

Respect the Jersey

A Message to Our Hockey Families



Dear Parents and Players,

As we begin another exciting season, we want to take a moment to talk about something that goes beyond the ice — the team jersey.

Your jersey is more than just a piece of equipment. It's a symbol of commitment, pride, and the values our organization stands for. When a player puts on that jersey, they're not just representing themselves — they're representing their teammates, coaches, families, and the entire hockey community that supports them.

Each jersey carries the legacy of those who've worn it before and the promise of those who will wear it next. It reflects the hard work, sportsmanship, and unity that define our team. That's why we ask every player to treat their jersey with care and respect — just as they would their game.

Here's what that means:

- Keep it clean and in good condition — wash it properly and store it safely.
- Wear it with pride — on and off the ice.
- Never alter or damage it — it's part of a shared identity.
- Understand that it's earned, not given — and it should be worn with honor.

We believe that small acts of responsibility — like taking care of your jersey — build the foundation for bigger lessons in leadership, accountability, and team spirit.

Thank you for helping us uphold the values that make our organization strong. Let's make this season one to remember — on the scoreboard and in character.

Matthew Hanchulak

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Hockey Jersey Washing Instructions

(This is a helpful guide for those who are new to caring for the hockey jersey. If you have a helpful tip, please share it with me. It's always great to share knowledge. Email me at: hanch@ryha.net.)



Washing Instructions

1. **Read the Care Label:** Always check the jersey's tag first for any specific instructions from the manufacturer.
2. **Pre-Treat Stains:**
 - Treat any stains (blood, grass, dirt, etc.) as soon as possible.
 - Gently blot the area to remove excess residue.
 - Apply a small amount of mild, color-safe detergent, or a mixture like diluted white vinegar and water, directly to the stain.
 - Gently work the cleaner into the stain with a soft-bristled brush (like an old toothbrush) or by rubbing the fabric together lightly.
3. **Prepare the Jersey:**
 - **Turn the jersey inside-out.** This is the most crucial step! It protects the logos, numbers, names, and patches from abrasion and rubbing during the wash cycle.
 - If your jersey has a fight strap with Velcro, ensure it is closed so the Velcro doesn't snag the fabric.
 - *Optional:* Place the jersey in a mesh laundry bag for extra protection, especially if washing with other garments.
4. **Machine Wash:**
 - **Wash separately** or only with other jerseys or similar fabrics to prevent color bleeding or damage from zippers/rough materials.
 - **Use Cold Water:** Always use the cold water setting. Hot water can cause shrinking, fading, and can damage the adhesives on heat-pressed numbers and letters.
 - **Use the Gentle Cycle:** Select the "Delicate" or "Gentle" cycle with a low spin speed.
 - **Use Mild Detergent:** Opt for a mild, color-safe, and bleach-free detergent.
 - **AVOID:** Chlorine bleach, harsh detergents, and *especially fabric softeners*, as they can break down the adhesives and materials used in the customization and interfere with the performance fabric's wicking properties.

Drying Instructions

Air Drying is Mandatory.

- **NEVER** put your jersey in the dryer. The high heat is the biggest culprit for causing customization (numbers, names, patches) to crack, peel, bubble, or melt.
- Once the wash cycle is complete, promptly remove the jersey.
- Turn the jersey right-side out.
- **Hang Dry:** Hang it on a sturdy hanger (preferably a wide, padded one to prevent stretching) or lay it flat on a clean drying rack.
- Let it air dry completely in a well-ventilated area, away from direct sunlight or heat sources.



2025-26 Hockey Jersey Notes

For Coaches/Managers/Parents/Players:



1. For 2025-26 the players get to keep the HOME (white) jersey and team socks at the end of the season. That means you can put the player name on the back of the jersey, if your team decides to.
2. The AWAY (black) jersey must be returned at the conclusion of your team's season. The jerseys must be cleaned and your Team Manager/Coach needs to make arrangements with Matt Hanchulak (hanch@ryha.net) to drop off at Graham Arena.
3. After receiving your team's jerseys and socks, please reach out to Matt Hanchulak if you have extra jerseys/socks to turn in. I will always recommend holding on to at least one set of jerseys and socks for that "just in case moment" a player forgets their uniform at home.
4. If you have any concerns about jerseys or socks, please reach out to Matt Hanchulak.

