



Apple Valley Hockey Association Coaches Code of Conduct & Discipline Policy



The Apple Valley Hockey Association is made up of Players, Coaches, Parents and Guardians. Coaches contribute many things to support their players, team and our association; they can also cause unnecessary distractions. AVHA and its coaches recognize that their obligations to hockey are secondary to church, family and school.

To provide a healthy and fun environment for all your responsibilities as an AVHA Coach are the following:

- Understand, support and champion all District 6 rules and guidelines.
- Understand, support and champion all association rules and guidelines. The AVHA Member's Handbook; can be found on the AVHA website.
- Understand, support and champion the philosophies of HEP. To accomplish this, coaches are expected to read, understand utilize the HEP materials.
- Recognize that obligations to hockey are secondary to church, family and school
- Coaches will be evaluated on the degree of progress and advancement of individual and team skills; not their win/loss record.
- Respect your fellow coaches and work together in a cooperative manner. Never criticize or bad-mouth your fellow coaches in front of parents or players.
- Keep your relationships with parents strictly professional.
- Attend mandatory coaches meetings and clinics when requested; AVHA and D8 meetings.
- Coaches will provide parents and players a written handout of goals, philosophies, expectations and team rules for the upcoming season regarding behavior, attendance at practices, respect for the coach and other players etc. Along with the consequences if the player fail to meet rules.
 - Coaches are expected to have all players review and sign the AVHA Players Code of Conduct within the first week of the season.
- There will be no abusive language in the locker room, on the bench, or on the ice by coaches or players.
- Arrive for practices and games in a timely fashion and remain at the practice/game facility until all players are accounted for; have transportation and are not left by themselves.
- Use the team's practice ice efficiently and effectively. A written practice plan should be developed for all practices. Ice time is expensive so chalk talks should be reserved for off-ice instruction. In other words, keep the kids moving after briefly explaining the drills.
- Be available to discuss any problems with the players and or parents, keeping in mind that your primary responsibility is to the whole team and not any one individual.
- Any coach (head or assistant) ejected from a game will be required to meet with the Level Director and Player Development Coordinator before they will be allowed to coach in a game situation.

Inappropriate Behavior Discipline Policy

Inappropriate behavior may result in a penalty ranging from Written Warning to Suspension from AVHA based on the number of offenses and the severity of the violation:

- **First Offense:** Written letter from the AVHA Board explaining the violation in need of remedial action.
- **Second Offense:** Suspension from all AVHA activities for a minimum of one week or two games; whichever is longer.
- **Third Offense:** Suspension from all AVHA activities for the remainder of the season. During this time the suspended party is not allowed in any facility during an AVHA event as a participant or spectator regardless if that parent has another child on another team. Reinstatement for the following season will be at the discretion of the AVHA Board.

The AVHA Board reserves the right to modify, including but limited to, skipping or combining lower level sanctions at their discretion based on the severity of the violation.

Code of Conduct Discipline Process

1. **Code of Conduct Violation Occurs**
2. **Board Level Coordinator Contacted**
 - a. Board Level Coordinator discusses the incident with all involved parties; gathers, and documents the details
3. **Incident Review and Evaluation**
 - a. Level coordinator reviews the gathered details/documentation with the Vice President to determine if there was a Code of Conduct violation and should be brought to the Board.
4. **Determine if a Code of Conduct Violation Occurred and the Severity**
 - a. If the Board determines there was a Code of Conduct violation Phase 1, 2 or 3 of the discipline policy will be implemented based on the determined violation severity.
 - i. Phase One:
A letter is sent to all involved, as stated in the Code of Conduct Discipline Policy, detailing the behavior that must be corrected and next steps that will be taken if there is another incident.
 - ii. Phase Two:
Those involved will be suspended from all AVHA activities for a minimum of one (1) week or two (2) games; whichever is longer.
 - iii. Phase Three:
Those involved will be suspended from all AVHA activities for the remainder of the season. During this time the suspended party is not allowed in any facility during an AVHA event as a participant or spectator regardless if that parent has another child on another team. Reinstatement for the following season will be at the discretion of the AVHA Board.
5. If the involved parties do not agree with the outcome they may file a formal grievance with the Grievance Committee.

I have read and agree to adhere to the AVHA Coaches Code of Conduct and understand that I will be subject to the Discipline Policy if I do not:

Name: _____

Date: _____

Signature: _____