

MASON CITY YOUTH HOCKEY ASSOCIATION

COACH'S CODE OF CONDUCT

Achieving a high level of sportsmanship in our league starts with you! Attendance at sanctioned MCYH events is a privilege, not a right. As with all privileges there comes the responsibility to maintain that privilege. One of your coaching responsibilities is to conduct yourself in a way that reflects positively on yourself, your players, MCYH, and the game of hockey. As a coach, you must remember that you are in an influential position, especially to the players. Thus, how you teach and conduct yourself will be equally, **if not more important**, than what you teach.

In order to maintain the integrity and high standards of the MCYH, all coaches of MCYH are expected to follow a set of guidelines as detailed below. Please read these guidelines and sign the following acknowledgement. Coaches who do not conduct themselves appropriately will be subject to discipline with MCYH that could include your suspension/removal from a coaching position in this association.

As a coach I agree that:

- I am responsible for the conduct of the players on my team. I will maintain order and control among all team members before, during, and after all games/practices. I will not allow players to "roam" the facility unsupervised.
- I am accountable for my team's "cheering section." If the parent code of conduct is breached, disciplinary action will be taken up to and including forfeiture of the game (if the guilty party refused to vacate the premises).
- I will be a good role model for the behaviors I want my players to emulate. I will set positive examples at practices and games.
- I will exhibit good sportsmanship at all times.
- I will stress participation of all players, not just the more gifted ones. I will give each player an equal opportunity to learn the sport by equalizing practice time as much as possible.
- I will treat each player as an important human being. Each player will have a different personality requiring different needs. I will be sensitive to those differences and show interest and concern for each team member.
- I will follow the rules of the game at all times.
- I will remember that the game is for the players, not the coaches.
- I will not criticize my players by belittling them.
- I will control my temper and not use foul language while participating in related activities.
- I will start and end practices and games on time. I will notify parents and other impacted parties of any deviations.
- I will respect other coaches. If there is a disagreement, I will speak to the coach in a private and/or utilize the referee as an arbitrator.
- I will respect the opposing team and demand that my players do the same.

- I will respect the referees and not openly criticize them or tolerate my team criticizing them. I will remember that they are in control of the game and that they are humans and will make mistakes. Open confrontations with Referees are a poor behavioral model for the players and parents. The Referees will have the last word; even if it results in me being asked to leave the game.
- I will not encourage any behaviors that would endanger the health and well being of any player.
- I will value skill development, fair competition, and effort.
- I will follow all MCYH rules and policies at all times and ensure that my players do the same.
- I will show respect to all equipment, supplies, and facilities (home & away) and demand my players do the same.
- I will place the emotional and physical development of the players ahead of my personal desire to win.
- I will strive to make this hockey experience fun for all players.
- I understand that our teams will be playing under Minnesota Hockey's Hockey Education Program which promotes sportsmanship, skill development, and fair play. I agree to follow the guidelines of this program.

I have read and understand the MCYHA Coach's Code of Conduct. I understand that any violation of this code may result in disciplinary action being taken against me up to and including being suspended or removed from my coaching position. This code of conduct will be enforced for the entire hockey season.

Signature:	Date:	
Team:		