



## **USA HOCKEY CORE VALUES**

The following core values of USA Hockey are adopted to guide the association's members in their planning, programming and play, both now and in the future.

**Sportsmanship** Foremost of all values is to learn a sense of fair play. Be humble in victory, gracious in defeat. We will foster friendship with teammates and opponents alike.

**Respect for the Individual** Treat all others as you expect to be treated.

**Integrity** We seek to foster honesty and fair play beyond mere strict interpretation of the rules and regulations of the game.

**Pursuit of Excellence at the Individual, Team and Organizational Levels**

Each member of the organization, whether player, volunteer or staff, should seek to perform each aspect of the game to the highest level of his or her ability.

**Enjoyment** It is important for the hockey experience to be fun, satisfying and rewarding for all participants.

**Loyalty** - We aspire to teach loyalty to the ideals and fellow members of the sport of hockey.

**Teamwork** - We value the strength of learning to work together. The use of teamwork is reinforced and rewarded by success in the hockey experience.

### **Player's Code of Conduct**

- Play for fun.
- Work hard to improve your skills.
- Be a team player – get along with your teammates.
- Learn teamwork, sportsmanship and discipline.
- Be on time.
- Learn the rules and play by them. Always be a good sport.
- Respect your coach, your teammates, your parents, opponents and officials.
- Never argue with an official's decision.

### **ZERO TOLERANCE**

In an effort to make ice hockey a more desirable and rewarding experience for all participants, USA Hockey has a zero tolerance policy that requires all players, coaches, officials, team officials and administrators and parents/ spectators to maintain a sportsmanlike and educational atmosphere before, during and after all USA Hockey-sanctioned games.

Thus, the following points of emphasis must be implemented by all referees and linesmen and supported by local governing bodies and leagues:

Players A minor penalty for unsportsmanlike conduct (zero tolerance) shall be assessed whenever a player:

1. Openly disputes or argues any decision by an official.
2. Taunts or incites an opponent.
3. Visually creates a disturbance during the game. Any time that a player persists in any of these actions, they shall be assessed a misconduct penalty.

A game misconduct shall result if the player continues such action.

A misconduct penalty shall be assessed to any player who uses obscene, profane or abusive language anywhere in the rink to anyone before, during or after the game.

A game misconduct penalty shall be assessed to any player or team official who uses language that is offensive, hateful or discriminatory in nature anywhere in the rink before, during or after the game.