# Spruce View Minor Hockey Code of Conduct





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#### Spruce View Minor Hockey Code of Conduct

Spruce View Minor Hockey has become under the increased awareness of improper conduct within and surrounding our association. This can be detrimental to the development of players, coaches, officials and volunteer in our minor hockey and can be directly linked to many participants exiting the game. We have developed this policy and procedures to ensure the proper behaviours for our members and fans participating within our hockey system. We are strongly opposed to detrimental behaviour and now are instituting a policy to deal with improper conduct.

Conduct of spectators, parents, coaches, officials, players and board members can be detrimental to the positive impact we have on the game. We support and confirm that there are many good members that foster the fundamental principles of fun, respect and positive development of the game. We have developed this system to support our minor hockey to further those values and make the game more enjoyable. These negative elements have and bring the wrong aspects of our reason for fostering the enjoyment of minor hockey. Some have lost focus to why be involved in the game. This is about promoting the participation in the sport of Hockey, enhancing the development of physical and mental skills, hard work and effort, and to foster development of moral and community standards. We are a small community and want to promote our members and teams with a supportive community spirit.

### **OBJECTIVES**

SVMHA wants to provide a program that promotes the development of these young values, morals, social maturity, physical and mental fitness. In order to achieve this we wish to provide: Respect to all, protection from harm, ethical conduct towards others, fairness and equality, caring attitudes, freedom to enjoy and respect for the game.

Each and every participant must abide by these objectives. Participants are (but not limited to) a player, coach, official, or spectator.

This Conduct is intended to be a way to promote and insure acceptable behaviour.

### UNACCEPTABLE BEHAVIOUR

Verbal or physical harassment abusing a game participant (player, coach, official) abusing a fan, staff, or board member misrepresenting the values of SVMHA member - not instilling the policy and procedures of SVMHA

### INTRODUCING the PROGRAM

This code of conduct will be implemented following the 2017 AGM. At registration all pledge from must be signed and completed. Player, coach, official can be signed at the commencement of the season.

These pledge forms are mandatory every year.

If the forms fail to be signed then Spruce View Minor Hockey has the ability to suspend such player, parent, official until the form is completed.

#### COMPLAINT PROCEDURE

Reporting of unacceptable behaviour by a board member, spectator, coach, player of official is the first step of the complaint handling procedure.

If an incident occurs which meets the definition of unacceptable behaviour and in the opinion of a player, spectator, coach, official or administrator, is no longer tolerable behaviour on behalf of our participants. If this is serious enough to warrant a formal complaint, an Incident Report Form must be completed. Then sent into the President or Vice President to begin an investigation.

#### ENFORCEMENT

Following an investigation, Spruce View Minor Hockey President or Vice President shall have the power to suspend any player, coach, staff, administrator, spectator of any team for any conduct on or off the ice which in the discretion is deemed to be unacceptable or detrimental to the game.

The President or Vice President shall have the power to prevent any of the above from viewing any game or activity or entering a facility for any conduct which is deemed to be unacceptable or detrimental to the association.

Further, they will also have to power to suspend any player, coach or team official to which the spectator is attached. This will be within a reasonable (or appropriate) time.

This authority may be delegated to team directors and officials if the President or Vice President designates.

Spruce View Minor Hockey association is prepared to enforce these provisions as required and is an integral part of the reporting and enforcement initiatives.

# Discipline Guidelines

In many instances offences are similar to those identified in the Hockey Alberta Minimum Suspension Guidelines and will be dealt with in the same manner.

When an individual is suspended, they are suspended from all Minor Hockey activities. This includes attending other sibling's games if they are a parent with other children playing hockey. It also includes refereeing games if they are a referee.

All suspensions should not be taken lightly and followed to ensure no subsequent suspensions will be handed out.

#### Severity

A. Mild (reprimand to 2 game suspension, may loose voting privileges or board decision making)

First offence, and individual has shown remorse and the actions are out of character.

- B. Moderate (minimum of 3 game suspension, will loose voting privileges & board decision making &/ or removal from the board)
   Second offence, and individual has not accepted responsibility for their actions.
- C. Severe (minimum of 5 games to 3 years suspension, will be removed from the board) This could be a physically threatening or assaulting another individual, and shows no remorse and will most likely reoffend.

### APPEAL

If an appeal is filed, Spruce View Minor Hockey will establish a special meeting of (minimum of 2 board members) within 48 hours of the incident enforcement. This appeal must have a clear summary of the grounds for the appeal. Any board member that is directly involved in the incident may remove themselves from the Appeal board process.

\*\*source SLMHA Positive Impact\*\*\*

#### Parents Pledge

The intention of this pledge to promote proper behaviour and respect within the Association. All parents must sign this pledge before being allowed to participate in hockey and must continue to observe the principles of Fair Play

Code of Conduct for Parents

- 1) I will not force my child to participate in hockey.
- 2) I will remember that my child plays hockey for his or her enjoyment, not mine.
- 3) I will encourage my child to play by the rules and to resolve conflict without resorting to hostility or violence.
- 4) I will teach my child that doing one's best is as important as winning so that my child will never feel defeated by the outcome of the GAME.
- 5) I will make my child feel like a winner every time by offering praise for competing fairly and hard.
- 6) I will never ridicule or yell at my child for making a mistake or losing a game.
- 7) I will remember that the children learn by example. I will applaud good plays and performances by both my child's team and their opponents.
- 8) I will never question the official's judgement or honesty in public. I recognize officials are being developed in the same manner as players.
- 9) I will support all efforts to remove verbal and physical abuse from children hockey games.
- 10) I will respect and show appreciation for the volunteers who give their time to hockey for my child.
- 11) I will respect the 24 hour rule and not approach team facilitators without abiding.
- 12) I will honour the Hockey Alberta liquor policy within their bylaws and will face consequences if I am intoxicated at minor hockey functions.

I agree to abide by the principles of this CODE as set and supported by this Association. I also agree and abide by the rules, regulations and decisions as set for this Association.

PRINT NAME\_\_\_\_\_ DATE\_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURES: PARENT\_\_\_\_\_

PARENT	
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Association Representative Signature\_\_\_\_\_

#### **Players** Pledge

The intention of this pledge to promote proper behaviour and respect within the Association. All parents must sign this pledge before being allowed to participate in hockey and must continue to observe the principles of Fair Play

Code of Conduct for Player

- 1) I will play hockey because I want to, not because others or coaches want me to.
- 2) I will play by the rules of hockey and in the spirit of the Game.
- 3) I will control my temper fighting or "mouthing-off" can spoil the activity for everyone.
- 4) I will respect my opponents.
- 5) I will do my best to be a team player.
- 6) I will remember that winning isn't everything that having fun, improving skills, making friends and doing my best are also important.
- 7) I will acknowledge all good plays and performances those of my team and my opponents.
- 8) I will remember that coaches and officials are there to help me. I will accept their decisions and show them respect.

I agree to abide by the principles of this CODE as set and supported by this Association. I also agree to abide by the rules, regulations and decisions as set for this Associations and Hockey Alberta.

Print Name	Date

Signature Player	Team

#### **Coaches Pledge**

The intention of this pledge to promote proper behaviour and respect within the Association. All parents must sign this pledge before being allowed to participate in hockey and must continue to observe the principles of Fair Play

Code of Conduct for Coaches/ Mangers / Team staff

- 1) I will be reasonable when scheduling games and practices remembering that young athletes have other interests and obligations.
- 2) I will teach my athletes to play fairly and to respect the rules, officials, opponents and teammates.
- 3) I will ensure all athletes receive equal instruction, discipline, support and appropriate, fair playing time.
- 4) I will not ridicule or yell at my athletes for making mistakes or for performing poorly. I will remember that children play to have fun and must be encouraged to have confidence in themselves.
- 5) I will make sure that equipment and facilities are safe and match the athlete's ages and ability.
- 6) I will remember that children need a coach they can respect. I will be generous with praise and set a good example.
- 7) I will obtain proper training and continue to upgrade my coaching skills.

I agree to abide by the principles of this CODE as set and supported by this Association.

I also agree to abide by the rules, regulations and decisions as set for this Association and Hockey Alberta.

Print Name		Date
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Signature\_\_\_\_\_

#### Officials Pledge

The intention of this pledge to promote proper behaviour and respect within the Association. All parents must sign this pledge before being allowed to participate in hockey and must continue to observe the principles of Fair Play

Code of Conduct for Officials

- 1) I will make sure that every players has a reasonable opportunity to perform to the best of his or her ability, within the rules.
- 2) I will avoid or remedy any situation that threatens the safety of the players.
- 3) I will maintain a healthy atmosphere and environment for competition.
- 4) I will not permit the intimidation of any player either by word or action. I will not tolerate unacceptable conduct toward officials, players, coaches, spectators, or myself.
- 5) I will be consistent and objective in calling all infractions, regardless of my personal feelings towards a team or individual player.
- 6) I will handle all conflicts firmly but with dignity.
- 7) I will accept my role as a teacher and role model for fair play, especially with young participants.
- 8) I will be open to discussion and contact with players before, during and after the game.
- 9) I will remain open to constructive criticism and show respect and consideration for different points of view.
- 10) I will obtain proper training to upgrade my officiating skills.
- 11) I will work in co-operation with coaches for the benefit of the Game.

I agree to abide by the principles of this CODE as set and supported by this Association.

I also agree to abide by the rules, regulations and decision as set for this Association and Hockey Alberta.

Name	Date
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Signature\_\_\_\_\_

#### Administrators Pledge

The intention of this pledge to promote proper behaviour and respect within the Association. All parents must sign this pledge before being allowed to participate in hockey and must continue to observe the principles of Fair Play

#### Code of Conduct for Administrators, Board Members

- 1) I will remember that each child plays hockey for his or her enjoyment, not mine.
- 2) I will maintain a healthy atmosphere and environment for competition.
- 3) I will accept my role as a teacher and role model for fair play
- 4) I will handle all conflicts firmly but with dignity
- 5) I will remain open to constructive criticism and show respect and consideration for different points of view.
- 6) I will avoid or remedy any situation that threatens the safety of the players.
- 7) I will work in co-operation with our Association for the benefit of the Game.
- 8) I will support the decisions made by and for this Association that are in the best interest for promoting Hockey in our Association.
- 9) I will not ridicule or yell at our Association members for making decisions in the best interest of our association and must encourage the decisions made.
- 10) I will remember that our Association needs a leader they can respect and set a good example of the leadership role.
- 11) I will preform by the rules of hockey, or Association and in the spirit of the Game.
- 12) I will make sure that equipment and facilities are safe and match the athlete's ages and ability.
- 13) I will control my temper fighting or "mouthing-off" can spoil the activity for everyone.
- 14) I will do my best to be a team player.
- 15) I will remember that coaches, officials, board members are here as volunteers to assists the Association with the normal workings of a season. I will accept their decisions and show them respect.
- 16) I will show grace and consistency with the inner workings of our Association and support day to day decisions that need to be made for the rules, regulations of the Season.
- 17) I will not talk behind or discuss the decisions made by the Association and the Board in the best interest of our Association.

I agree to abide by the principles of this CODE as set and supported by this Association. I also agree to abide by the rules, regulations and decisions as set for this Association and Hockey Alberta.

I agree to be discrete and uphold the decisions made and set forth by our Association.

Print Name	Date
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Signature\_\_\_\_\_

#### Complaint Form

This form is to be utilized by anyone in the Spruce View Minor Hockey Association to report an incident of unacceptable behaviour. An individual is considered to be displaying unacceptable behaviour by verbal or physically harassing &/or abusing a game participant but not limited to a player, parent, coach, official, spectator.

 Date & time of incident\_\_\_\_\_

 Location & team associated with the incident\_\_\_\_\_

 Name of additional witnesses\_\_\_\_\_\_

Please provide a clear description of the unacceptable behaviour witnessed.

You can expect an official investigation into your report.