

# DELAWARE VALLEY HOCKEY LEAGUE

## CODE OF CONDUCT



**2020 – 2021 SEASON**

# DELAWARE VALLEY HOCKEY LEAGUE

## CODE OF CONDUCT

To: Coaches, Parents, Spectators, Players  
Member Associations Delaware Valley Hockey League  
From: The Executive Committee  
Board of Directors Delaware Valley Hockey League  
Re: League and Non-League Games

### Introduction -- Spectator Conduct

The Delaware Valley Hockey League (DVHL) was created to promote competition and good sportsmanship at the Youth Level for any and all children wanting to play the game of ice hockey. Discipline is meted out in accordance with all USA Hockey rules, and, in some cases, stronger rules in the DVHL.

Unfortunately, few rules relating to USA Hockey focus on parental/spectator/player conduct. Over the past few years, there have been ugly incidents involving parents, spectators and players at hockey games in our area. Fortunately, most parents, players and spectators conduct themselves in an orderly, sportsmanlike manner during games, and are a true credit to the sport of your hockey. For all of you, take this letter as a form of support, and understand the DVHL is ready to address the issue, so you can enjoy yourself watching your child's game.

For those parents, players and spectators falling into the very small minority of troublemakers, take this letter very personally, and be prepared for a long year, or to put it more succinctly, a very short year! Your actions will cost you financially, result in the suspension and/or expulsion from your organization, and possibly cost your child valuable ice time. The attached policy statement regarding this issue has been approved by the DVHL Board of Directors.

It is proof the DVHL will not tolerate any inappropriate conduct, lack of sportsmanship or good will that the game of ice hockey is supposed to promote. It will force each member organization to police its Club, and ensure the problems are addressed and corrected, either through suspension or expulsion from the organization.

While the policy statement appears strong, we must all realize we are taking the game away from the kids, and we, the parents, are the only ones that can give it back!

Agreed upon by all member Clubs of the DVHL.

A.M. Montagna, President  
October 13, 1993  
April 14, 1994  
April 12, 1995  
Colleen Marinari, President  
April 8, 1996  
April 9, 1997  
December 9, 1998  
April 14, 1999  
April 12, 2000  
April 12, 2001  
April 11, 2002  
April 13, 2005  
March 14, 2018

**RULES FOR COACH/PARENT/PLAYER/SPECTATOR CONDUCT  
DELAWARE VALLEY HOCKEY LEAGUE  
LEAGUE AND NON-LEAGUE COMPETITION**

All parents, players and spectators will conduct themselves in an orderly, sportsmanlike and professional manner when attending a Delaware Valley Hockey League (DVHL) League or Non-League game. Any report of disorderly conduct in the rink, parking lot, etc. including, but not limited to the following will not be tolerated:

- Parents going on the ice.
- Parents going into the referees' locker room or opposing team's locker room.
- Physical abuse of referees, coaches, players or rink employees.
- Verbal abuse of the above participants, to the point of obscene, racial, ethnic or sexual slurs.
- Fighting among parents or spectators in the stands.
- Any problem with crowd control that results in the summoning of police.
- Any issues that are not covered above that result in loss of control by a parent, player or spectator.

All reports given to the DVHL by referees, rink management or either of the participating organizations will be reviewed and if necessary investigated by the DVHL as follows:

Upon notification, each member organization must investigate the alleged incident and send a written report to the President and Commissioner of the DVHL, outlining the incident, and action to be taken by each organization. Under no circumstances will either organization minimize the gravity of the incident. They will provide the facts as requested by the DVHL.

After review of the written reports, the Executive and Disciplinary Committees can recommend the following:

- Fines for one or both member organizations/parents, as indicated below:
- First Offense: \$150.00 and/or non-monetary discipline as determined by the Commissioner(s)
- Second Offense: \$300.00 and/or non-monetary discipline as determined by the Commissioner(s)
- Third Offense: \$600.00 and/or non-monetary discipline as determined by the Commissioner(s) plus probation and possible suspension of League privileges, including playing of games and participation at District Tournaments as determined by the Executive Committee.

Suspension of parents, guardians, players or spectators involved in two altercations. Parents, players or spectators cannot attend any future games, League or Non-League. The parents, players or spectators Club will ensure the suspension is enforced. The suspended party must then petition the DVHL, through their Club, in person, for reinstatement. If a parent or guardian does not abide by the rulings, the Club will suspend the parent's or guardian's child from further participation until the parent or guardian does abide. Any suspended party reinstated after petition, involved in a third altercation will be suspended for the balance of the hockey season. The DVHL will recommend the party's expulsion from the Club and will require a hearing before this party or their child is registered with any club in the DVHL. Referees are authorized by the DVHL to utilize Zero Tolerance standards when addressing spectators and issuing reports on same.

The Clubs in the DVHL are expected to monitor their teams, including their parents, spectators and players. These rules, while harsh, are expected to weed out the problems in each organization, since these parents, players and spectators cannot control themselves, and will certainly test the system.

**THESE RULES, ALONG WITH THE COVER MEMO MUST BE COVERED WITH EACH PARENT IN THE CLUB.  
THEY CANNOT BE SURPRISED IF AND WHEN AN ISSUE ARISES.**

Agreed upon by all member Clubs of the DVHL.

A.M. Montagna, President  
October 13, 1993  
April 13, 1994  
April 12, 1995

Colleen Marinari, President  
April 12, 2000  
April 13, 2005  
August 12, 2009  
March 12, 2014  
March 19, 2015  
March 14, 2018

**DELAWARE VALLEY HOCKEY LEAGUE**  
**CODE OF CONDUCT ACCEPTANCE FORM FOR 2020-2021 SEASON**

NAME OF CLUB: \_\_\_\_\_

NAME OF PLAYER/COACH: \_\_\_\_\_

TEAM OF PLAYER: MITE    SQUIRT    PEEWEE    BANTAM    MIDGET 16    MIDGET 18

LEVEL OF TEAM: MITE            AA            A            B            LIMITED    COMBO

**Coach/Parental/Guardian DVHL Code of Conduct Pledge**

- We will show respect and support for coaches and officials, prior, during and after the game.
  
- We will ensure that our child behaves in a sportsmanlike manner.
  
- We will demonstrate respect and support for all players and families, including opponents' before, during and after the game.
  
- We will be mindful of the need for player development over the need to win.
  
- We will ensure that our child not use performance-enhancing drugs.
  
- We will refrain from coaching or instructing any players during a game or practice unless I am their official coach.
  
- We will abide by the rulings of the officials and coaches and league administrators during and after the game.
  
- We will demand and demonstrate a healthy sports environment by refraining from alcohol and tobacco use during all sporting events.
  
- I have read and understand the DVHL Code of Conduct and pledge to follow the code and the policy regarding acceptable behavior. I will accept and support the league sanctions imposed to foster a sportsmanlike atmosphere on behalf of myself, my family, my player and any spectators that are associated with my family

Signed or accepted by electronic signature:

\_\_\_\_\_ (Coach/Parent/Guardian)

Date: \_\_\_\_\_