

SUBURBAN HIGH SCHOOL HOCKEY LEAGUE

STUDENT/ATHLETE CODE OF CONDUCT

This Code of Conduct is intended as a statement of the Suburban High School Hockey League (“SHSHL”) policy for student/athlete Conduct. It is designed to outline the minimum acceptable behavior for student/athletes participating in League games and events. It is the goal of the SHSHL to conform its policies and practices to those of the governing athletic bodies of the other inter-scholastic sports in order to gain greater acceptance of the league by its member schools and the applicable state athletic boards. It is expected that you, your coach and your member school hockey program will follow this Code and will enforce its provisions. Any student/athlete who is determined by the SHSHL to violate this Code of Conduct may be suspended or expelled from SHSHL activities.

I. General

This Code of Conduct is for student/athletes privileged to compete in the SHSHL athletic programs and events. While you are participating in SHSHL programs and events, you are representing yourself, your school and the League. To be eligible to participate in SHSHL events, you must comply with the letter and spirit of this Code of Conduct. This Code is not intended to replace or supersede any codes of conduct that may exist or be adopted by your member high school. Rather, is intended to supplement your high school’s code of conduct and to set the minimum standards for our student/athletes for the benefit of every participant and spectator. This Code of Conduct applies to all student/athlete’s conduct during the SHSHL season.

II. Academic & Attendance Requirements

- a. ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS. To be eligible to participate in SHSHL events you must pursue a full-time defined curriculum approved by your principal. You must meet all of the academic requirements of your school applicable to athletic participation. You must be passing all of your subjects as of every Friday during the grading period in order to participate in SHSHL games. If you fail to meet this requirement, you will be placed on probation by your team for the following week. If you fail to bring your failing grade up to a passing level during the probation week, you will be ineligible to participate in further SHSHL activities until you bring your grade up to a passing level.
- b. ATTENDANCE REQUIREMENTS. You are only eligible to play SHSHL games while you are enrolled as a full-time student. You cannot participate in an SHSHL game on a day that you are absent or suspended from school. You are not considered absent on days that you are in attendance by 10:30 a.m. or on days that you attend an out-of-class school-related function.

III. Illegal Conduct

- a. ILLEGAL ACTIVITIES. You are expected to avoid engaging in illegal activities at school and at home. Any student/athlete who is convicted of any illegal activity shall be suspended or expelled from all SHSHL events for a period of time to be determined by the League. The SHSHL shall have the sole discretion to suspend a student/athlete pending the investigation or criminal process associated with a charge of criminal misconduct.
 1. Drugs, Alcohol and Mood Altering Substances. You shall not consume, possess or distribute drugs, alcohol, tobacco or look-alike drugs or controlled substances nor shall you possess drug paraphernalia on or off school property.
 2. Firearms and Dangerous Devices. You shall not use or bring firearms, explosives or other dangerous devices to school or to any team or SHSHL event.
 3. Theft or Malicious Destruction of Property. You shall not steal or destroy the property of others at school or at any team or SHSHL event.

IV. Violent, Abusive or Inappropriate Conduct

- a. PHYSICAL VIOLENCE AND ABUSE. You shall not engage in fighting, taunting, or other types of violent or abusive behavior in school or at team practices or SHSHL events.
- b. UNSPORTSMANLIKE CONDUCT. Displays of unsportsmanlike conduct toward an opponent, teammate, official or coach/advisor or the use of profanity is unacceptable at any time, whether in a practice or an SHSHL game. Your coach will address all offenses. Any offense that occurs during a team practice may be referred by your coach to the SHSHL for disciplinary action.
- c. RACIAL & ETHNIC INTIMIDATION & ABUSE. You must respect the racial and ethnic differences of others and shall not engage in any racial or ethnic intimidation or abuse including, the use of verbal or written racial or ethnic slurs directed at another person in school or during any team or SHSHL event.
- d. HAZING. The SHSHL believes that student/athletes should be protected from hazing and/or initiation ceremonies that can have harmful physical or mental effects. All verbal, written or physical conduct which harasses, humiliates, persecutes any student/athlete or which disrupts or interferes with any student's curricular experience shall not be tolerated. You will not engage in any type of hazing activity and you are encouraged to report any such activity that you witness to your coach or school administrator.

V. Performance-Enhancing Substances

In order to minimize health and safety risks to student/athletes and to maintain ethical standards for athletic competition, you shall not supply, recommend or use any drug, medication or food supplement solely for athletic performance-enhancing purposes.

VI. Participation on an Athletic Team

- a. VARSITY TEAMS. It is important that you realize that participation on an athletic team is a privilege and not a right. Being on and maintaining one's membership on a team means accepting the responsibilities of a student/athlete. Every coach has the responsibility and authority for selecting his/her team. The criteria for selecting the team are developed by the coach. It is important to remember that there are no guarantees. The athletes best-suited for varsity competition will make the varsity team each year. Unlike recreational or intramural teams, equal or guaranteed playing time does not exist at the varsity level. In an effort to win, a varsity coach may use the players best-suited to the conditions or demands of the contest at that time.
- b. JV TEAMS. JV teams are developmental and exist to provide those athletes unable to participate on the varsity level, due to age, maturity, size or skill level an opportunity to develop skills and gain experience so that they may be considered for the varsity team. Having been a member of a team the previous year or even being a senior does not ensure that an athlete will automatically make, or move up to, any team.
- c. THE PLAYER-PARENT-COACH RELATIONSHIP. The parent-player-coach relationship is perhaps the most critical relationship in athletics. Players must be receptive to coaching. The team's goals, welfare and success must come before any individual. A parent naturally loves and is concerned with his or her child's welfare and wants the best for his or her child. However, an athlete can only have one coach. Through their personal experience and/or the proliferation of televised sporting events, some parents feel that they know more about the game than many coaches. While this expertise might heighten a parent's appreciation of the sport, being an interested parent does not make one the coach. While a parent may not agree with all decisions of a coach, how and when he or she expresses those feelings can have a decided affect upon the student/athlete. If a parent expresses a negative opinion in front of his or her child, he or she needs to remember that the child must return to practice with the team and may carry the parent's convictions. The player must interact with the coach. Allowing the coach to instruct and guide the team is crucial in many respects. Games and practice sessions are the equivalent to a student's classroom as there is real learning taking place there and the educational setting should not be compromised. Having a

player receive technical or strategic instruction at home may interfere and conflict with the instructional process at practice sessions and games. This may ultimately impede the player's progress and affect his or her playing time or ability to win a position on the team. Should a parent have any questions or concerns about a player or the team, he or she should not approach the coach at the conclusion of a contest. At this time, coaches have other responsibilities and it may be an emotional time. A parent should call and make an appointment for a later time and approach the meeting in a calm, courteous and logical manner. Parents have the right to expect that every candidate for a team will be treated fairly and given consideration. Coaches should be sensitive to the feelings of players and parents and particularly to a player's feelings of disappointment over being cut from a team. Coaches should handle the task of cutting players as positively as possible and be available to answer athletes' questions.

- d. **RISKS OF ATHLETIC PARTICIPATION.** In spite of protective equipment and the supervision and sound instruction by our coaches, there are risks associated when a player participates in athletics. Injuries in hockey can and do occur. All athletes and parents need to be aware and understand this possibility. It is the SHSHL and its member club's intent to create a safe and healthy environment for players to participate in athletic competition and the SHSHL welcomes any suggestions that coaches, players and parents may have toward enhancing this goal.

VII. DISCIPLINARY ACTION & PENALTIES

Violations of this Code of Conduct may subject a student/athlete to suspension or expulsion from all SHSHL games and events. Prior to being suspended or expelled from any SHSHL game or event for a violation of this Code of Conduct, a player shall have the right to request a hearing in accordance with the Dispute Resolution procedures of the SHSHL Bylaws.

VIII. SUBURBAN ONE LEAGUE – SPECTATORS CODE OF CONDUCT

In the interest of continued good relations in the field of athletics, all spectators are asked to:

1. Show their respect for their country by standing attentively and removing hats when the American flag passes during the playing and singing of the National Anthem.
2. Show their respect by standing for the Alma Maters of both schools.
3. Conduct themselves as ladies and gentlemen at all times, showing respect for visiting teams and injured athletes, by not booing participants on the ice and by respecting property.
4. Show respect for the game officials and refrain from booing their decisions or interfering with their control of the contest.
5. Recognize that vulgarity and indecent gestures are unacceptable.
6. Cheer under the organized guidance of the cheerleaders. Cheers that interfere with the opponent's cheering are unacceptable. Foot stomping in the stands is to be eliminated.
7. Recognize that noisemakers and signs in any [gymnasium] rink or at any indoor contest are unacceptable.
8. Recognize that littering premises, throwing confetti or paper and tossing objects onto the playing area are unacceptable.
9. Support musical groups for indoor activities. However such groups must be organized, school sponsored and supervised to play only before games and during half-time.
10. Food and beverage to be in designated areas. The gymnasium and pool area are not acceptable areas for consumption of food or beverages.
11. Follow the code of conduct for promoting good sportsmanship, adult and student alike.

Suburban One Schools reserve the right to eject any spectators whose conduct is detrimental to good sportsmanship. Misbehavior at sporting events may lead to prosecution or school disciplinary action.

I, _____ have read the above SHSHL Student/Athlete Code of Conduct and agree to abide by its terms. I understand and agree that if I violate the Code of Conduct, I may be subject to suspension or expulsion from SHSHL events and activities.

Student:

Dated: _____

I am the parent or guardian of the above-named Student/Athlete and I have read and agree to be bound by the SHSHL Spectator Code of Conduct. I agree and understand that if I violate the Spectator's Code of Conduct, I may be subject to expulsion from SHSHL events.

Dated: _____

Parent or Guardian

Dated: _____

Parent or Guardian