

ERRA PARENTS CODE OF CONDUCT

Parents are a great asset to youth hockey organizations and to an individual hockey team, as well as a positive influence on the children around them. The ERRA realizes that parents have many responsibilities and we encourage that these responsibilities be carried out in a positive, encouraging, and exemplary fashion. Please be a positive role model for our youth and fellow members in our association. Sportsmanship and conduct are a primary concern at every ERRA event. Proper sportsmanship and attitudes must be maintained at all times. It shall be the responsibility of the ERRA Board of Directors to administer the following Parent's Code of Conduct.

Parents will:

- 1) Encourage good sportsmanship by demonstrating positive support for all players in recognizing each individual's special and unique gifts and contributions to their team.
- 2) Encourage good sportsmanship by demonstrating positive support for coaches, game officials, and other fellow parents both within and outside of the ERRA. Treat others with respect.
- 3) Place the physical and emotional well-being of their child and the other children in the organization ahead of their own personal desire to win.
- 4) Remember that the game is for the children and not the adults.
- 5) Encourage their child to play by the rules. Remember, children learn best by example, so applaud the good plays of both teams.
- 6) Show a positive attitude toward the game and all of its participants. Your child will benefit.
- 7) Emphasize skill development and practices and how they benefit their young athletes. Parents will deemphasize games and competition in the lower/very young age groups.
- 8) Applaud a good effort in both victory and defeat, and enforce the positive points of the game.
- 9) Never yell, verbally, or physically abuse their child after a game or practice - it is destructive. Parents will work toward removing the physical and verbal abuse in youth hockey.
- 10) Refrain from discussing crucial and emotional game situations with coaches or ERRA board members for at least 24 hours after a game. Take the time to find out all sides of the situation.
- 11) Provide only positive support for the coaches working with their child to ensure a positive, enjoyable, and fun experience.
- 12) Recognize the importance of volunteer coaches. They are important to the development of their child and the sport. Communicate with and support all coaches. If you enjoy the game, learn all you can about hockey - and volunteer.
- 13) Know and study the rules of the game, and support the officials on and off the ice. This approach will help in the improvement of the game. Any criticism of the officials only hurts the game.
- 14) Communicate (phone, verbal and written) in a positive, appropriate and mature manner to ERRA board members, parents, coaches and referees.
- 15) Contact a board member if they feel their child is not playing on a safe and positive environment.
- 16) Be able to appropriately deal with an irate fan or parent by asking someone to leave the premises. When situations become serious and disciplines are seriously breached, an ERRA board member should be notified as soon as possible for follow up.
- 17) Pay hockey players fees including registration and fundraiser obligations as set by ERRA board of directors. Failure to meet payment deadlines will result in loss of ice time. Non-flagrant violations of this type will require restitution before allowing sign up and on-ice practice the next season. Repeat offenders will be fined. Financial hardship cases will be considered by the board on an individual basis and will be kept confidential. Flagrant

violations will be considered a parental code violation that will be reviewed and handled by the board of directors.

- 18) Abide by the volunteer hours requirements set forth by the ERRA board of directors. Failure to meet the yearly volunteer hour requirements will require restitution before allowing sign up and on-ice practice the next season.

Support the rules and regulations that will be set forth by the ERRA. This includes the **USA Hockey Zero Tolerance** which is designed to ensure a mature, sportsmanlike, and educational atmosphere.

Parents will not:

- 1) Embarrass their child or any other child, team, or coach by yelling in a negative manner at other players, coaches, or parents.
- 2) Force children to participate in sports, but support their desires to play their chosen sport. Children are involved in organized sports for their enjoyment. Make it fun.
- 3) Pretend that they know more than the certified officials do. Parents will refrain from making calls from the stands.
- 4) Yell, scream, or bang on the glass in a negative manner or in a negative connotation towards any player or referee.
- 5) Smoke or drink (alcohol) within the ERRA rink during any practice, game, or event.

Enforcement of the ERRA Parent Code of Conduct matters vitally to the Association. Not following the Parent Code of Conduct can cost the Association dearly. It undermines all of our reputations and what is best for our youth. For these reasons, violations of this Code of Conduct may lead to an ERRA Grievance Committee evaluation and review. Depending on the outcome of the Grievance Committee evaluation and review, recommendations may be made to the entire ERRA Board of Directors. Recommendations may include, but are not limited to, a formal warning, suspension, exclusion, and even expulsion. Formal suspension, exclusion, and expulsion from ERRA can only be accomplished if a majority vote is achieved from the entire ERRA board. These disciplinary actions are considered last resorts. Every effort shall be made to resolve problems before matters reach these levels.

Parent/Guardian #1: _____
Please Print

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Parent/Guardian #2: _____
Please Print

Signature: _____

Date: _____