

NORTHWEST FLORIDA HOCKEY LEAGUE

2010-2011



**This edition of the Parent's and Player's Handbook
includes the following changes.**

Page	Change

NORTHWEST FLORIDA HOCKEY LEAGUE
2010/2011 PARENTS AND PLAYER MANUAL

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NORTHWEST FLORIDA HOCKEY LEAGUE
“Junior Ice Flyers” PLAYER AND PARENT HANDBOOK
2010/2011 SEASON

This handbook is intended to provide information to players and parents regarding NFHL activities and policies for the 2010/2011 season.

Philosophy of NFHL

The Northwest Florida Hockey League (NFHL) offers the opportunity for the boys and girls of the Northwest Florida area to participate in both recreational and competitive ice hockey programs. In addition to individual and team skill development, NFHL seeks to foster the development of the “whole” child including such life skills as sportsmanship, mutual respect, integrity, responsibility, teamwork, friendship and a love for the sport.

Governance

NFHL is governed by a seven member Board of Directors elected by the general membership. The Board of Directors elects the officers who serve a one year term. The officers comprise the core of the Executive Committee and conduct day-to-day business of NFHL business while the Board of Directors is responsible for policy decision and management.

Each Board member assumes supervisory responsibility for one or more organizational functions. Board members also serve on one or more NFHL Committee such as (and not limited to): fundraising, Civic Center liaison and ice scheduling, uniforms, budget and finance, and conflict resolution.

Board Members

<u>Position</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Email Contact</u>
President	Chad Quenneville	c.quenneville@jriceflyers.com
Vice President	Nick Skelton	n.skelton@jriceflyers.com
Secretary	Julie Reaves	j.reaves@jriceflyers.com
Treasurer	Paul Gilbreath	p.gilbreath@jriceflyers.com
Member at Large	Vincent Faucher	v.faucher@jriceflyers.com
Member at Large	Curtis Dunlap	c.dunlap@jriceflyers.com
Member at Large	Valentino Passarelli	v.passarelli@jriceflyers.com

Board Meetings

The Board of Directors usually meets on monthly basis or has needed. Contact any board member via e-mail to request that an item be added to the agenda or to make a presentation to the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors encourages communication and parent feedback. Board meetings will be listed and minutes posted on the website. Board meetings are not a forum for grievances. If you have a complaint or a problem that cannot be resolved by the team manager, we would appreciate your contacting the President via e-mail and he/she

will make the necessary recommendations to the conflict resolution committee or disciplinary committee as deemed appropriate.

Preseason Parents' Meeting

The Board of Director will schedule a pre-season parents meeting to be held in October to discuss policies, procedures and expectations, as well as plans for the season. The Board of Directors, coaches, and key volunteers will be introduced and there is opportunity for questions. Time and place will be posted on the website.

Communication

Our website is <http://jriceflyers.com>

NFHL understands that in order to be successful we must be able to get information and feedback from the association's members. To ensure communication needs are being met the following communication devices have been put in place:

The NFHL Website will be the first line for communication. All newsletters, board minutes, contact information, forms and handbook will be available on the website. The website will be maintained and kept up to date with the most current information available. Under construction signs will be posted on pages where information is not ready for distribution. For questions or comments about our website, contact the website administrator: admin@jriceflyers.com

E-mail will be the first method of choice when sending out communications to the members. It is imperative that you check your e-mails on a regular basis since there can occasionally be last minute changes in schedules. If you do not have e-mail, **it is your responsibility to get the information.** If you do not have a current e-mail address on file with NFHL, please send an update to include your current e-mail address to m.kitch@jriceflyers.com or your team manager.

NFHL Board meeting dates will be posted on the homepage of the web site. Individuals are invited to attend all routine board meetings. If there is an item you would like to include in the agenda, you should contact the president c.quenneville@jriceflyers.com of the board at to request an invitation. The request must be submitted at least 5 business days prior to the meeting.

Annual member meeting will be held in the May/June timeframe. The exact date, time and location of these meetings will be posted on the NFHL website, distributed through team managers, and an e-mail notification will be sent to all members.

Affiliations

NFHL is affiliated under USA Hockey, the national governing body of ice hockey, and the Statewide Amateur Hockey of Florida (SAHOF) Association within the State of Florida.

Player Classification

Player classification is determined by an age cut-off established by USA Hockey:

DATE OF BIRTH	AGE CATEGORY	AGE DIVISION
1991	18 Years	Midget 18 & Under
1992	17 Years	Midget 18 & Under
1993	16 Years	Midget 16 & Under
1994	15 Years	Midget 16 & Under
1995	14 Years	Bantam 14 or Under
1996	13 Years	Bantam 14 or Under
1997	12 Years	Pee Wee 12 or Under
1998	11 Years	Pee Wee 12 or Under
1999	10 Years	Squirt 10 or Under
2000	9 Years	Squirt 10 or Under
2001	8 Years	Mite 8 or Under
2002	7 Years	Mite 8 or Under
2002-2004	6 Years & below	Mini-Mite

The age classifications of a player are his/her age as of midnight December 31st prior to or during the current playing season. Girls are allowed to play down one age category, so an 11 year old girl would be allowed to play with the squirts, but a 12 year old girl is still a pee wee.

Teams' Level of Play

Teams' level of play is determined by USA Hockey and NFHL. The league will attempt to field a recreational team in each age division, but this is only feasible based on sufficient enrollment numbers. Teams will be composed of players of comparable skills.

Recreational teams are for both inexperienced players and experienced players who want to develop their skills in a less competitive environment. The season runs from October to March. Priorities are sportsmanship, skill development team play and hockey strategy.

Competitive (Travel) teams require a higher skill level and a more significant commitment of time, dedication and money. Practices can be high tempo and games are more contested. Priorities for travel teams are sportsmanship, team play, hockey strategy and competitive play. All participants are expected to participate at practices and games unless prior approval has been issued. Coaches will determine if a player is ready to play at the travel level, and based on

the number of players interested in travel hockey a try-out may be necessary. Check with your division's coach or team manager for questions regarding travel teams.

Player Selection Process

CURRENTLY, NFHL DOES NOT HAVE THE RESOURCES OR PLAYERS TO FIELD MULTIPLE TRAVEL TEAMS WITHIN DIVISIONS. AS OUR LEAGUE CONTINUES TO GROW AND WE REACH THIS ABILITY, IT WILL BECOME NECESSARY TO ESTABLISH A PLAYER SELECTION PROCESS. THE COMMENTS BELOW ARE INCLUDED IN THIS EDITION OF THE HANDBOOK ONLY FOR FUTURE REFERENCE. THE LEAGUES VISION IS TO BEGIN FIELDING COMPETITIVE TRAVEL TEAMS IN THE 2011-2012 SEASON.

NFHL conducts a player selection (try-out) at the beginning of the season (generally early October) to determine where to place players on travel teams. Coaches will look at the player's skill, level of play, as well as confidence and place them on an appropriate level team. Try-outs can be incredibly stressful time for both players and parents if they take the approach that a top level team is the best place for every player. We are fully aware that this approach is popular in both high level sports and business, but in developing youth athletes starting as young as four or five, this approach must be balanced with what is best for the player's development, both physical and emotional.

Recommendations to Parents:

- Parents should refrain from watching try-outs. This will help reduce the temptation to make comparisons of the players, or second guess the coaches.
- Parents should encourage players to try their best, but reinforce the notion that the purpose of try-outs is to place them on an appropriate team, and that no matter where they end up, it will be a great place, where they will have a great time
- Parents should remind players and themselves that rating a person's hockey ability has nothing to do with their rating as a person.
- Parents should never give excuses to their player that blames other people for their child not making a certain team. This is counter productive to the program as well as to the child's character development.

Keeping all of the above in mind, NFHL has developed a fair and measurable process that helps the evaluator's best select players for the appropriate teams.

Player selection committee consists of the Coach-In-Chief and team coaches (and/or experienced individuals). Selection can be based on all of the following:

- Skating Skills
- Puck Handling Skills
- Hockey/Game Knowledge
- Athletic Ability
- Coach ability
- Player Commitment
- Player Attitude and/or behavior

Player Move-Up Policy

NFHL DOES NOT ALLOW “MOVE UP” TO AN OLDER AGE LEVEL ABOVE THOSE SET BY USA HOCKEY FOR THE PEE WEES, BANTAMS AND MIDGETS. There can be negative consequences for the player as their social and emotional development may not be ready for older teammates even when their physical development may encourage a parent to seek the move. Children need to have opportunities to be leaders and mentors.

An exception to this policy is Mites (Mini-Mites) moving to the Squirt (Mite) recreation team. Mites (Mini-Mites) will be able to “move up” if they meet the following criteria:

- The player exhibits the skating skills necessary to participate with the older group.
- The player possesses a maturity level similar to the older group.
- The player must receive approval from their assigned team coach and the higher team’s coach.
- Approval from ACE/Coach and Chief.

Tournament play may require the recruitment of younger players to participate with an older team to supplement the roster due to low participation from registered players. This will be allowed with the approval of both coaches and will not cause conflict for the players’ current team.

Registration

League registration will be held during August and October. Specific times and locations will be posted on the web site and team managers will email / call previously registered players. Per USA Hockey, no child can be on the ice unless they are registered with USA Hockey per insurance regulations.

Registration fees for the 2010/2011 will be posted on the web site.

Payment Plans will be arranged by Treasurer.

Players whose registration fees are not paid in full by payment plan due date will not be allowed to participate in NFHL activities. Registration will dictate the composition of teams and we would like to make those determinations by October 1st of each year.

NOTE: IN ADDITION TO LEAGUE REGISTRATION, ALL PLAYERS WILL NEED TO REGISTER ON-LINE WITH USA HOCKEY. PLEASE GO TO WWW.USAHOCKEY.COM AND FOLLOW THE INSTRUCTIONS TO REGISTER AS A PLAYER(BE SURE TO REGISTER FOR THE 2010/2011 SEASON). PRINT THE CONFIRMATION LETTER AND BRING THE CONFIRMATION TO ONE OF THE REGISTRATION CLINICS.

Scholarships

NFHL DOES NOT HAVE SUFFICIENT FUNDS TO OFFER ANY SCHOLARSHIPS.

NFHL's goals include broad participation and reasonable registration fees. In the future, a limited number of partial scholarships may be available. Scholarships are granted strictly on the basis of need and skill level is not a consideration. In addition to providing basic financial information (copy of most current tax year) and family information; a parent's statement of "why my child should receive a scholarship" must accompany the request. This information remains confidential.

For more information, please contact a board member.

Refund Policy

The general rule is that NFHL does not offer a refund of league fees. However, sometimes circumstances do exist that would warrant a partial refund. Following are some possible situations where the board would consider a refund and a refund schedule:

- Player must withdraw due to parents required to move to another city (more than 60 miles) as a result of their job (a.k.a. the military clause).
- Player withdraws due to a serious injury which prevents him/her from participating.

Refund Schedule:

Withdrawal prior to October 1 st	Full Refund (less any admin cost committed)
Withdrawal prior to November 1 st	\$100.00 Registration fee charged
Withdrawal prior to December 1 st	Maximum of 50% of registration fee refunded

No refunds will be issued after December 1st.

Payment of the registration fee is your commitment to the program.

Insurance

Players are covered by USA Hockey insurance while participating in NFHL activities once registration has been paid in full. The insurance policy is effective from September 1st through August 31st of each year. There are a number of exclusions including travel to and from practices, fighting, intentional acts, players' personal property etc. To obtain more information, please refer to the USA Hockey website.

Equipment

It is necessary for the protection and safety of the skaters that they have properly fitted equipment. Players will not be allowed to participate on any on-ice activities without wearing necessary protective equipment. For information on hockey equipment, or help with proper fitting please contact your child's coach, manager or any member of the Board of Directors.

REQUIRED EQUIPMENT FOR ALL LEVELS

- HECC Approved Helmet with approved full-face mask
- Mouth guard- attached
- Supporter with cup (Males)
- Elbow pads
- Shin pads
- Shoulder pads
- Hockey gloves
- Hockey skates
- Hockey stick
- Throat protector (Neck Guard)
- Hockey socks
- Hockey Pants
- Neck guard
- Jersey
- Garter belt (to hold socks up)

Locker Rooms

Use of the rink and the locker rooms is a privilege, not a right. The Civic Center may restrict use of locker rooms. Prior to a practice or game, players should arrive at the rink to dress at a time designated by individual coaches. NFHL will not tolerate excessive noise, rough-housing, physical abuse of locker rooms, inappropriate language or other displays of poor judgment. If the Civic Center's Manager-on-Duty becomes involved in any locker room issues, the offending team's locker room privileges may be suspended. It is a team responsibility to clean locker rooms after use, and leave them in an orderly fashion. The offending team, or individual, if known, will be held financially responsible for any damage they may cause to a locker room.

Team coaches, managers and parents will work together to provide for adult supervision in the locker room. Players who are disruptive in the locker rooms will be benched for a period of time determined by the head coach. Players who continue to misbehave will be required to dress at home.

Parents of Pee-Wee Division, and below, players will be allowed in the locker rooms to help dress their children and tie their skates. Players at the Bantam level and older should be able to tie their own skates, thus their parents will not be allowed in the locker room without the coaches or team manager's authorization.

Teams with males and females on their team should ensure that all players are dressed on time and appropriately so that all players can attend team meetings if held in a locker room without embarrassment or inconvenience. Accommodations will be made for female players to get dressed in separate facilities.

Parents need to respect the time before and after a game for the coaches to talk with the team in private to prepare or evaluate a game.

Locker Room Schedule

- 5:30 Mini Mites and Mites in the Locker rooms
- 6:45 Squirts and Pee-Wee's dress in chairs
- 8:00 Bantams and Midgets dress in Locker rooms

Game and Practice Cancellations

Cancellations occasionally do occur. The NFHL staff will do their utmost to communicate any cancellations at least two hours before the scheduled activity. This information will be posted on the leagues web site or by e-mail.

Coach Selection

NFHL's coaches are all unpaid volunteers. Qualifications include:

- Coaching certification Level (I, II or III)
- Hockey knowledge and skills
- Coaching experience
- Ability to work effectively with children and other NFHL volunteers
- Maturity and responsibility
- Ability to put in the time and effort required throughout the season
- Ability to create a positive experience for the team
- Passed criminal background check

The Coach-in-Chief /ACE will interview candidates and select the most qualified coaches from the applicant group. Selection is at the discretion of the Coach-in-Chief /ACE. Individuals interested in coaching should contact the Coach-in-Chief /ACE. Coaches are required to sign a Coaches Code of Conduct setting forth coaching performance standards. A background check (child abuse screening) will be required.

Team Rules and Meetings

Each Head Coach will establish individual team rules. Individual team rules must be in writing and submitted to the Coach-in-Chief /ACE for prior review and approval. Before the first game of the season, Head Coaches will hold a team meeting with players and parents to discuss and explain team rules. Coaches are encouraged to have team meetings with players and parents on a regular basis throughout the season to provide information, resolve concerns and answer questions. Team rules may vary from team to team and it is the responsibility of the team manager/head coach to get the information to the parents.

Team Captains

At the Squirt level and above, each Head Coach may choose a captain and an assistant captain. All team captains are expected to demonstrate leadership by example. At the Bantam and Midget levels, Head Coaches may request captains to play a more active leadership role. Head Coaches should establish realistic goals and meet with team captains to clearly explain their expectations.

Coaches Expectations

Coaches have the primary responsibility for ensuring players meet their obligations to their teammates and to NFHL. Coaches expect their players to exceed the minimum standards of behavior. For example, a player should avoid being disruptive or inattentive during practice, making negative comments, complaining or whining, blaming goals or losses on individual teammates or otherwise not being a team player.

NFHL expects coaches to evaluate and make judgments regarding players' behavior and, when necessary, to make corrective action. If players or parents wish to discuss the reasons for a coach's decision, they should first discuss them with the coach.

Number of Games and Practices

It is the league's desire that each team have a minimum of two ice touches per week either full or half ice based on several factors for the entire season. However, since we purchase the ice from the Pensacola Civic Center, which periodically schedules other uses for the building, two touches a week is only a desire. NFHL determines the total number of ice touches available to a division and will work with team coaches to determine exactly how and when those touches will be used. Special considerations can sometimes be made to accommodate coaching requests. NFHL defines an ice touch as one hour of scheduled ice time, coaches will determine if that hour is used as a practice or a recreation game / scrimmage. Normally, a 15 minute time period is scheduled between touches to re-surface the ice.

Five Minute Rule

NFHL promotes equal playing time for all players. Travel team coaches may elect to utilize the five minute rule during the third period of a close game. This rule generally utilizes the experienced players more during the last five minutes of play. Any questions or concerns should be directed to individual coaches.

Practice Attendance

Hockey is a team sport and players should attend as many practices as possible. At the Head Coach's discretion, failure to attend one or more practices during the week prior to any game may affect a player's game participation. Players must arrive at the rink in time to dress, attend team meetings and be on the ice on time. Each Head Coach will establish team rules regarding tardiness and absences.

If a child is involved with another sport and it overlaps with hockey, a discussion with the coach is recommended so that both parties are aware of commitment requirements.

Travel Hockey Teams

NFHL is a recreational / house level league program. Occasionally within divisions, there may exist enough players with a desire to develop a travel team. The Board of Directors will work with the Statewide Amateur Hockey of Florida Association (SAHOF) and the Southern Youth Hockey League (SYHL) to help secure travel team opportunities for any Jr. Ice Flyer Travel Team. ***IT IS IMPORTANT TO UNDERSTAND TRAVEL HOCKEY IS AN ADDITIONAL COST TO THE PLAYER AND NOT COVERED BY BASIC LEAGUE FEES.*** Scheduling of ice time for travel teams must be coordinated through the Board of Directors and will be considered second in priority to league schedule. Contact your coach or team manager for more information on travel hockey teams. Additionally, several players in NFHL participate with other travel hockey programs outside Pensacola and can be a good source to start with to fill any travel hockey goals.

Code of Conduct

All players, parent, coaches and managers will sign a NFHL Code of Conduct at the time of registration agreeing to abide by certain standards of conduct based on USA Hockey, SAHOF and NFHL guidelines. The Code of Conduct outlines in general terms a minimum standard of behavior. Players, parents, coaches and managers are expected to have an understanding of their obligations. If they are unsure, they should discuss any questions with their coach or their team manager. Failure to conform to the standards of the Code of Conduct will be a cause for action by the Discipline Committee. Copies of each code of conduct can be found at the end of this handbook.

Zero Tolerance Policy

In an effort to make ice hockey more desirable and rewarding experience for all participants, USA Hockey has instructed officials to adhere to certain points of emphasis relating to sportsmanship. This campaign is designed to require all players, coaches, officials, parents/spectators and team officials and administrators to maintain a sportsmanlike and educational atmosphere before, during and after all USA Hockey sanctioned games.

Examples of unsportsmanlike behavior:

- Openly disputes or argues any decision by an official
- Uses obscene or inappropriate language or gestures at any time
- Visually demonstrates any sign of dissatisfaction with an official's call
- Taunting of players, coaches, officials or spectators
- Throwing of objects in the viewing areas, player's area or on ice surface

USA Hockey's Zero Tolerance Policy must be adhered to at all times. Officials have the right, with no warning, to require removal of the offending person, assess penalties during a game to the team representing the offending person, as well as run the clock if it is not an advantage to that team. For more details see the USA Hockey website. A copy of the Zero Tolerance Policy is included at the end of this handbook.

Conduct Subject to Discipline

Examples of words or actions which will constitute a violation of the Code of Conduct include, but are not limited to the following:

- Making physical contact with any player, coach official, league representative, arena personnel or spectator.
- Taunting or threatening any player, coach, official, league representative, arena personnel or spectator.
- Going into the locker/dressing room of an opposing team or obstructing their access to or exit from said room or arena.
- Going into the official's locker/dressing room or obstructing their access to or exit from said room or arena.
- Using inappropriate, profane and/or vulgar language or mannerisms.
- Entering the ice surface without approval.
- Throwing of any object onto the ice surface, into the player area(s) or at another individual.
- Pounding or climbing on the glass.
- Use of alcohol, tobacco and controlled or illegal substances in the ice arena.
- Defacing or damaging property belonging to any individual, team, association or arena.
- Being involved in any activity that would warrant the summoning of law enforcement.
- Inciting any person(s) to become involved in any of the above listed behaviors.
- Any other conduct that is not in compliance with the Code of Conduct of NFHL and USA Hockey.
- NO youth on adult ice times or adult on youth ice. No one under the age 18 will be allowed to skate with adults. Only Exceptions Coaches and Referees.

Conflict Resolution

The Conflict Resolution Committee or Disciplinary Committee has been developed to provide a consistent and fair way to deal with disciplinary issues that may arise within the organization. The committee will consist of president of the board and board members. (per by-laws) The committee is used as a sounding board when problems and disciplinary issues arise. It is the goal of the committee to have problem and disciplinary situations resolved within a 72 hour period.

24 Hour Rule

Coaches should not discuss a game, a game incident or a situation that occurred during the game that has provoked an adverse emotional response or created a hostile situation until at least 24 hours after the fact. A member is not to approach a coach to discuss a game, a game incident or a situation that occurred during the game that has provoked an adverse emotional response or a hostile situation until at least 24 hours after the fact. An exemption to this being physical or sexual indiscretion or any situation that compromises the immediate safety of the children.

Protocol for Issuing Formal Complaints

NFHL recognizes the fact that over the course of a season certain issues may arise that need to be addressed by the Board of Directors. Please remember that we are all adults and professionals. Petty grievances should not be addressed by the Board. Should a formal complaint need to be issued, the following steps are required:

- **PHONE CALLS WILL NOT BE AN ACCEPTABLE MEANS OF ISSUING A COMPLAINT.**
- **NO COMPLAINT MAY BE ADDRESSED BEFORE A 24 HOUR PERIOD** (exception being physical or sexual indiscretion or any situation that compromises the immediate safety of the children).
- An appointment may be scheduled after the 24 hour cooling off period; however, no complaint will be addressed during this time.
- An appointment must be scheduled with the Conflict Resolution Committee. The appointment can be scheduled by contacting the President of the Board of Directors directly. This will be to schedule a meeting not to address a concern.
- A written letter of concern must be sent by the Parent/Coach prior to the meeting with the President (by e-mail is acceptable). The letter must in detail describe the concerns or actions that took place. The Parent/Coach and the President must sign the letter.
- An investigation of the complaint will follow the meeting. All parties will be notified of the decision within 72 hours. Should a situation require more time to fully investigate, the parties involved will be notified that an extension is required in order to complete the investigation.
- All letters, copies of email or other correspondences will be kept on file by the league secretary for two years.

Scholastic Guidelines

NFHL strongly believes that good grades are of greater long-term value than participation in youth sports. Parents should monitor their child's academic performance. If a player is having academic difficulty, parents are encouraged to discuss with the Head Coach and address the situation appropriately.

Parent Participation

Everyone wants their child to have the best possible hockey experience. Parents must get involved to help make this happen. NFHL is an all-volunteer organization. With over 100 players registered last season, many necessary tasks cannot be undertaken by a small group of volunteers. Opportunities will arise throughout the season that need volunteer support. In order to help make our league better and continue to grow, please consider offering some of you time as a volunteer.

Following are examples of opportunities to volunteer within NFHL (but not limited to):

Board of Directors	Head Coach	Assistant Coach
Team Manager	Scheduling Committee	Concession Committee
Concession Stand	Fundraising	Sponsorship Committee
Time Clock Scorekeeping		

Please remember that if you are asked to help, it is another parent volunteer doing the asking. Please do what you can and if the timing is not right, offer your assistance for another time. We really need everyone's help!

Fundraising

Player registration fees currently only cover the basic operating costs of NFHL programs. NFHL will need to depend upon sponsorships and gifts from businesses and individual members of the community to grow and fully fund its programs goals. Parents are encouraged to participate with future fundraising activities and to contact any board member if they are aware of potential sources of financial support.

All funds collected through fundraising will be submitted to the league treasure for accountability and tax exempt status.

NFHL is a 501(c)(3) tax exempt charitable organization and has also been granted sales tax exemption by the State of Florida.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO NFHL ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE!

We are definitely open to ideas and suggestions for the fundraising efforts!

Team / Individual Photographs

NFHL will coordinate for a professional photographer early in the season. This service is entirely optional, but if parents elect to purchase photos, any and all agreements or problems are between you and the photographer. The league is not responsible nor will they get involved to help settle problems.



**USA HOCKEY
PARTICIPANT
CODE OF CONDUCT**

NAME: _____

To be read and signed by you as a member of Team: _____

Participating in USA Hockey for the _____ season.

1. No swearing or abusive language on the bench, in the rink, or at any team function.
2. No lashing out at any official no matter what the call is. The coaching staff will handle all matters pertaining to officiating.
3. Anyone who receives a penalty will skate directly to the penalty box.
4. Fighting will not be tolerated. Fighting will result in an appearance before a Discipline Committee.
5. There will be no drinking, smoking, chewing of tobacco or use of illegal substance at any team function.
6. I will conduct myself in a befitting manner at all facilities (ice rink, hotel, restaurant, etc) during all team functions.
7. Any player or team official who cannot abide by these rules or violates them will be subject to further disciplinary action.

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Parents Code of Conduct
Northwest Florida Hockey League

2010/2011

I will enjoy my child's opportunity to experience the benefits of ice hockey.

I will not force my children to participate in hockey, but support their desire to play their chosen sport.

Children are involved in organized sports for their enjoyment. Make it fun.

I will trust in my child's ability to have fun as well as to perform and achieve excellence on his/her own.

I will encourage my child to play by the rules. Remember, children learn best by example, so applaud the good plays of both teams.

I will help my child to learn the right lessons from winning and losing and from individual accomplishments and mistakes.

I will not embarrass your child by yelling at players, coaches or officials. Showing a positive attitude toward the game and all of its participants will benefit your child.

I will ever yell or be physically abuse to my child after a game or practice— it is destructive. Work toward removing the physical and verbal abuse in youth sports.

I will respect my child's teammates and fellow parents as well as the players, parents and coaches from opposing teams.

I will give only encouragement and applaud only positive accomplishments whether for my child, his/her teammates, their opponents or the officials.

I will respect my child's coach and support his/her efforts.

I will not instruct from the sidelines unless asked to by the coach.

I will insure that my child will attend all games and practices possible and, when not possible, I agree to inform the coach in advance.

I will recognize the importance of volunteer coaches. They are important to the development of our child and the sport. Communicate with them and support them.

I will respect all facilities made available so my child can play games and practice his/her sport.

I will respect any equipment or uniform that may be loaned to my child so that he/she can participate.

I will respect the officials and their authority during games.

I will never demonstrate threatening or abusive behavior or use foul language in person or by e-mail.

I will be responsible to report to any perceived misconduct by coach, player, and parent or official to the board so it can be dealt with in the appropriate manner.

Parents Print Names: _____

Mother

Father

Parents Sign: _____

Mother

Father

Date: _____

Coaches Code of Conduct

Winning is a consideration, but not the only one, nor the most important one. Care more about the child than winning the game. Remember, players are involved in hockey for fun and enjoyment.

Be a positive role model to your players, display emotional maturity and be alert to the physical safety of players.

Be generous with your praise when it is deserved; be consistent and honest; be fair and just; do not criticize players publicly; learn to be a more effective communicator and coach; don't yell at players.

Adjust to personal needs and problems of players; be a good listener; never verbally or physically abuse a player or official; give all players the opportunity to improve their skills, gain confidence and develop self-esteem; teach them the basics.

Organize practices that are fun and challenging for your players. Familiarize yourself with the rules, techniques and strategies of hockey; encourage all your players to be team players

Maintain an open line of communication with your players' parents. Explain the goals and objectives of your association.

Be concerned with the overall development of your players. Stress good health habits and clean living.

To play the game is great, to love the game is greater.

Sign

RULES AND REGULATIONS AMATEUR HOCKEY

1. All children must be chaperoned at all times by an adult that is not playing hockey.
2. No swinging on rails.
3. No standing or walking on backs and arms of seats.
4. No standing on rail or hanging over glass at the penalty box at any time.
5. No horseplay allowed on or off the ice, especially with hockey sticks and pucks.
6. All players and guests must remain within the designated seating area, which will be roped off. No one is allowed to sit behind the players' benches.
7. Children will not be allowed to leave the building unless accompanied by an adult.
8. No children allowed in the penalty box unless they are a player.
9. Children are not allowed to operate the scoreboard at any time.
10. Administration hallway should not be used as a dressing area or play area.
11. Do not block elevator or Meeting Room A at any time.
12. There shall be no use of obscene, vulgar or racial language at any time on or off the ice. This includes players, parents or spectators.
13. There shall be no alcohol or illegal drugs consumed at any ice hockey practice, game or special event.
14. Hitting and fighting of players on or off the ice will not be tolerated.
15. Players and parents are required to make sure that all locker rooms, dressing areas, and players' bench areas are cleaned up after every practice and/or game.
16. Only coaches, players, and parents are allowed in the locker room.
17. A responsible adult must monitor the traffic in the zamboni area when children are using the locker room.
18. No one is allowed to stand in the zamboni area during practice or game time.
19. With the exception of certified coaches, no parent or guardian shall be allowed on the ice any time.
20. Spectators are prohibited from interfering and exciting players in the penalty box.
21. Players are not allowed to wear skates with skate guards into the Civic Center.
22. Parents and spectators are to refrain from beating on the glass when the players are on the ice.
23. Parents, players, and spectators shall refrain from bringing food, drinks or newspapers into the Civic Center.
24. Any complaints should be directed through the appropriate channels. The channels are as follows: coaches, team managers, youth directors, advisory committees, and finally the Board of Directors. Parents are not to call the Civic Center, the Ice Pilots, or County Commissioners to voice any complaints or objections.
25. Civic Center personnel reserve the right to escort from the building anyone who refuses to abide by the rules and regulations.

BY SIGNING BELOW I AM STATING THAT I HAVE READ, UNDERSTAND, AND WILL ABIDE BY THE ABOVE RULES.

NAME OF PLAYER (PLEASE PRINT)

SIGNATURE OF PLAYER OR PARENT/GUARDIAN DATE



NORTHWEST FLORIDA HOCKEY LEAGUE ZERO TOLERANCE POLICY

In an effort to make ice hockey a more enjoyable and rewarding experience for all participants, the Northwest Florida Hockey League (NFHL) has adopted a Zero Tolerance Policy with respect to the behavior of the players, coaches, parents, managers, and guardians who are members of the NFHL. We are committed to enforcing, in accordance with the regulations adopted by USA Hockey, the Statewide Amateur Hockey of Florida (SAHOF) and each league we participate in.

The Zero Tolerance Policy affords all participants direction in developing self-discipline, leadership, integrity, character, commitment, teamwork and a healthy attitude and respect for rules and regulations.

We expect and require that before, during and after any event in which a NFHL team participates the following standards of behavior are observed:

I. For Players:

Players shall not:

1. Openly dispute, argue with or protest a decision made by an official.
2. Use obscene or vulgar language at any time, even if not directed at any particular person.
3. Make any physical contact with body, puck, stick or other equipment with another player after the whistle has blown.
4. Taunt any other player.
5. Or any other un-sportsman like conduct.

Enforcement is generally determined by the game official but subject to further action.

II. For Coaches:

Coaches shall not:

1. Openly dispute or argue with an official's decision.
2. Use obscene or vulgar language at any time.
3. Make any aggressive physical contact with any player, parent or spectator.
4. Taunt any other player, coach or spectator.
5. Or any other un-sportsman like conduct.

Enforcement is generally determined by the game official but subject to further action.

III. For Parents and Spectators:

Parents and Spectators shall not:

1. Use obscene or vulgar language at any time.
2. Verbally dispute, argue with or protest an official's decision or conduct themselves in such a way as to taunt or ridicule officials.
3. Taunt, ridicule, provoke, bait or threaten players, coaches, officials or other spectators.

4. Throw any object inside/outside the rink or its surroundings which would create a safety hazard or create a delay in the game.
5. Exhibit any behavior where law enforcement is required to settle disputes or actions. Enforcement may be determined by the game official but will be subject to review by the NFHL. Parents / Spectators will not be allowed on the ice for any reason.

Violations and Sanctions:

Violations of the Zero Tolerance Policy shall be considered and reviewed by the NFHL Disciplinary Committee and penalties shall be assessed based upon the following classifications. Each case may also be reviewed and further discipline issued by USA Hockey, SAHOF or the league in which the team participates in.

Class 1 – A first time offense of a relatively basic nature, but which shall not include a violation under Class 3, will require a review by the NFHL Disciplinary Committee. Penalties may include reprimands and/or up to a two (2) game suspension including all team activities until the second game is complete.

Class 2 – Any repeat offense, any violation which requires the police or other authorities to become involved, any physical contact involving adults, any incident which endangers others or a public display detrimental to the NFHL will require a review by the NFHL Disciplinary Committee with a possible three (3) game to thirty (30) day suspension from all team activities.

Class 3 – The most serious violations involving threats, physical harm, repeated Class 2 violations or any other event determined extreme by the NFHL Board of Directors and/or the NFHL Disciplinary Committee will require an automatic nine (9) month suspension and require a reinstatement hearing before being accepted back to the Club. The case will automatically be referred to SAHOF for further action.