

MCHA Code of Conduct for Fall/Winter 2011-2012 Season

In addition to the utilization of USA Hockey Rules, the MCHA requires each of our participants to read and accept the MCHA Code of Conduct:

1 DEFINITIONS

- 1.1 Registered Participant/Player – An individual who has signed all necessary forms, paid MCHA dues/Rink Fees, and agreed to abide to the MCHA Code of Conduct.
- 1.2 Captain/Alternate Captain - A registered player designated as one of the team spokesmen.
Player - A registered participant who actively participates in the game and who is on the official team roster.
- 1.3 Split Season Player - A registered participant who participates in half the games and who is on the official team roster.
- 1.4 Substitute: An individual who is registered with the league to fill in for players who are unable to attend their game
- 1.5 Spectator - An individual watching a game for entertainment with no physical involvement.
- 1.6 Contest Area – Defined as locker rooms, interior viewing/seating area in and around any rink – along with the internal lobby of the facility.
- 1.7 Commissioner/Chaplain Team – Each team has an assigned commissioner and chaplain

2 MCHA'S GOOD FAITH

- 2.1 The MCHA values sportsmanship, camaraderie and fair and equitable play. Players and substitutes who wish to participate in MCHA's sanctioned events agree to abide by the terms of the Code of Conduct.
- 2.2 As the MCHA acquires new players or teams, the MCHA allows such players and/or teams into the league with good faith that all players will act and play to the standards set forth in this document.
- 2.3 The MCHA is not responsible for a player or team's actions before, during or after a game.
- 2.4 The MCHA's duty is to uphold these standards on a reactive basis after a MCHA sanctioned game is complete to keep future game play as competitive, safe, and equitable as possible.
- 2.5 The MCHA provides managed skill level-based divisions to ensure equitable levels of play. As such, the MCHA reserves the right to move players to within these divisions through a multi-step evaluation process. Players moved by this process are not eligible for a refund
- 2.6 All players within the MCHA are required to register via the Pointstreak online registration system and provide the information requested to the best of their ability. This information is part of the process identified in 2.5 to support the MCHA equitable play policy. Misrepresentation of this information could result in an indefinite suspension from the MCHA.
- 2.7 All players are expected to meet the financial commitments that are required or agreed to upon registration within the MCHA. Full payment or a payment plan must be provided through Pointstreak.net prior to any player playing in the MCHA. THE MCHA provides flexible payments options for all players but each player must meet their financial obligations. A player's failure to meet their financial obligations to the MCHA will lead to a suspension of playing privileges until account receivables are cleared in full.

Revised: August 19th, 2011

MCHA Code of Conduct for Fall/Winter 2011-2012 Season

3 CODE OF CONDUCT

- 3.1 No player/substitute participating in a MCHA league shall clutch, shove, strike, or threaten a referee, player, spectator, or league official for any reason, on or off the ice surface.
- 3.2 No player/substitute participating in a MCHA league shall refuse, dispute, or argue to abide by a referee or official's decision. The MCHA supports the USA Hockey Rule Book's Zero Tolerance Policy, and the MCHA reserves the right to provide disciplinary actions beyond the official's on-ice ruling.
- 3.3 Only the designated team captain or alternate captains may discuss, in a polite, non-threatening manner, a ruling with an official for the purpose of clarifying the rule or the effects of such call. Any other discussion with an official is a direct violation of the MCHA's Code of Conduct Rule number two.
- 3.4 No player or substitute participating, or spectator watching a MCHA game shall use obscene gestures or vulgar language at any time, even though the gestures or swearing/vulgar language may not be directed at a particular individual or team. Any non-compliant player/substitute may be issued a warning or provided disciplinary actions beyond the official's on-ice ruling.
- 3.5 A spectator, who can be positively linked to a participating team, can cause such team further repercussions, as stated in your USA Hockey Rule Book, and MCHA reserves the right to provide disciplinary actions beyond the official's on-ice ruling. Furthermore, the MCHA reserves the right to ask any non-compliant spectator to leave the Contest Area until further noticed by a MCHA Director, Commissioner or other designated MCHA official.
- 3.6 No player/substitute participating in a MCHA league shall arrive to the Contest Area under the influence of alcohol or drugs. In addition, no player/substitute participating in a MCHA league shall consume alcohol or drugs while in the Contest Area. Furthermore, the MCHA supports USA Hockey's Rule 109b, discussing the use of alcoholic beverages on the players bench. The MCHA reserves the right to submit disciplinary actions beyond the official's on-ice ruling for players who appear under the influence of alcohol or drugs before or during a MCHA sanctioned game.
- 3.7 All players, substitutes, and spectators are expected to uphold the standard of play specified in the USA Hockey Rules and Regulations Manual in addition to the MCHA's Code of Conduct. In the case where the MCHA's Code of Conduct does not discuss unique situations, the USA Hockey Rules and Regulations Manual will be upheld. The MCHA reserves the right to seek additional resources to properly manage a player, substitute, or spectator's situation.
- 3.8 Sportsmanship is a key element of MCHA. To continue to foster a sense of community and sportsmanship, all players and substitutes will line-up after the game, remove their helmet and congratulate their opponent. All players and substitutes agree to meet at center ice for a post-game prayer. Players may choose not to participate in the prayer but are required to observe a moment of silence.

MCHA Code of Conduct for Fall/Winter 2011-2012 Season

4 PENALTIES

- 4.1 Each player/substitute participating in a MCHA league shall have a penalty minute “cap” where disciplinary actions will be assessed. A “penalty cap” can be defined as a maximum number of penalty minutes a player/substitute can serve in a MCHA sanctioned event before further off-ice disciplinary actions are assessed.
- 4.2 Penalties called against a player/substitute participating in a MCHA sanctioned game will be scored accordingly to USA Hockey Rules and Regulations. After the sanctioned match a score sheet will be delivered to the MCHA officials, where penalty minutes will be assessed and tallied.
- 4.3 Any player who incurs four penalties in the same game shall be immediately ejected from the game. This ejection does not include an automatic game misconduct penalty. This ejection does not include an automatic one game suspension or any additional penalty minutes recorded against the player’s penalty total for the season.
- 4.4 Once the penalty minutes have been calculated, each player/substitute will be evaluated against the Penalty Cap Guidelines. These guidelines are presented to each player prior to registering with the MCHA, but the MCHA reserves the right to adjust the MCHA Cap’s at anytime without reason.
 - 4.4.1 The Player Penalty Caps for MCHA leagues this season are:
 - 4.4.1.1 **25** minutes – One game suspension
 - 4.4.1.2 **35** minutes – Additional game suspension. Player is placed on probation for remainder of season, and must appear before accountability team
 - 4.4.1.3 **45** minutes – Season suspension
- 4.5 Any player who receives a suspension will begin serving that suspension(s) at the next scheduled MCHA game for the respective league in which the suspension was earned. Any player who attempts to participate in any MCHA game while suspended is subject to further disciplinary actions including possible season suspension. In addition, suspension(s) do carry over into subsequent season(s).
- 4.6 Once a player reaches or exceeds the season suspension penalty cap, that player is suspended for the remainder of the current season and is not eligible to receive a refund on any MCHA fee(s). All players suspended for the season must submit a written petition requesting to be readmitted to the league. The Commissioner/Chaplain Team will review the petition and will vote by majority whether to recommend to the President if the player is to return to the subsequent season. The Commissioner/Chaplain Team will make a ruling within 30 days after receipt of petition.
- 4.7 In addition the possible suspension(s) as a result of the afore-mentioned penalty cap, the Commissioner/Chaplain Team has the authority to recommend additional action involving the player(s), captain(s), and/or team(s) that are involved in any items(s) identified within this document and/or USA Hockey guidelines. The recommendations are made to the President of the organization, who has authority to approve them.
- 4.8 Any player who receives a Misconduct penalty as defined by USA Hockey Rule 404(a) will receive an automatic one game suspension. This suspension is in addition to the standard USA Hockey Rules and will follow the same guidelines as the automatic suspension for a Game Misconduct as defined by USA Hockey Rule 404(c). The Captain of the penalized player may appeal this suspension to the Accountability Commissioner/Chaplain team.

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MCHA Code of Conduct for Fall/Winter 2011-2012 Season

- 4.9 Any player/substitute who receives a 5 minute major for fighting will be suspended for the remainder of the current season and is not eligible to receive a refund on any MCHA fee(s). All players suspended for the season must submit a written petition requesting to be readmitted to the league. The Commissioner/Chaplain Team will review the petition and will vote by majority whether or not to recommend, to the President, to reinstate the player for the current season. The Commissioner/Chaplain Team will make a ruling within 30 days after receipt of petition.
- 4.10 The maximum number of goals scored in any one game by any one player/substitute shall be three. If a player/substitute scores a fourth goal in the same game, that player will be suspended for 1 game.
- 4.11 A 7 goal lead shall be considered 'safe' in the final 5 minutes of the third period. In the final 5 minutes of the game, if any player/substitute of the team scores a goal that results in a goal differential in excess of 7 goals, the player who scores the goal receives a 1 game suspension.

5 ANTI-DISCRIMINATION POLICY

- 5.1 MCHA prohibits discrimination in its programs on the basis of race, ethnicity, color, national origin, ancestry, gender, sexual orientation, religious beliefs, political beliefs, age, socioeconomic status, marital status, language, disability, or immigration status.

6 SEXUAL HARASSMENT POLICY

- 6.1 Sexual harassment is defined as: Unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature when submission to such conduct is made either explicitly or implicitly a term or condition of participation in hockey; Or submission to or rejection of such conduct by an individual is used as the basis for hockey participation and decisions affecting such an individual; Or such conduct has the purpose or effect of unreasonably interfering with an individual's performance or creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive hockey environment.
- 6.2 Any person who believes that he or she has been sexually harassed during an MCHA event may file either a formal or informal complaint with the MCHA Board of Directors. Confidentiality will be maintained to the fullest extent permitted.