



## The Coaching and Ethical Philosophy of Acadia MHA

### **Introduction**

All coaches are a member and a representative of Acadia MHA; your personal conduct on and off the ice is of principle importance towards the quality program we intend to offer our players. As Head Coach, you and your team officials are responsible to uphold the following rules of conduct, ethics and procedures contained in the following documentation.

#### **1. ACADIA MHA Player Charter of Rights**

**Every player in our program has:**

1. The right to practice the sport of hockey
2. The right to have fun
3. The right to practice sport in a team environment as an equal
4. The right to be treated with respect
5. The right to be trained and surrounded by competent individuals
6. The right to train with adaptations for the individual
7. The right to practice sport in complete security and in a safe environment
8. The right to have proper rest
9. The right to try and fail
10. The right to receive a hockey education

#### **2. ACADIA MHA Coaches Ethical Guidelines**

1. I am coaching in order to provide a hockey education to our players.
2. I am coaching in order to work with my colleagues in a team environment.
3. I am coaching in order to improve myself as a coach partaking in as many seminars, clinics and coaches committee meetings as possible.
4. I am coaching in order to teach the values of respect, responsibility, honesty and integrity to my players, understanding that I will be their best example.
5. I will conduct myself in a responsible and professional manner with referees, parents, players, and members of the Acadia MHA Board of Directors understanding that I represent the Acadia MHA when fulfilling my responsibilities as a coach.
6. I will implement an Affiliation Program with the concerned teams in my particular category.
7. I will instruct my staff and personnel who are helping in any capacity with my team, to support and implement the **Coaching and Ethical Philosophy of the Acadia Minor Hockey Association.**



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### 3. The Coach and their Responsibilities

#### 1. Selection and Approval of Team Officials

- a) Your choice for Team Manager must be approved by the Acadia MHA Executive and attend the mandatory Acadia MHA Managers Clinic.
- b) Selection of assistant coaches and trainers must be submitted for approval by the Acadia MHA Executive at the first coaches meeting following coach selection. All team officials must have or obtain all coaching, safety and risk management certifications as mandated by HNSMC.

#### 2. Rules of Team Discipline

- a) A copy of the rules of team discipline shall be provided to the Chair of the Acadia MHA Discipline Committee a minimum of 2 weeks prior to the beginning of the season.
- b) The rules of **team discipline** as outlined by the coach (expectations of parents/guardians and players) must be outlined in written form prior to the start of the season and be submitted to the parents/guardians and players (during the first meeting with players and parents/guardians prior to the start of the season). It should be noted that team rules do not over rule the associations Discipline Policy. The team rules shall be signed by the player and one parent/guardian and kept by the coach (help will be provided if necessary).
- c) The team rules must clearly outline the consequences or penalties if the stated rules are ignored. This may even include the coach limiting a player's ice time. A coach cannot suspend a player. However, any conduct by a player/parent in violation of the team rules, the Acadia MHA Discipline Policy or which results in a penalty being assessed; which is as one incident of a serious nature or from a chronic pattern is of a serious nature and must be referred immediately to the Chair of the Acadia MHA Disciplinary Committee.

#### 3. Program Evaluation/ Coaching Evaluations

- a) Every coach shall maintain an annual plan (help will be provided if necessary), which shall be submitted to the Acadia MHA Coaching Mentor, once the schedule has been completed and the team has been selected.
- b) The coach shall work with the Coaching Mentor in any questionnaires or program evaluations, which might be given to any team during the course of the season.
- c) The coach shall be evaluated at the end of the season by the players, parents, and the Acadia MHA Coaching Mentor. The coach shall also complete a self-evaluation to be handed to the Coaching Mentor to be forwarded to the executive. The coach in conjunction with his staff shall complete a year-end review of their team and program.

#### 4. Contracting Professional Assistance

- a) The President must be notified beforehand concerning the hiring of any professional assistance for their team.



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### **4. Acadia MHA House League Ethical Philosophy**

- 1) House League Coaches are expected to obtain winning results from good ice utilization in practice and equal rotation of players during the game.
- 2) House League Coaches are expected to work in a *team environment* with their Acadia MHA Director and Convener, fellow coaches and the Technical Director with the objective of trying to achieve a balanced division.
- 3) House League Coaches are expected to implement the Acadia MHA Equal Ice-Time policy, which applies to every sequence of every game.

### **5. Acadia MHA Competitive League Ethical Philosophy**

- 1) A high level of commitment is required from all participants where the emphasis is on competing.
- 2) An Equal Ice-Time policy exists with allowances for coaches to use game strategies, as situations require i.e. power play, penalty kill.
- 3) During the final 5 minutes of a scheduled League Game, Provincial Play-Off Game and/or Tournament Game, coaches can shorten the bench to tie or win a game.
- 4) The coach must strike a balance between Fair Play and competitiveness.
- 5) You are expected to teach every tactical and situational aspect of the game to every player. Throughout the course of the season the coach is expected to allow all players a reasonable opportunity to use these skills in a game situation.
- 6) Every competitive coach is expected to have good communication with all players and parents.

## **Coaching Agreement House League/ Competitive**

### **Coaching Agreement**

*I shall respect and implement all ethics and principles as contained in the Coaching and Ethical Philosophies of the Acadia MHA and be further guided by those coaching requirements of the Acadia MHA, HNS and Hockey Canada.*

