

MITCHELL SKATING AND HOCKEY ASSOCIATION CODE OF CONDUCT

Mitchell Skating and Hockey Association (MSHA) welcomes everyone to our program. The MSHA is a volunteer organization; all parents and players need to work together to make it successful. We are representing MSHA and Mitchell at all events.

A. GENERAL GUIDELINES

1. The Mitchell Activities Center is a **ZERO TOLERANCE FACILITY**.

The zero tolerance rules are an effort to promote high standards of sportsmanship and behavior for all ages. These are general guidelines and outline some of the behaviors that may require action by either a MSHA adult or a Mitchell Park and Recreation employee at the Mitchell Activity Center (MAC). These are examples, and may not include all areas of misconduct.

- Lack of respect for others; disregard for adults/staff authority
- Swearing and use of unacceptable language.
- Lack of respect for or making fun/intimidating other participants
- Demonstrating poor sportsmanship by work or action
- Actions that endanger yourself or others
- Improper or unauthorized use of equipment; vandalism
- Use of tobacco products
- Use of illegal drugs, alcohol or being under the influence of drugs or alcohol on site.

***These rules apply to participants, coaches, volunteers, staff and spectators.**

2. CORRECTIVE ACTION

Corrective actions may range from warnings to eviction from the MAC. **Offenders may be evicted by either Mitchell Parks and Recreation employees or MSHA.** Length of eviction will depend on the severity of the misconduct. Eviction means the offender may not be in the building or on the grounds for Parks and Recreation or MSHA activities for the duration of the eviction. No refunds will be given if an offender is evicted from an event/activity.

This code of conduct applies to all players and shall be in effect beginning with the first day of the school year and shall continue through the final day of the SDAHA State Hockey Tournament. Offenses that occur during the hockey season will be counted against a player for one calendar year from the date of the offense. This means that the disciplinary action taken against a player can follow him/her from one season to the next. These consequences are minimums only and the Disciplinary Committee and/or MSHA reserves the right to look at each case individually, and to determine if more severe consequences are warranted. Disciplinary notes are cumulative from one offense to another.

B. PARTICIPANT GUIDELINES FOR LEAGUE LEVEL TEAMS

(Peewees, Bantams, Varsity levels)

1. PROHIBITED CONDUCT

- i.——Fighting, obscenities, abusive language or other inappropriate behavior while in our facility or other state facilities will be subject to disciplinary action by the coaches, disciplinary board, and/or the MSHA board of directors.
- ii.——Poor sportsmanship and inappropriate behavior during games or practice will not be tolerated.
- iii.——Disruptive/destructive behavior by participants at home or away events will not be tolerated.
- iv.——Unexcused absences from practice or games/events will result in the individual not being able to participate for the next competition. Excused absences shall include personal or family illness and emergencies. Family, church and school events, along with academic excellence take

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precedence over hockey and are strongly encouraged by MSHA. Absences will be monitored by the coaches, and any excessive absenteeism would allow the coaches and/or Disciplinary Committee to take appropriate action.

v.——Any actions not specifically covered herein are subject to review by the Disciplinary Committee or by the MSHA Board of Directors.

2. REPORTING PROCEDURE

Anyone that observes a violation of the MAC guidelines listed above shall have the opportunity to fill out a disciplinary note stating the player's name, violation that was observed, the date, time and place the violation was observed. This note must be signed and dated and turned into the team coordinator, league director or left in the drop box at the MAC. Such report will be given to the team coach to enforce disciplinary measures deemed necessary. To make enforcement of these guidelines as effective as possible such notes must be turned in within 24 hours of the observed violation. Following the receipt of the violation, the coach shall notify the player and the player's parents, and if there is an admitted violation the following actions may be taken:

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| First violation: | The coach will enact disciplinary action as deemed fit, but may refer the decision relating to corrective action to the Disciplinary Committee. |
| Second violation: | In addition to the action taken by the coach the player must meet before the disciplinary committee. |
| Third violation: | One game suspension, possibly with further action taken by the Disciplinary Committee. |
| Fourth violation: | The Disciplinary Committee shall determine appropriate corrective action. |

c. ALCOHOL, TABACCO AND CRIMINAL ACTIVITY

1. PROHIBITED CONDUCT

Any MSHA player who illegally uses or possesses alcohol, tobacco, marijuana or any illegal drug, or participates in any other criminal activity, to include, but not be limited to referral to a juvenile ninety-day deferral program or prosecution as a juvenile delinquent, shall be subject to disciplinary action. If a player self-reports a violation of this section within twenty-four (24) hours of the players' actions giving rise to discipline the player will be entitled to have the suspension referred to below reduce by two (2) games for a first or second violation.

2. DISCIPLINARY ACTION

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| First violation: | There will be an automatic four (4) game suspension during which time the player shall be required to attend all practices. |
| Second violation: | There will be an automatic eight (8) game suspension during which time the player shall be required to attend all practices. |
| Third violation: | The player will be suspended from all participation with MSHA for the remainder of the hockey season. |

3. RIGHT TO APPEAL

The player and/or his parents have the right to appeal the disciplinary decisions of coaches or the Disciplinary Committee. The appeal must be made in writing to the MSHA Board of Directors within forty-eight (48) hours after the decision of the coach or Disciplinary Committee. If the decision of a coach is being appealed the decision on the appeal will be made by the Disciplinary Committee. Any action taken by the Disciplinary

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Committee may also be appealed to the Board of Directors upon submission of a written appeal within forty-eight (48) hours of the decision of the Disciplinary Committee. The appropriate committee hearing the appeal shall provide a decision within twenty-four (24) hours of the submission of the written appeal. The disciplinary action shall be stayed pending the appeal process.

Any cost that may be involved in bringing an appeal is the sole responsibility of the player bringing on such appeal. MSHA will not cover any costs involved with any appeals.

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D. ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS:

The MSHA recognizes the importance of a good education and takes the position that a player's education must take precedent over hockey. To be eligible to play all players and parents shall authorize their school district to release failing grade records to MSHA and subsequent passing grades to determine the player is meeting academic requirements. If a player is on the failing list the following actions will be taken:

- i.— Players on league level teams with one failing grade in school cannot play in a game, however they will be eligible to participate in practice.
- ii.—A player on league level teams with two (2) or more failing grades will be ineligible to practice and/or participate in games.

If the player is on the failing list they shall have the opportunity to come off the failing list prior to the game if the parent portal indicates the player's grade has risen above the failing grade or if the player's teacher acknowledges in writing that the player has brought their grade up to be considered passing. **Player is required to bring documentation to the coach prior to the start of the game.**

Adopted by MSHA 7/6/10

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E. AUTHORIZATION

The Mitchell Skating and Hockey Association requires that all players and at least one of their parents acknowledge receipt of this Code of Conduct policy and agree to be bound by the same.

We have received a copy of the Mitchell Skating and Hockey Association Code of Conduct that the player is required to follow while participating in Mitchell hockey.

We authorize the _____ school district to send failing grade records to Mitchell Skating and Hockey Association to determine that the player is following academic guidelines set by the association. In addition, we authorize the school district to send information showing passing grades in those same areas to determine player eligibility for hockey participation.

Player Name _____
Please Print

Grade Level _____

Player signature _____

Parent signature _____

Date _____