

## **CLUB, PLAYER, PARENT, COACH, UMPIRE AND SPECTATOR POLICY**

### **PRINCIPLES**

IMHI has adopted the following policy to assist in creating an environment that encourages skill development, teamwork, enjoyment and participation in the game of hockey.

### **CODE OF CONDUCT**

Refer to the Code of Conduct sheet over the page. IMHI will not tolerate any breaches of these codes and anyone found to have breached these codes will be subject to disciplinary action. Such action may take the form of suspension from games for players and coaches or banning spectators or parents from attending games.

### **RESOLUTION OF DISPUTES**

Players and parents are requested to raise and try to resolve any 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 be referred to your Club President for consideration and if and determined necessary referred to the IMHI Board for Judiciary Committee and/or Board review. Breaches of game day rules must be referred to the IMHI Board by the Tuesday following the match Day.

### **PLAYER ROTATIONS**

The rotation of players, in U13 junior competitions and below is Mandatory. The rotation of players in U15 and above competitions can be at the full discretion of the coach and team manager. Club or representative training attendance, attitude, skill level and the circumstances of the game should all be factors that are to be taken into account. However, it is expected that all players should experience fair and equitable time in the game throughout the season.

### **TREATMENT OF EQUIPMENT & FACILITIES**

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

### **PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT**

**Mouth guards and shin guards are compulsory for all grades**, unless medical or dental approval for non-wearing is registered with the Association. **Goal Keepers are required to wear full protective goalie gear including helmets**. Sunscreen lotion is encouraged to be worn when playing.

### **CODE OF CONDUCT**

The following Code of Conduct is applicable for all Clubs, Players, Coaches, Parents, Umpires and Spectators participating in or attending IMHI competitions or representing IMHI at approved competitions.

#### **JUNIOR PLAYERS Code of Conduct**

- Play for enjoyment, not just to win or please your parents or coach.
- Play by the rules.
- 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 Code of Conduct**

- Play for enjoyment, not just to win.
- Play by the rules.
- 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.

#### **PARENTS AND SPECTATORS Code of Conduct**

- 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, coaches and team managers. They give up their own time to provide recreational activities for all players and without them, there would be no hockey.

#### **COACHES AND OFFICIALS Code of Conduct**

- Be reasonable in your demands on players' time and enthusiasm.
- Teach your players to play by the rules.
- 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 Code of Conduct**

- Always attempt to be unbiased in game decisions and if appropriate 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.

#### **CLUB Code of Conduct**

- 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. 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.

*IMHI will not tolerate any serious breaches of the Code and anyone found to have breached the Code may be subject to disciplinary action. Such action may take the form of suspension from games for players or banning spectators or parents from attending games. By following the above Codes of Conduct our Association believes it will allow all to learn, improve and enjoy participation in the game and hence assist in fostering the game of hockey. For further advice refer: [www.playbytherules.net.au](http://www.playbytherules.net.au)*