



CODE OF CONDUCT

The following Code of Conduct is applicable for all Players, Coaches, Umpires, Technical Officials, Clubs, Parents and Spectators participating in or attending MVHA competitions or representing MVHA at approved competitions. The Code of Conduct allows for all involved to learn, improve and enjoy participation in the game and hence assist in fostering the sport of hockey.

JUNIOR PLAYERS

- Play by the rules.
- Play for enjoyment, not just to win or please your parents or coach.
- Never argue with umpires' decisions. Let your coach ask any necessary questions.
- Control your temper. No swearing, abuse or sledging.
- Remember, hockey is a team game. Encourage your team mates.
- Be a good sport. Recognise your opponents' good play, as well as your own teams.
- Exercise reasonable care to prevent injury by ensuring that you play within the rules. Accept responsibility for all actions taken.
- Co-operate with your coach, team mates and respect your opponents.

SENIOR PLAYERS

- Play by the rules.
- Play for enjoyment, not just to win.
- Never argue with umpires' decisions either during or after the game. If you have a coach, let them ask any necessary questions.
- Never abuse, harass or swear at coaches, umpires, officials, parents, spectators or other players.
- Remember, hockey is a team game. Encourage your team mates.
- Be a good sport. Recognise your opponents' good play, as well as your own teams.
- Exercise reasonable care to prevent injury by ensuring that you play within the rules. Accept responsibility for all actions taken.
- Co-operate with your coach, team mates and respect your opponents.

COACHES

- Teach your players to play by the rules.
- Be reasonable in your demands on players' time and enthusiasm.
- Don't put winning above all else.
- Never ridicule or scold a player for making a mistake.
- Develop team respect for opponents, umpires and opposing coaches.
- Never abuse, harass or criticise umpires or your own or opposition players, coaches or officials.
- Be generous with your praise and set a good example so players can respect their coach.
- Keep yourself informed on sound coaching principles.
- Show concern and caution toward sick and injured players.
- Deal with bad behaviour and unsporting conduct swiftly. If relating to juniors, involve the offending child's parents in resolving the problem.

UMPIRES

- Always attempt to be unbiased in game decisions and look to utilise the other umpire when in doubt.
- Never initiate or return abuse or harassment from a player, coach, parent or spectator.
- Always check for the appropriate wearing of protective equipment.
- Keep yourself informed on the laws of hockey and sound umpiring principles.
- Deal with bad behaviour and unsporting conduct during the game swiftly before it escalates

TECHNICAL OFFICIALS

- Never initiate or return abuse or harassment from a player, coach, parent or spectator.
- Deal with bad behaviour and unsporting conduct in game dugouts swiftly before it escalates.
- Keep yourself informed on the laws of hockey and always attempt to be unbiased in decisions.

CODE OF CONDUCT

CLUB

- Teach your players to play by the rules.
- Remember children are involved in hockey for their enjoyment, not the clubs.
- Encourage your Teams to be on their best behaviour as they are representing your club.
- Never abuse, harass or criticise their own or opposition players, coaches or umpires.
- Don't put winning above all else.
- Deal with bad behaviour and unsporting conduct swiftly. For juniors, involve the offending child's parents in resolving the problem.
- Keep yourself informed on the performance and behaviour of your Teams, Coaches, Players, Parents and Spectators.
- Show Club respect for opposition Clubs, Players, Umpires, Coaches and opposing Spectators.

PARENTS AND SPECTATORS

- Remember that children play sport for their fun. They are not there to entertain you.
- Never abuse, harass or criticise players, coaches, umpires or officials. Be on your best behaviour.
- Do not enter the playing field at any time whilst a game is in progress, unless requested by the umpire.
- Applaud good play by both teams and show respect for your opponents.
- Encourage players to play according to the rules.
- Teach children that making the effort is as important as winning.
- Help children improve their skills by the lessons of defeat as well as victory.
- Support all volunteers assisting to run the game including the umpires, officials, coaches and team managers. They give up their own time to provide the recreational activities for the enjoyment of all players and without them, there would be no hockey.

TREATMENT OF EQUIPMENT & FACILITIES

Maltreatment of equipment or facilities, either the Associations, Club's or individuals (including indiscriminate throwing of a hockey stick) is unacceptable and will not be tolerated and appropriate disciplinary action will be undertaken if this occurs.

CODE OF CONDUCT DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS

MVHA will not tolerate serious breaches of the Code of Conduct and any person or clubs found to have seriously breached the Code may be subject to disciplinary action. Such action may take the form of suspensions, banning from attending games, loss of team points or other sanctions as deemed appropriate.

RESOLUTION OF DISPUTES

Players and parents are requested to raise and attempt to resolve any game matters of concern with their relevant coach or team manager on the day or as soon as possible after the incident. If the matter is not resolved amicably or to the satisfaction of those concerned then the matter should first be referred to your Club Executive for consideration and if determined necessary referred to either the Judiciary Committee or MVHA Board as deemed appropriate, for review.



www.playbytherules.net.au

Policy Amendment

This policy will be reviewed annually and can only be amended on the approval of the Board of MVHA.