

# **Santa Fe Capitals Hockey Association Disciplinary Policy**

## **INTRODUCTION**

The Santa Fe Capitals Youth Hockey Association (SFHA) will comply with the minimum requirements provided by The Land of Enchantment Amateur Hockey Association (LOEAHA) and USA Hockey. SFHA also reserves the right to impose additional sanctions for violations of the SFHA Code of Conduct by any player, coach or member of the Association at its sole discretion.

SFHA expects players, coaches, and Association members to exhibit qualities of good sportsmanship and decorum consistent with the levels of propriety both on and off the ice when representing SFHA. As such, standards of behavior consistent with USA Hockey, LOEAHA, and Association policies shall be maintained throughout the season in a climate of mutual respect. It is recognized that, from time to time, sanctions may be necessary for conduct or behavior, that transgresses acceptable standards and which may fall outside of the purview of LOEAHA or USA Hockey.

Such sanctions may be applied and may take the form of: a verbal reprimand; a written reprimand; a suspension; an expulsion, or any other sanction deemed appropriate. Any Association Member that receives a sanction shall not be entitled to a refund of any fees paid or due under a payment arrangement to the Association as a result of the sanction.

## **DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE**

The SFHA Board of Directors shall appoint a Disciplinary Committee comprising a minimum of three (3) members, including the Disciplinary Committee Chair, at least one at-large Board Member, and one adult member in good standing of the Association. The number of members may be increased up to a total of five (5) at the sole discretion of the Disciplinary Chair. The Committee will meet on an as-needed basis to address incidents that have been reported under this policy.

## **REPORTING PROCEDURES**

When an incident occurs that contravenes the SFHA Code of Conduct, USA Hockey Code of Conduct, LOEAHA Code of Conduct, or established policies and procedures, the incident will be reported in writing to the Disciplinary Chair and the Board President. The report will be reviewed to determine if it falls under the purview of the Disciplinary Committee or must be referred to LOEAHA or USA Hockey under USA Hockey ByLaw 10. Referred incidents will be addressed directly by the appropriate governing body.

## DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE PROCEDURES

The Committee chair will convene the Disciplinary Committee within ten (10) business days of receipt of a valid incident report. The Disciplinary Committee may, at its sole discretion, seek written and/or verbal testimony from involved individuals. In the event that a conflict arises such that a committee member is, or is related to, the person(s) subject to disciplinary action, the committee member shall be replaced by another member selected by the Committee Chair. After reviewing relevant testimony and after careful, thorough deliberations, the Committee shall conduct a vote of its members to determine the appropriate sanction(s) for the incident. No one other than the committee members may be involved in the deliberations. The sanctions will be determined by a simple majority vote of the Committee.

Decisions by the Disciplinary Committee shall be binding.

Individuals involved in the reported incident will be notified in writing of the Committee's decision no later than twenty-one (21) business days after the initial reporting date of the incident. The Disciplinary Chair will also report the Committee's findings and actions taken to the full Association Board at its next regularly scheduled meeting.

## APPEAL PROCESS

After receipt of written notice of a sanction, the affected individual(s) believe the sanction is unwarranted, a written appeal may be formally submitted within 10 days of receipt of the notice to the Board President. The appeal must clearly state why the individual feels that the Committee's action(s) were unwarranted and provide supporting documentation to support their claim. The Board President may, in their sole and absolute discretion, uphold the Disciplinary Committee's actions or refer the matter to the full Board at a subsequently scheduled Board meeting, a specially scheduled Board meeting or by means of executive session. A two-thirds majority of the Board will be required to overturn or modify any actions of the Disciplinary Committee.

This Policy was submitted and approved by the Santa Fe Hockey Association Board of Directors.

Revision Date: April 8, 2026

ATTESTED BY: \_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary