

# *Fair Play*



# *Hockey New Brunswick* *2004-2005*

## FAIR PLAY

This document is being prepared to alleviate some of the problems and concerns that are currently occurring within Hockey New Brunswick. This "Fair Play" rule will apply to Competitive AA and below. With the implementation of the "Fair Play" policy we hope to address all the issues and make for a better hockey experience for everyone involved.

1. The purpose of introducing Fair Play into the HNB program is to encourage, foster, develop players and enhance the aspects of **SAFETY and RESPECT**, on and off the ice by all participants involved. Fair Play encourages all players to be as competitive as possible, but within the rules of the game. Fair Play does NOT take away from winning. It has been shown that Fair Play can enhance winning rather than detract from it.

2. The five basic principles of Fair Play:

- a. Respect the rules
- b. Respect the opponents
- c. Respect the officials and their decisions
- d. Have everyone participate fairly
- e. Maintain your self-control at all times

3. Respect the Rules

Each participant within HNB will respect the rules of the Association and abide by the rules. Rules and guidelines ensure our game is fair and to educate the kids to ensure a safer and more enjoyable learning experience.

4. Respect the Opponents

Your opponents are also players within a minor hockey association. Treating all players the same from both teams is essential for a more productive and safe environment. By cheering for both teams as they make plays will enhance the production of the kids on the ice. Respect for opposition coaching staff is also crucial so any infractions during the game can be resolved with ease.

5. Respect the Officials and Their Decisions

Officials for Minor Hockey play a vital part in the success of our season. Officials are young adults, learning the game, as so are the players on the ice. They have to be directed and supervised and learn from their mistakes. Calls made by officials will not be questioned over the ice however any discussions between officials and coaching staff will be taken up at the bench area through the teams Captains and Assistant Captains.

6. Have Everyone Participate Fairly

It is important for all players to participate to develop into hockey players. Ice time for kids is important as they will have a greater opportunity to develop to the best of their potential. By having everyone participate it will create a team building experience which will result in the kids learning and progressing to the best of their ability.

## 7. Maintain Your Self Control at All Times

It is important for coaches, players, executive and parents to maintain their emotions within a hockey environment. Yelling at the referees will not be tolerated and making derogatory comments will create a tense environment. We are the teachers and should act accordingly so our kids can learn from our actions.

## 8. Coaching

Coaches have to be able to coach but within the guidelines laid out in the HNB constitution and Fair Play rules. When teams are participating within their regular season, tournaments, special events and playoffs, coaches will ensure that all players participate the same. By doing this the kids will learn from each other and develop to the best of their ability. There will be no double shifting as it should not be required due to an equitable amount of players on the team. The coaching staff is to brief parents on their plan for the season and what is expected of them so everyone involved is aware of what is going to happen. If any concerns are raised then they should be addressed immediately before they move on. It is important to have team meetings periodically so coaching staff can address any concerns that may linger throughout the team so issues can be dealt with immediately.

## 9. Breaking the Rules

Rules are implemented to make our game a better experience for all involved. They will be followed and anyone breaking the rules as laid out in our constitution and fair play guidelines will be liable to suspension. All constitutional By-Laws and regulations will be followed and the HNB executive will implement this policy to ensure a positive experience for all.

## 10. Contracts

Contracts and guidelines will be provided to all players, coaches and parents involved in Hockey New Brunswick. These contracts will be reviewed by all and signed as being made aware of the "Fair Play" policy within HNB. Failure to comply will result in no on ice activity by players registered. Contracts must be signed by coaches, players & parents prior to commencement of any on ice activity.

## 11. Grievance Procedure

HNB fair play policy is designed to ensure all aspects of the fair play rules are implemented and followed to ensure a positive experience for all participants within HNB. Anyone within HNB can complete a grievance form and submit to the appropriate director who will ensure it is passed to the HNB executive for action. Grievance procedures are outlined in Annex D.

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## Fair Play Rules for Hockey New Brunswick

### COACHES

#### **CONTRACT/GUIDELINES**

As coaches within the Hockey New Brunswick, our focus is to ensure that players develop and refine their hockey and skating skills, fair play, work hard, build teamwork, have fun, and most importantly, learn to respect teammates, coaches, opponents, officials and their decisions, and the game of hockey. SAFETY and RESPECT are our goals.

As coaches we agree to abide by the following guidelines:

1. We will actively encourage and support the concepts of Fair Play: Respect the rules. Respect your opponents. Respect the officials and their decisions. Have everyone participate. Maintain your self-control at all times.
2. We will be organized and prepared for all practice sessions and games to maximize and optimize all scheduled ice time.
3. We will not openly be critical of any players on our team, opposing teams, officials, or other coaches.
4. We will treat all players fairly and with respect and ensure all players receive equitable ice time throughout the season.
5. We will respond to and be aware of all players' safety and their needs.
6. We will emphasize respect, teamwork, fun, and attempt to build a love for the game in our players.
7. We fully understand that our system is designed to serve the needs of the players first, and not to serve the coaches and parents.
8. We will attempt to teach our players to work hard to win, but not to win at all costs.
9. We will respect other coaches within our system and work with them to ensure maximum benefit to the players.
10. We will make ourselves available to meet with individual parents to discuss any personal concerns.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name (Print): \_\_\_\_\_

Team: \_\_\_\_\_

(A signed copy, signed by the coaching staff, of this Contract/Guidelines is given back to the executive.)

**PARENTS**  
**CONTRACT/GUIDELINES**

All parents of players within Hockey New Brunswick agree to abide by the following guidelines and ensure that friends/relatives who accompany them to the rink also follow these guidelines as applicable.

1. Parents will actively encourage and support the concepts of FAIR PLAY at all times. The concepts are: Respect the rules. Respect the opponents. Respect the officials and their decisions. Have everyone participate. Maintain your self-control at all times.
2. For younger players parents will ensure that players are brought to the assigned dressing rooms for all scheduled games and practices.
3. Limit of one parent per player in dressing room prior to game/practice. (If possible no siblings/friends/relatives in dressing room prior to games/practices.) Please respect the need of each player to have his/her own space.
4. For younger players, parents should leave dressing room once your child is geared up for game/practice, minimum 15 minutes prior to games and 5 minutes before practices.
5. Parents are asked not to return to dressing room following game or practice until permitted by coaching staff. (Please respect a closed door.)
6. Parents will ensure their child attends ALL scheduled practices and games. Contact team manager if unable to attend for any reason.
7. Parents will leave the coaching to the coaching staff, and not interfere with, or undermine the coaches at any time. They are not to coach the kids from the stands during play and not to approach anyone involved with the function of the game or practice. Any major concerns can be addressed after the event giving a twenty-four hour cool off period. Do not encourage your child to play the game in a manner inconsistent with the coach's direction or plan.
8. Parents will communicate any/all concerns to the team manager, however if a manager has not been designated then all concerns will be directed to the coaching staff. If a manager is present, they will schedule a meeting between parents/coaches if necessary.
9. Parents and players are expected to participate in required team fund raising and rink volunteer work (Clock, Assisting Coaches).
10. Parents are to be aware that all kids may not receive the exact amount of ice time however all kids will get equal opportunity depending on coaching decisions throughout the game.
11. Parents will attend any team meetings or special functions that may be scheduled and ensure that your child does, as well, if required.
12. Parents are reminded that players will not be permitted on the ice without complete and safe equipment. Double check equipment before leaving home.

I agree to abide by the HNB Guidelines.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name(Print): \_\_\_\_\_

Team: \_\_\_\_\_

(The Parent Contract/Guidelines are distributed to the parents at the first team meeting at the start of the season. The Contracts/Guidelines are signed by all the parents. The parents hand the signed portion of the Contract/Guidelines to the manager indicating agreement.)

**PLAYERS**  
**CONTRACT/GUIDELINES.**

1. I will follow the rules of Fair Play. I will respect the rules of the game. I will respect my opponents. I will respect the officials and their decisions. Everyone will participate. I will maintain my self-control at all times.
2. I am on a team and will be a team player.
3. Winning isn't everything. Doing my best in all games and practices is everything.
4. I will respect my teammates.
5. I will maintain a positive attitude in a losing and winning situation and provide leadership to all my players at all times. We win as a team and lose as a team. No individuals are responsible.
6. I will listen to my coach's instructions.
7. I will show good sportsmanship at all times and maintain a positive attitude on and off the ice.

..... Return Signed Portion Below to Your Coach .....

I agree to abide by the HNB Rules.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name (Print): \_\_\_\_\_

Team: \_\_\_\_\_

## **GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE**

Our fair play policy in HNB will ensure that all players, coaches, parents adhere to the guidelines laid out in our constitution. It is important that all great concerns be addressed therefore a letter submission will be initiated and sent to HNB for action. All concerns submitted will be replied to. Minor concerns can be directed to the coaching staff and if higher involvement is required then the grieving party can discuss with appropriate divisional director. Grievance procedures will contain the following information:

- Division
- Team
- Coaches
- Date of Incident
- Detailed description of concern
- Submitting individual

**GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE FORM**

**Submission Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Division:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Team:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Coaches:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date of Incident:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Complaint:**  
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\_\_\_\_\_

**Description of Events:**  
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\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Submitting Individual:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date