



**SOUTH WOOD COUNTY
YOUTH HOCKEY ASSOCIATION**

**PARENT/PLAYER HANDBOOK
2011-2012**

INTRODUCTION:

Welcome to the South Wood County Youth Hockey Association (SWCYHA). We are a non-profit youth hockey organization operated by dedicated volunteers.

OUR MISSION IS TO:

- Provide a safe, fun and affordable hockey experience.
- Create an environment that emphasizes progressive skill development, team work, and respect for oneself and others.

OUR VISSION IS TO:

Have no child left behind – any child that wants to play hockey, can play hockey.

HISTORY:

SWCYHA was established in February of 1974. Many years of practices and games took place on outdoor rinks under some harsh winter weather.

In 1992, we were fortunate to have donors and volunteers dedicated to the establishment of an indoor ice facility, The South Wood County Recreation Center.

The South Wood County Recreation Center is the home rink of SWCYHA.

Our location address is:
2711 16th Street South
Wisconsin Rapids, WI

Our mailing address is:
PO BOX 1263
Wisconsin Rapids, WI, 54495-1263

PROGRAMS OFFERED:

The following programs are currently being offered by SWCYHA:

- Beginning Hockey: Learn to skate program, ages 3 to 8 years old. Provides the perfect entry point for all hockey players.
- Mini Mites: In-house program designed to teach 5 and 6 year olds the fundamentals of skating and provide an introduction to the game of hockey. Cross-Ice format will be used for most games/scrimmages.
- Mites L3&L4: Limited travel program for 7 and 8 year olds focusing on the fundamentals of skating and game skills. Teams will play approximately 20 games for level 3 and approximately 25 games for level 4 (including tournaments).
- Squirts: Travel program for 9 and 10 year olds. Teams generally play 25-35 games.
- PeeWees: Travel program for 11 and 12 year olds. Teams generally play 30-40 games.
- Bantams: Travel program for 13 and 14 year olds. Teams generally play 30-40 games.

- High School Club: Travel program for high school age players. The team co-ops with Marshfield Youth Hockey Association. Teams generally play 30-40 games.
- Girls U12: Travel program for all girls 12 years old and under. The team co-ops with Portage County Youth on Ice (PCYOI). Teams generally play 25-30 games.
- Girls U14: Travel program for all girls 13 and 14 years old. The team co-ops with PCYOI. Teams generally play 25-35 games.
- WIAA Varsity and Junior Varsity: Wisconsin Rapids Public School (WRPS) High School Boy's Hockey Program players are paying members of SWCYHA. The team is administered by WRPS staff under a formal agreement with SWCYHA.
- WIAA Girls Co-Op: High School Hockey program for female players who co-op with Wisconsin Rapids Lincoln, Stevens Point Area Senior High, Assumption High School, and Pacelli High School.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

The SWCYHA Board of Directors consists of twelve members who each serve a three year term. An annual election takes place at the end of each hockey season. Five Board members make up the Executive Committee as follows: The President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and past President. The executive positions are elected annually by the Board.

Name/Title	Home Phone	Cell Phone	Email-1
Susan Lamb – President	423-8687		susan@tlctravelangel.com
Kathi Hintz – Vice President	325-5021	697-9005	hkhintz@solarus.net
Laura Rawding – Secretary		424-0138	rawding.laura@gmail.com
Sherry Evenson – Treasurer	424-4292	570-1693	eveshe@rhahealthcare.org
Jay Capelle – Past President		213-6719	Jay.capelle@swcyha.org
Jim Duckett	887-3307		jduck@wctc.net
Nicole Gessert	424-0997	741-0997	gessert4@yahoo.com
Michael Gulenchyn	424-5265	213-8835	mcg@mosmc.com
Ron Auclair			Ron.auclair@swcyha.org
Randy Miller			Randy.miller@swcyha.org
Tina Slaven	424-4769	421-9447	auto@rockingems.com

ADDITIONAL SWCYHA CONTACT INFORMATION:

Referee Coordinator/Scheduler	Dan Janik	422-5229
ACE Coordinator	Jeff Gunderson	
Concessions	Gary Campbell Zella Wronski	887-4234 307-4374
Player Selection Committee Chair	Kathi Hintz	325-5021
Volunteer Hour Coordinator	Kelly Acker	325-6655
Website	Laura Rawding	424-0138
Tournament Director	Tina Slaven	424-4769
Building Maintenance	Ron Auclair	

SOUTH WOOD COUNTY RECREATION CENTER INFORMATION:

The South Wood County Recreation Center is a separate entity responsible for management of the ice arena. Contact information for the recreation center is as follows:

Rink Phone		421-3311
General Manager	Todd Knuth	423-5312
Operations Manager	Jim Arnold	424-1145 or 570-5516

REGISTRATION:

Every player who wishes to participate in the SWCYHA program must register annually with SWCYHA and pay a registration fee as determined by the SWCYHA Board of Directors. Fees are due in full by the deadline set annually by the Board. In addition to the registration fee, all families are required to fulfill a volunteer hour requirement as set forth in this handbook.

SWCYHA follows Wisconsin Amateur Hockey Association (WAHA) rules and regulations. WAHA rules regarding players' eligibility are based on areas of residency. Any transfer in/out of your specific and designated Association requires Board approval and must be performed according to WAHA rules and regulations.

Team tournament allotment for Mite Level 3 and 4, Squirt, Peewee, Bantam and High School Club will be determined by that team's ability to secure a team sponsor. It is up to the members of the team to solicit a sponsor. All tournament registration fees beyond team sponsorship given to each team are the team's responsibility. Tournament entry beyond the allotment must be discussed with and voted upon by all team players/parents prior to entry into an additional tournament. A home tournament is generally provided at each level; however, is not guaranteed.

All registration forms must be completed at registration. Please note, a player will not be allowed on the ice unless these forms have been completed.

All players and parents are required to read, sign, and abide by the SWCYHA Code of Conduct.

EQUIPMENT:

Team Colors:

SWCYHA colors are red and white. SWCYHA players must adhere to the following color coordination for all games. Breezers (pants) must be red. Helmets can be either red or white however red is preferred. Socks must be red and white. Although not mandatory, it is preferred that gloves are red or black in color. Color coordination does not apply to practice equipment.

Jerseys:

Jerseys are provided by SWCYHA to all Mite level players. Mite jerseys are to be worn for games only. Association jerseys must be cleaned and returned in good condition at the end of the season. Squirt level and above must purchase SWCYHA jerseys through the SWCYHA Equipment Coordinator. Everyone must have a red and a white jersey (home and away). Player numbers will be assigned by the Equipment Coordinator based on preference and availability.

Protective Equipment:

Mites

All equipment, except skates, is available on a rental basis for players at this level. The equipment must be returned in good condition at the end of the season.

Squirt and above

All parents are obligated to provide proper protective equipment to their own skaters for practices and games. This equipment includes skates, HECC approved helmet with a full cage, mouth guard, shoulder pads, elbow pads, breezers, protective cup, shin pads, stick, and gloves.

Goalie Equipment

SWCYHA provides the following equipment for goalies:

Mite and Squirt Levels– Leg Pads, Chest Protector, Blocker, Catcher, and Stick

Pee Wee – Leg Pads, and Chest Protector

Bantam – Leg Pads

High School Club – Leg Pads

Girls U12 & U14 – Leg Pads

VOLUNTEER HOURS:

Our organization has been built and run by volunteers. It will continue to be as great as the volunteers who run it. Please read through this carefully and ask if you have any questions.

Volunteer Hours Required Per Family: 40 hours

- **25 Concessions Stand Volunteer Hours:**
Hours must consist of at least:
 - ***2 hours must be from a WIAA Football Game
 - ***5 hours must be from WIAA Hockey Games (Three hours must be concessions)
 - ***2 hours must be from a WIAA Track Meet
 - ***1 hour must be from the Elite Tournament
- **15 Maintenance/Other Activities Hours:**
Hours must consist of at least:
 - ***2 hours of cleaning/tournament prep for your team's tournament weekend

Important Points to Know:

- Not more than 4 hours can be counted as penalty box hours.
- Not more than 5 hours can be counted as WIAA Staff hours.
- When you sign up for a shift, please arrive at your assignment on time. We all have busy schedules and kids to get home to. So, please be polite and be there when you say you will be. Also, when working concessions, we have tried very hard to estimate a time when the shift will be over. Sometimes it will be 10 minutes earlier, and sometimes it might run 10 minutes over. Please remember that it is courteous to stay until the work is done for the end of the shift. It is much easier for five people to clean up and put away the concessions stand rather than leave one person to do all the work that is left over. Sometimes it is a good idea to think ahead of what little jobs can be completed earlier in the concessions stand so clean up goes quicker at the very end. Everyone needs to pitch in and help. This is OUR Association and OUR responsibility.
- You will be able to sign up for WIAA Football, WIAA Hockey, and WIAA Track Meets during hockey registration. The sign-up book will be kept in the concessions stand once the hockey season starts and then you can sign up for additional hours at the rink. During football and track season, the sign-up sheet will be with Kelly Acker. You can sign up for games/meets by contacting her by telephone (325-6655) or e-mail acker@solarus.biz. It is your responsibility to be sure you sign up for your needed hours. The slots are given on a 'first come, first serve basis'.

- If you do not work your number of required WIAA hours or your share of required home tournament times, you will be billed for them at the end of the WIAA Track season.
- Children must be at least 13 years of age to help out in the concessions stand with a parent. For WIAA events, children must be at least 16 years of age to help in the concessions stand. No exceptions.
- Your team will be assigned to work the concessions stand a few weekends throughout the season. Team weekends have already been assigned, so please add this to your family calendar. If you have a conflict with your team's assigned concessions weekend, you can trade with another family or 'hire' someone to cover your shift. Each family on the team is expected to work their team's assigned weekends equally. The team manager is expected to make sure each family contributes equally and that all the slots are filled for the team's assigned weekends. Teams that do not fulfill their commitments will be penalized. Families that do not contribute to working their team's assigned weekends will be billed for their delinquent shifts. The team manager will report the families who do not fulfill their share to the SWCYHA Board.
- If a family fails to reach their 40 total required volunteer hours or any of the requirements set forth, the family will be billed at a rate of \$20.00 for each hour that is delinquent.
- Teams hosting their own home tournament will be equally responsible for all work hours for their team's tournament. Team managers have the flexibility to ask other teams to 'help out' or trade shifts if need be so families can watch their skaters during their tournament game time. Each family is expected to help out for their fair share of the tournament. Team managers will be approaching those families who are not equally represented. Families that do not contribute to working their fair share of their home tournament will be billed for the delinquent hours.
- There will be a few weekends throughout the season (example: WAHA State Tournament) that our Association will be hosting games and/or tournaments. The entire Association is responsible for helping to cover these events. These events are huge money-makers for our Association, and everyone's help is necessary. Please help out when you can.
- You can receive maintenance hours for cleaning at the South Wood County Recreation Center or for taking home paper or plastic for recycling. You can receive .25 hours for a fair amount of recycling.
- It is hard to put a value on how much time and expertise our volunteer Coaches, Assistant Coaches and Team Managers put into our Association. They are the backbone of the team, and we appreciate every minute of their time that is spent with our children. A 'Thank You' doesn't seem to be enough for all they do. The following volunteer positions will be credited volunteer hours for the amount indicated below:

***Head Coach (1 per team)

(Squirt Level and above) - 20 hours

(Mite Level) - 15 hours

***Assistant Coaches (2 per team)

(Squirt Level and above) - 15 hours

(Mite Level) - 10 hours

***Team Managers (1 per team, unless you choose to split this position/hours)

(All Levels) - 15 hours

Coach / Assistant Coach / Team Manager hours will be split half and half between your concessions volunteer hour account and their maintenance/other volunteer hour account.

- We have switched to a new system of recording volunteer hours. This system promises to save a lot of time and to be much more efficient to our needs. The recording of volunteer hours at the rink is your responsibility. While some people have done a fantastic job of keeping track of your own volunteer hours at home, it is not going to help you out if you don't do it at the rink as well. **MAKE SURE YOU RECORD YOUR HOURS AT THE RINK.** It is that simple. You will also have to be sure you record your hours with the correct description. While this system, like all new things, will take a little getting used to. We think you will find it very simple and much more accountable. The biggest error will be your human error in recording, so please take a little extra time recording your hours until we all get used to the new system and to be sure you are recording your hours correctly. And as always, ask if you have questions.
- **Unfulfilled hours will be billed at \$20.00 per hour and must be paid prior to the next registration date to continue participation in the SWCYHA.**

Families that have only a high school senior (WIAA OR CLUB) registered will be required to prepay for 20 of their volunteer hour requirement in the amount of \$400, to be collected at registration. The \$400 pre-payment will be returned upon completion of the 40 volunteer hour requirement.

PLAYER EVALUATION AND TEAM SELECTION:

All players have the option to participate in the player evaluation and team selection process. If a player chooses not to participate, they will automatically be placed into the lowest level team for their age bracket.

If a player misses the evaluation and team selection process because of late registration or other reasons, team placement will be determined per the current SWCYHA policy.

All players must be current with all the registration requirements to participate in the evaluation and selection process. All players must comply with SWCYHA guidelines with regards to proper equipment. Any player that is not in compliance with the registration or equipment requirements will be asked to leave the ice and will not be able to return to the ice until the situation is corrected. The Player Evaluation Committee is not allowed to provide any special considerations.

Level 2 Mites:

Teams will be formed at a date to be determined by the Mite Coordinator and Assistant Coaches, generally in late November. The Coordinator will divide the players into teams of equal playing ability. Some adjustments may be made if the abilities change significantly by mid-season. (The intent is to keep the teams equal and make it fun for all).

Level 3 & Level 4 Mites:

The L3 and L4 Mite program is an in-house program with limited travel. Team selection will take place in early November after the players have had time to practice and progress in their skills. The team selection process will involve the Mite Coordinator and Assistant Coaches. Registered Coaches from within SWCYHA but not at the Mite level may give additional input on player placement.

Squirt, PeeWee and Bantam:

Player evaluation and team selection will take place at the beginning of the season, usually around mid to the end of October. Dates will be announced in a timely manner once established by the SWCYHA Board of Directors.

Players will be assigned a random jersey to wear throughout the evaluation and selection process.

An independent Player Evaluation Committee will be responsible for the evaluation and placement of each player on a team based on the individual player's current age and skill level. Hockey skills to be evaluated will include skating, puck control, passing, shooting, and game situations (scrimmage). Upon completion of the team selection process, final rosters will be compiled for each team. All players will be notified of their individual team placement within 24 hours of completion of the selection process.

Questions regarding the team selection should be submitted in writing to the Player Selection Committee Chairperson. Evaluation forms are not available for player or parent review. Review and discussion will be limited to the individual's own evaluation and placement. No discussion will be held regarding another player's evaluation and placement. Upon request, a summary of the players' performance and comments will be provided.

Bantam Team Selection:

Bantam team selection will follow the above procedures; however, if any Bantam player tries out and is selected for the WIAA High School team, the following procedure will take place:

- Bantam teams will be reviewed to determine whether or not the number of players on each team remains appropriate (the objective is to equalize the numbers).
- If openings exist and after thorough review of the number of players per Bantam team, the SWCYHA Board of Directors Selection Committee will determine which player(s) will move up a level. Moving up a level will be based only upon the numerical placement/rankings determined by the Bantam evaluation and selection process.

Girl's Program:

Girls are allowed to choose to participate on either the youth coed program **or** the girl's program, but not both. If a female player desires to tryout and play for the youth coed program they must contact the President, Vice President or Secretary of SWCYHA on or before the declaration date to state their intent to tryout and play on a coed team. After a female player declares their intent to tryout for the youth coed team and completes the youth coed tryout, they will not be allowed to change programs (from coed to girls). For additional information see SWCYHA roster policy.

PRACTICES:

All practices for Mites through Bantam will be held at the South Wood County Recreation Center. Girl's Co-op U12 & U14 teams will have rotating practices at the SWCYHA and PCYOI rinks (possibly other rinks depending on co-op agreements). The High School Club Co-op team will have approximately two practices per week at the SWCYHA rink and a third practice alternating locations between Marshfield and PCYOI. In general, games will not begin until early November, therefore, additional practices will be held on weekends in both October and November.

It is the intention of SWCYHA to provide an approximate equal number of practices to all teams at the Squirt level and above. SWCYHA practice and game ice is purchased under a contract with the South Wood County Recreation Center. As an Association, we try our best to schedule practices to benefit the needs of ALL players. Several factors are taken into consideration when planning the overall schedule. This includes player's age, time of day or evening, impact of WIAA High School games, Coach's availability, religious commitments, holidays, and total number of teams.

Pre-season practices will begin immediately after teams are selected. Pre-season practice time will be a priority for approximately two weeks before season games begin. Once the season begins, your team will have designated practice days and times determined by the Head Practice Scheduler. Practice times will vary from time to time due to High School games, tournaments and other special events.

Each team is responsible for cleaning up the locker room, lavatory, shower, and player's bench after each practice or game.

Coaches must notify the Head Practice Scheduler in advance regarding any practice cancellations. Practice trades with another team are allowed only if Coaches mutually agree. When trades are made, the Head Practice Scheduler must be notified immediately.

GAMES:

Start and Finish Times:

Games must start and end on time! There are time limits for each game. If your game is in jeopardy of not ending on time, **you must go to run time.** The start time is when the puck is to be dropped at the start of the game; it is not when warm-ups begin. The finish time is when the teams are to leave the ice and the Zamboni is to start resurfacing. THERE ARE NO EXCEPTIONS!

Coaches are not to schedule or cancel any games without the permission of the Head Game Scheduler.

Playing time:

All players should be provided with approximately an equal amount of game time throughout the course of the season. If a player receives minimal playing time in one game, the Coach must ensure the player receives additional playing time in a subsequent game.

The goal of SWCYHA is to treat all teams fairly with regard to home games. Home games are scheduled at the beginning of the year with an objective of having 9-10 home games per team (Squirt through Bantam). Throughout the course of the season, some home games may be cancelled by our teams or other Associations due to tournaments, bad weather, last minute schedule changes, sickness, or other unforeseen circumstances. During the youth hockey season, filling weekend ice for games is an Association priority. If weekend ice time becomes available on short notice, the Head Game Scheduler evaluates the situation, finds out what teams are available, which SWCYHA team needs more home games and what team can come to play a game(s). If and when the Head Game Scheduler has exhausted all of her/his resources to fill the ice time with a home game for any SWCYHA team, the available ice may be used for practice.

COACH SELECTION:

All Coaches will be selected by the Coach Selection Committee. Coaching qualifications are based on experience, current certification, coaching philosophy, desire, availability, professionalism, and demeanor.

All Coaches must be current with their USA Hockey Coaching Education Program (CEP).

All Coaches are expected to abide by:

- USA Hockey Coaches Code of Conduct
- USA Hockey Coaches Code of Ethics
- USA Hockey Sexual and Abuse Policy
- WAHA Coaching Requirements
- SWCYHA Coaching Guidelines and Policies

COACHING PHILOSOPHY:

Coaches are leaders, teachers, and a friend of the player. The Coach as a leader will depend on your ability to:

- Create a social atmosphere that will allow and encourage your players to play their best.
- Motivate and bring out the best performance that your team members are capable of exhibiting.

The primary function of Coaching is to teach all players all aspects of the sport of hockey including fun, skill, and knowledge. As stated in the USA Hockey Coaches Code of Conduct:

*“Winning is a consideration, but not the only one, nor the most important one.
Care more about the child than winning the game.”*

SWCYHA COACHING GUIDELINES:

Coaching is a privilege. Coaching privileges can be revoked at the discretion of the SWCYHA Board of Directors.

The Coach has the responsibility of abiding by the rules set forth by the SWCYHA Board of Directors.

The Coach is responsible for conducting himself/herself in a sportsman like manner and for setting forth a good example for his/her team at all times.

The Coach will treat players fairly and be a positive reinforcement.

The Coach should provide all players with experience as equally as possible both in practice and in games. Coaches should resist the temptation to rigidly categorize players with a specific position. No player should have the opportunity to participate diminished at the expense of providing other players on the team individual opportunities or in the interest of “winning the game”. The exception being a player who voluntarily offers to play a specific position for a majority of the season that other players are not interested in playing (i.e. goalie).

The Coach has the right to expect respect from the players and parents of his/her team.

A Coach has the right to expect that player or parent concerns be brought to his/her attention in an appropriate place and manner. If the concern continues, the Team Liaison Board Member should be contacted for help in resolution of the problem.

Coaches have the right to set a policy regarding locker rooms. Each Head Coach will decide if he/she wants parents and/or non-team members in the locker room before and after games or practices.

It is the Coach’s right to expect all players to be present and ready to go on the ice at the time he/she has specified, both in practice and game situations. If a player is unable to attend a practice or game, it is the player’s responsibility to contact his/her Coach and inform them of their absence.

The Coach has the right to expect that he/she will be supported by the SWCYHA Board of Directors in decisions the Board has given him/her to make.

Each Head Coach is required to hold a team meeting with parents and players regarding expectations and policies he/she has for the team and team members. All team meetings are to be conducted prior to the first scheduled game. Meetings can be held in the South Wood County

Recreation Center office, where a TV and VCR are available. We highly recommend the video "Hockey Parents" be viewed by everyone.

Coaches should remind the parents that no one is allowed to stand behind the player boxes or score box during a game.

Participation in a Sunday morning game or during inclement weather will be left to the discretion of the parent.

BACKGROUND VERIFICATIONS:

SWCYHA strives to ensure a safe and positive environment for all players, coaches, and volunteers. Although it is unfortunate, all coaches and other volunteers who have routine contact with the players will be subject to a background investigation. Your cooperation in this matter is greatly appreciated.

SWCYHA EQUAL OPPORTUNITY/NONDISCRIMINATION POLICY:

It is the policy of SWCYHA to aid by the intent and requirements of all appropriate State and Federal Laws regarding equal opportunity for all participants and applicants. To that end, SWCYHA will endeavor to include on an equal basis, all youth who express a desire to participate in the youth hockey program. SWCYHA will also extend this policy to include other active members, Coaches, and Board members. Persons desiring more information regarding this policy or wishing to file a complaint regarding this policy should contact a SWCYHA Board member.

USA HOCKEY ZERO TOLERANCE POLICY:

SWCYHA endorses and enforces the zero tolerance guidelines of USA Hockey as follows:

In an effort to make ice hockey a more desirable and rewarding experience for all participants, the USA Hockey Youth Junior and Senior Councils have instructed the officiating program to adhere to certain points of emphasis relating to sportsmanship. This campaign is designed to require all players, Coaches, Officials, Team Officials, and Administrators to maintain a sportsmanlike and educational atmosphere before, during, and after all USA Hockey sanctioned games. Thus, the following points of emphasis will continue to be emphasized by all On-Ice Referees and Linesmen:

Players	<p>A minor penalty for unsportsmanlike conduct (Zero Tolerance) shall be assessed whenever a player:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Openly disputes or argues about any decision by an Official.2. Uses obscene or vulgar language in a boisterous manner to anyone at anytime including any swearing, even if it is not directed at any particular person.3. Visually demonstrates any sign of dissatisfaction with an Officials decision. <p>Any time that any player persists in any of these actions, they shall be assessed a misconduct penalty. A game misconduct shall result if such player continues.</p>
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Coaches	<p>A minor penalty for unsportsmanlike conduct (Zero Tolerance) shall be assessed whenever a Coach:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Openly disputes or argues about any decision by an Official. 2. Uses obscene or vulgar language in a boisterous manner to anyone at anytime. 3. Visually demonstrates any sign of dissatisfaction with an Officials decision, including standing on the boards or standing in the bench doorway with the intent of enticing the Officials, players, or spectators. <p>Any time that any Coach persists in any of these actions, they shall be assessed a game misconduct penalty.</p>
Officials	<p>Officials are required to conduct themselves in a businesslike, sportsmanlike, and non-vindictive manner at all times. The actions of an Official must be above reproach. Actions such as “baiting” or inciting players or Coaches are strictly prohibited.</p> <p>On-Ice Officials are ambassadors of the game and shall always conduct themselves with that responsibility in mind.</p>
Parents/Spectators	<p>The game will be stopped by On-Ice Officials, when the parents/spectators displaying inappropriate and disruptive behavior interfere with other spectators of the game. The On-Ice Officials will identify violators to the Coaches for the purpose of removing parents/spectators from the spectators viewing and game area. Once removed, play will resume. Lost time will not be replaced and violators may be subject to further disciplinary action by the local governing body. This inappropriate and disruptive behavior shall include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use of obscene or vulgar language in a boisterous manner to anyone at anytime. • Taunting of players, Coaches, Officials or other spectators by means of baiting, ridiculing, threat of physical violence or physical violence. • Throwing of any object in the spectator viewing area, players bench, penalty box, or on ice surface, directed in any manner as to create a safety hazard.

SWCYHA ZERO TOLERANCE PHYSICAL & VERBAL ABUSE POLICY

A hockey game may be stopped by On-Ice Officials when the parents/spectators displaying inappropriate and disruptive behavior interfere with other spectators of the game. The On-Ice Officials will identify violators to the Coaches for the purpose of removing parents/spectators from the viewing and game area. Once removed, play will resume. Lost time will not be replaced and violators may be subject to further disciplinary action by the SWCYHA Board of Directors.

This inappropriate and disruptive behavior shall include:

- Use of obscene or vulgar language in a boisterous manner to anyone at any time
- Taunting players, Coaches, Officials or other spectators by means of verbal baiting, ridiculing, intimidation and even threat of physical violence
- Throwing of any object in the spectators viewing area, player’s bench, penalty box or on ice surface, directed in any manner as to create a safety hazard

All individuals associated with SWCYHA shall conduct themselves in a proper manner and proper conduct at all times. Improper conduct is defined as behavior deemed detrimental to the philosophy and objectives of SWCYHA, as well as any action which produces results detrimental to member(s), team(s) or individual player(s) of SWCYHA.

SWCYHA Zero Tolerance Policy for Outside of the Rink

As we all know, the Internet and email can be a great place to obtain information and communicate between members, Coaches and parents. Unfortunately, some individuals perceive the internet and email as a safe haven to unload gossip, insults and out right lies about good people that volunteer their time and skills to SWCYHA. Internet and email users have been "Flaming" others on the Internet for years. "Flaming" means posting messages "intended to insult and provoke." In other words, someone posts a message for others to read which insults and/or provokes readers against another person or group. "Flaming" can negatively affect someone's reputation or some group's reputation (SWCYHA).

"The Internet is not your personal stump to beat up people."
Daniel Perry, Orange County Judge

These Internet and email "postings" can damage and sometimes destroy our Association's public image and in most cases, these postings consist of statements that are completely unfair, one-sided or untrue.

The SWCYHA Board of Directors believe there is a distinct difference between asking specific questions or writing messages in a constructive and positive manner to specifically state concerns or seek answers versus the action of "Flaming" and negative gossip. Recurrent "Flaming" and negative gossip should not and will not be tolerated by any member of our Association. Recipients of "Flaming," negative emails and verbal insults should report that behavior to any SWCYHA Board member for review.

For enforcement of these policies, see the Parental Code of Conduct.

GRIEVANCE POLICY/PROCEDURE:

SWCYHA strives to manage our hockey teams and activities in as harmonious a manner as possible. However, we recognize that there will be occasional disagreements on how issues are decided or how activities are conducted. Grievances are generally limited to misconduct of a player, team, or Coach. In most cases, we encourage members to discuss their concerns with either a member of the SWCYHA Board of Directors or the entire SWCYHA Board of Directors in a formal meeting format. However, if the member prefers, they may submit a grievance for consideration by the Grievance Committee.

The Grievance Committee is established for each hockey season by the SWCYHA Board of Directors. The Committee consists of five (5) members as follows:

1. SWCYHA President of the Board of Directors
2. Administrative Coach
3. First Year SWCYHA Board Member
4. Second Year SWCYHA Board Member
5. Third Year SWCYHA Board Member

Grievance forms may be obtained from any current SWCYHA Board member. The form should be submitted to the SWCYHA President of the Board of Directors. The President will then call a meeting of the entire Grievance Committee and proceed according to policy. Further details regarding grievance procedures can be obtained by contacting a current SWCYHA Board member.

AWARDS:

The following are awards that players can earn throughout the hockey season. Awards will be presented to the players at the end of the hockey season. It is very important for players as well as parents to understand that not all players will receive an award. The awards must be earned following the guidelines below:

Hat Trick	A Hat Trick patch is awarded to a player who scores three (3) goals in one game as evidenced on the score sheet.
Playmaker	A Playmaker patch is awarded to a player who has three (3) assists in one game as evidenced on the score sheet.
Shutout	A Shutout patch is awarded to a goalie that gives up no goals during a game. If two (2) goalies play during a shutout game, only the goalie who played the majority of the game will receive the shutout award.
Blue Line	A Blue Line patch is awarded to defensemen that played in a game where their goalie has earned a shutout. The award will go to defensemen that played the entire game in the defense position. This award is provided by SWCYHA to emphasize defense from the Squirt, PeeWee, Bantam and High School Club Levels.

*****Note: A player can only earn one award for the Hat Trick, Playmaker or Shutout category per year. The Blue Line award is a supplemental award that can be given in addition to the other awards.****