



VMHA Code of Conduct Acknowledgement and Agreement

The Code of Conduct applies to all Verner Minor Hockey Association participants (including without limitation players, parents/guardians and coaches/team management, officials, volunteers, officers and directors participating in VMHA activities.

Every VMHA player agrees that she or he will conduct themselves as per the **Player's Code**

Every parent or guardian of an VMHA player will conduct themselves as per the **Parent / Guardian Code**

Every VMHA Coach, Assistant, Manager, Trainer and other member of team management acknowledges that she/he is in a position of trust and authority and will conduct themselves as per the **Team Officials Code**.

Every member is expected to conduct themselves as expected in the **All Members' Code**

Verner Minor Hockey Association Code of Conduct Acknowledgement and Agreement

I _____ (print name) acknowledge and agree with the Code Of Conduct.

I _____ (print name) acknowledge and agree with the Code Of Conduct.

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I _____ (print name) acknowledge and agree with the Code Of Conduct.

Date: _____

Name (print)	Signature

Verner Minor Hockey Association Code of Conduct

Code of Conduct

The Verner Minor Hockey Association (VMHA) and the Northern Ontario Hockey Association (NOHA) identifies the standard of behaviour which is expected of all Verner Minor Hockey members and participants, which for the purpose of the policy shall include all players, parents/guardians, coaches, officials, volunteers, directors, officers, committee members, conveners, team managers, trainers, administrators and employees involved in any and all of VMHA and NOHA activities and events.

The VMHA is committed to providing an environment in which all individuals are treated with courtesy and respect. Members and participants of the VMHA shall conduct themselves at all times in a manner consistent with the values of the VMHA and the NOHA, which includes fairness, integrity and mutual respect.

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

VMHA members and participants shall at all times adhere to the VMHA and the NOHA's operational policies and procedures, rules and regulations governing all VMHA and NOHA events and activities and rules and regulations governing any competitions in which any member of the VMHA participates.

Members and participants of the VMHA shall not engage in any activity or behaviour, which interferes with a competition or with any player or team's preparation for a competition or which endangers the safety of others.

Members of VMHA shall refrain from comments or behaviours, which are disrespectful, offensive, abusive, racist or sexist. In particular, behaviour, which constitutes harassment, abuse or bullying, will not be tolerated and will be dealt with under the Northern Ontario Hockey Association policies and procedure (see link below).

<http://www.noha-hockey.com/speak-out-information-and-abuse-and-harassment/>

Failure to comply with this Code of Conduct may result in disciplinary action in accordance with the Discipline Policy of the NOHA. Such action may result in the member losing all privileges which come with membership in the VMHA, NOHA, Canadian Hockey Association, and Ontario Hockey Federation including the opportunity to participate in VMHA or NOHA activities and events, both present and future.

VMHA CODE OF CONDUCT AND ETHICS

ALL MEMBERS CODE

To establish and maintain standards for participants including all players, parents / guardians, team officials, executives and volunteers. The standards are comprised of, but not limited to, the following principles:

1. Members must respect the rights, dignity and worth of every human being and treat everyone equally within the context of their activity.
2. Members have a responsibility to declare a high degree of commitment and perform to that level of commitment.
3. Members must communicate and cooperate with other sports organizations, non-sports organizations, medical practitioners and educational institutions in the best interest of the players.
4. Members must encourage executives, parents/guardians, players and officials to obey the rules and spirit of the sport, and to treat each other in a courteous manner.
5. Members must never advocate the use of performance enhancing drugs or banned substances.
6. Members must be clear as to what is to be regarded as confidential information and not to divulge any such information without expressed approval of the individuals concerned.
7. Members must consistently display high personal standards both professionally and personally.
8. All reasonable steps must be taken to establish a safe environment in keeping with the regular and approved practices within the sport.
9. Participants have a responsibility to themselves and the Association to maintain their own effectiveness, resilience and abilities.
10. Members must not display an affiliation with any business or organization in a manner that falsely implies sponsorship or accreditation by that group.
11. Should a member of VMHA take legal action against VMHA the said member or spouse will be ineligible to sit on the VMHA Executive and all children of said member or spouse will be removed from the Association.
12. Members must respect the rules of the arena facility. Any team causing damage to the facility/change rooms will be responsible for cost of repairs.

TEAM OFFICIALS CODE

Team officials are expected to:

1. Be a resource person able to assist the athlete to develop his/her athletic potential and self dependency.
2. Recognize individual differences in athletes and always think of the athlete's long-term best interests.
3. Aim for excellence based on realistic goals. The activity undertaken must be suitable for the age and ability of the players.
4. Lead by example. Teach and practice co-operation, self-discipline, respect for officials and opponents and proper attitudes in language, dress and deportment. Rules are mutual agreements that no one should evade or break.
5. Make sport challenging and fun. Skills and techniques need not be learned painfully. Ensure that all equipment and facilities meet current safety standards.
6. Be honest and consistent with athletes. They appreciate knowing where they stand.
7. Be prepared to interact in a positive manner with administrators, league officials, on-ice & off-ice officials and parents/guardians.
8. Be responsible people who are flexible and willing to continually learn and develop.
9. Follow the advice of a physician when determining when an injured player is ready to play again.
10. Set and monitor the boundaries between a working relationship and friendship with players. Team officials must realize that certain situations or friendly actions could be misinterpreted, not only by

the player, but also by others motivated by jealousy, dislike or mistrust and could lead to allegations or misconduct or impropriety.

11. Conduct of the team on and off the ice is the responsibility of the Team Officials.

PARENTS/GUARDIANS CODE

1. Do not force an unwilling child to participate in sports.
2. Remember, children are involved in organized sports for their enjoyment, not yours.
3. Encourage your child always to play by the rules.
4. Teach your child that honest effort is more important than victory so that the result of each game is accepted without undue disappointment.
5. Turn defeat to victory by helping your child work towards skill improvement and good sportsmanship. Never ridicule or yell at your child for making a mistake or losing a competition.
6. Remember that children learn best by example. Applaud good plays by your team and by members of the opposing team.
7. Do not publicly question the officials' judgment and never their honesty.
8. Support all efforts to remove verbal and physical abuse from the children's sporting activities.
9. Recognize the value and importance of volunteer team officials. They give their time and resources to provide recreational activities for your child.
10. Set an example by supporting and respecting your child's team officials. When problems arise, communicate on an individual basis, after the 24 hour cool-down period. Public comments are not appropriate.

PLAYERS CODE

1. Play for the fun of it, not just to please your parents/guardians or coach.
2. Play by the rules.
3. Never argue with the officials' decisions. Let your captain or coach ask any necessary questions.
4. Control your temper - no mouthing off, breaking sticks, throwing gloves or other equipment.
5. Work equally hard for yourself and your team - your team's performance will benefit and so will you.
6. Be a good sport. Cheer all good players, whether it's your team(s) or your opponents.
7. Treat all players as you yourself would like to be treated. Don't interfere with, bully or take unfair advantage of any player.
8. Remember that the goals of the game are to have fun, improve your skills and feel good. Don't be a show-off or always try to get the most points or penalties.
9. Co-operate with your team officials, team mates and opponents, for without them, you do not have a game.
10. Remember, you are representing yourself, your parents/guardians, your team, your sponsor and your town at all times to and from the arena.

SPECTATORS CODE

1. Remember that children play organized sports for their own fun and enjoyment. They are not there to entertain you and they are NOT miniature pro athletes.
2. Be on your best behaviour. Don't use profane language or harass players, team officials or on-ice and off-ice officials.
3. Applaud good plays by your own team and the visiting team.
4. Show respect for your team's opponents. Without them, there would be no game.
5. Never ridicule or scold a child for making a mistake during a competition.
6. Condemn the use of violence in all forms.
7. Respect the officials' decisions.
8. Encourage players always to play according to the rules.