

**JUNIOR A SUPPLEMENT**

**COACHES CODE OF CONDUCT**



**2016-2017**

## **JUNIOR A SUPPLEMENT – COACHES CODE OF CONDUCT**

The relationship between an athlete and their coach plays a critical role in the mental, physical and emotional development of the junior-aged hockey player. Coaches must respect the inherent power imbalance that exists in this relationship and must exercise extreme care and good judgment not to abuse it. Coaches must also recognize that they are conduits through which the values and goals of Junior A hockey are promoted and messaged to stakeholders.

The following Code of Conduct, in conjunction with the Junior A Supplement, has been developed to aid coaches in achieving a standard of behavior that will encourage their athletes to become well-rounded, self confident and productive human beings. Although this code is directed toward coaching conduct, it applies equally to other members of the “Team Leadership Staff”. It is imperative that all parties act in cooperation with and be accountable to one another to construct the optimum environment for the development of the junior-aged athlete.

### **Coaches have a responsibility to:**

1. Treat each individual fairly within the context of his or her activity, regardless of gender, place of origin, ethnicity, sexual orientation, religion, political belief or economic status.
2. Direct comments or criticism at the individual’s performance rather than the athlete, official, or volunteer.
3. Consistently display high personal standards and project a favorable image of their sport and of the coaching profession.
4. Refrain from public criticism of fellow coaches, athletes, officials and volunteers at all times.
5. Refrain from the use of profane, insulting, harassing or otherwise offensive language in the conduct of his/her duties.
6. Discourage the use of alcohol in conjunction with athletic events or victory celebrations at the playing site.
7. Ensure that the activity being undertaken is suitable given the experience, ability and fitness level of the junior-aged athlete and to educate each athlete as to their responsibilities in contributing to a safe environment.
8. Communicate and co-operate with registered medical practitioners in the diagnoses, treatment and management of their athletes’ medical and psychological issues.
9. Make the athlete’s future health and well-being the top priority when making decisions regarding an injured athlete’s ability to continue playing or training, and support the decisions made by the safety person/trainer.
10. Recognize when to refer athletes to other coaches or sport specialists. Allow athletes’ personal goals to take precedence over their own.

11. Regularly pursue ways to increase professional development and self-awareness.
12. Treat opponents and officials with due respect both in victory and defeat and encourage athletes to act accordingly. Actively encourage athletes to uphold the rules of their sport and the spirit of such rules.
13. Communicate and co-operate with the athletes' caregivers, involving them in management decisions pertaining to the athletes' development, safety and health.
14. Conduct practices and games in a manner that respects the many pressures placed on athletes as they strive to balance the physical, mental, and spiritual aspects of their lives.

**Coaches Must:**

1. Ensure the safety of the athletes with whom they work.
2. Respect athletes' dignity; verbal or physical behaviors' that constitute harassment or abuse are unacceptable.
3. Never advocate or condone the use of drugs or other banned performance enhancing substances.
4. Must be knowledgeable of the objectives of Junior A Supplement and it's supporting documents:
  - a) Discipline Guidelines
  - b) Players Handbook
  - c) Officials Handbook
  - d) Player Release Policy

I have read and understand the above statements and agree to conduct myself in a manner that demonstrates the standards established in the Coaching Code of Conduct and Coaching Code of Ethics.

Coach Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Coach Signature: \_\_\_\_\_  
*Please Print*

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Team / League: \_\_\_\_\_

Witness: \_\_\_\_\_