged in vandalism or other illegal misbehavior at a NOMHA sponsored activity or venue.

**DISCIPLINE GUIDE FOR PLAYERS**

OFFENSE LEVEL	NO. OF OFFENSES	DISCIPLINE***	ASSIGNED BY	REPORTED TO WHOM
First Level	1	1 period	Coach (current)	Parent
	2	2 periods	Coach (current)	Parent
	3	1 game	Coach (current)	Parent + NOHMA Head Coach + President
	4	1 game	Coach (current)	Parent + NOMHA Head Coach + President + Discipline Committee
Second Level	1	Dismissal (current ice) + next 3 ice times	Coach (current) + Discipline committee	Parent + NOMHA Head Coach + President + Discipline Committee
	2	Dismissal (current ice) + 2 weeks	Coach (current) + Discipline committee	Parent + NOMHA Head Coach + President + Discipline Committee
	3	Dismissal (current ice) + 4 weeks	Coach (current) + Discipline committee	Parent + NOMHA Head Coach + President + Discipline Committee
	4	Dismissal (current ice) + remainder of season	Coach (current) + Discipline committee	Parent + NOMHA Head Coach + President + Discipline Committee
Third Level**	1	Dismissal (current ice) + 2 weeks	Coach (current) + Discipline committee	Parent + NOMHA Head Coach + President + Discipline Committee
	2	Dismissal (current ice) + remainder of season	Coach (current) + Discipline committee	Parent + NOMHA Head Coach + President + Discipline Committee

\* For second level offences that were committed against another individual, before reinstatement the player must offer a personal face to face apology.

\*\* For third level offences that involve theft, property damage or other cost to a victim, the player must offer a personal apology and where requested reimburse the victim before reinstatement.

\*\*\* Each offence will be dealt with on an individual basis. If deemed necessary disciplinary action may be carried over from one season to the next. The discipline committee will advise the President for discipline that differs from the guidelines.

## DISCIPLINE GUIDE FOR PARENTS AND SPECTATORS

Parents and spectators at NOMHA games and functions are responsible for their own conduct. They must endeavour to exhibit orderly conduct before, during, or after any hockey games involving North Okanagan Minor Hockey Association teams. Any On-ice Official, Off-ice Official or Executive Member may eject or suspend parents or spectators from any game if they display the following conduct:

- 1) Uses obscene or profane language or abusive gestures to ANY person on or off the ice surface.
- 2) Displays un-sportsmanlike conduct, either individually or collectively at any function associated with a NOMHA team or event.
- 3) Brings discredit to the Association for persistent infringement of the Association's rules pertaining to the game of hockey.
- 4) Failure to comply with the By-Laws of the Association, Okanagan Mainline Hockey Association, BC Hockey or Hockey Canada.
- 5) Persists in disrupting or showing repeated disrespect for any ruling by any Official.

ANY PARENT OR SPECTATOR WHO, AFTER ONE (1) WARNING BY AN EXECUTIVE MEMBER, OFF-ICE OFFICIAL OR ON-ICE OFFICIAL PERSISTS IN ABUSIVE CONDUCT, THAT PERSON SHALL BE ORDERED TO LEAVE THE ARENA PREMISES. THE GAME SHALL BE HALTED UNTIL SUCH TIME AS THE PARENT OR SPECTATOR HAS COMPLETELY REMOVED HIMSELF OR HERSELF FROM THE BUILDING.

- 6) Where a parent or spectator has been ejected from a game for abusive conduct, an Off-Ice Official (time keeper, scorekeeper, tournament co-ordinator and team manager) or Executive Member shall report said incident to the NOMHA President / Executive and Discipline Committee, who may then assess further penalties to the parent or spectator.
- 7) Offences covering the abuse of On-Ice, Off-Ice Officials, Teams or any member of the Association by any parent or spectator of a NOMHA event may result in the following recommended penalties to that person or persons as recommended by the President or Discipline Committee:
  - a) First Offence – Game ejection, removal or immediate suspension from the Arena with a report sent to the President and Executive and the Discipline Committee. The Discipline Committee shall rule on the incident. Minimum one (1) game – maximum three (3) months involving ALL NOMHA teams.
  - b) Second Offence – Game ejection and removal from the Arena and prohibited to attend any game for a minimum of three (3) months – maximum two (2) years involving ALL NOMHA teams or events.
- 8) First offences will be erased from parent or spectator records after two (2) calendar years, at the request of the individual.
- 9) The above rules and regulations do not preclude any rules or regulations as laid out by laws and bylaws for the City of Armstrong or Enderby, but are meant to enhance the responsibility of all parents and spectators attending Minor Hockey events.

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