



North Shore Whitecaps AAA Zone Hockey Association Parent Code of Conduct

The parent plays a critical role for the athlete in terms of both physical and athletic development. Inherent in this role is a power imbalance which parents must recognize and take care not to abuse. The parent must understand and respect the relationship and commitment their child makes to be a member of a team. The parent should realize that the child must understand and adhere to the values and goals of their coach and the NSW in order to achieve complete success. The parent, as a role model for their child, is expected to conduct himself/herself in a manner that will allow the values and goals of the organization to be achieved. The following code of conduct has been created to guide parents to achieve a level of behaviour which will allow all sports participants to become well rounded, self-confident, and productive human beings and enhance their and others enjoyment of the events

PARENTS HAVE THE RESPONSIBILITY TO:

1. Treat everyone fairly within the context of his or her activity, regardless of gender, place of origin, colour, sexual orientation, religion, political belief or economic status.
2. Direct comments or constructive criticism at the performance rather than the individuals
3. Consistently display high personal standards and project a favourable image of the sport.
 - **Refrain** from public criticism of athletes, coaches, officials, volunteers, and other parents
 - **Abstain** from the use of tobacco products while in presence of athletes at events.
 - **Abstain** from the use of alcohol while in the presence of the athletes at events
 - **Refrain** from the use of profane, insulting, harassing, or offensive/derogatory language
4. Ensure that the activity being undertaken is suitable for the age, experience, ability and fitness level of the athlete and work with the coaches to educate the athletes on a safe environment.
5. Communicate honestly with training staff regarding diagnosis by registered medical practitioners involving treatment and management of the athlete's medical and psychological problems. Consider the athlete's future health and well-being foremost when making decisions regarding a time frame for return to playing or training.
6. Understand that team performance goals take precedence over individual goals.
7. Treat opponents and officials with due respect both in victory and defeat, and encourage athletes to act accordingly. Actively encourage athletes to uphold the rules of their sport and spirit of the rules.
8. Be involved, understand the development decisions pertaining to the athlete, communicate, and co-operate with the staff in achieving this development.
9. Resolve all conflicts without resorting to hostility or violence. Discuss all concerns with team staff in a responsible, respectful and open-minded manner.

PARENTS MUST:

1. Never force the athlete to participate in sports.
2. Teach the athlete that doing one's best is just as important as winning or losing, so that the athlete never feels defeated by the outcome of the game or event.
3. Remember that the athlete plays for his or her enjoyment not for the parent's.
4. Make the athlete feel like a winner by offering praise for competing fairly and trying hard.
5. Show respect and show appreciation to the volunteers, officials, and coaches for their time given to provide the sporting activities for the athlete.
6. Remember not to have unrealistic expectations and understand that the athletes are not professionals and cannot be judged by professional standards.

SOCIAL MEDIA:

The North Shore Whitecaps AAA Zone Hockey Association has clear policies in place for acceptable usage of social media by its members. Members include players, parents, and coaching staff.

1. All association members must not post harmful statements on social media sites that would lead to harassment or bullying investigation. The association member will be suspended. A further review will be completed by the Executive Committee
2. This Includes association members media sites in which they post harmful material regarding the North Shore Whitecaps AAA Zone Hockey Association or any of its members.
3. It is the responsibility of Association members to notify NSW of any such instances

CONDUCT AT THE RINK:

Parents are expected to conduct themselves in a respectful, supportive, and positive manner at all times during team events, including games, practices, and tournaments. Specifically:

- **Open criticism** of coaching staff, individual players (including your own child), or team decisions **is not acceptable** and undermines the team environment.
- **Arguments or confrontations** with other parents, team officials, or spectators will not be tolerated.
- Disruptive or negative behaviour at the rink **reflects poorly on the organization and can impact the development and enjoyment of all players.**

If concerns arise, they must be addressed respectfully, using the team's communication protocol (e.g., 24-hour rule, written communication, or a scheduled meeting with staff). Coaching decisions (e.g., ice time, player roles) are made in the best interest of the team and are not subject to public debate.

CONSEQUENCES FOR INAPPROPRIATE CONDUCT:

Violations of this Code of Conduct will result in consequences, which may include but are not limited to:

- Verbal or written warnings
- Suspension from attending team activities, including games, practices, or events
- Review by the Executive Committee
- Temporary or permanent removal of the athlete from team activities

All disciplinary actions will be based on the severity and frequency of the infraction, and may apply to both the parent and the player.

AGREEMENT

I, the undersigned parent(s), have read and agree to abide by, the North Shore Whitecaps AAA Zone Hockey Associations Parental Code of Conduct.

I understand that violations of the Parental Code of Conduct may result in my and/or my child's removal from all programs sanctioned by the North Shore Whitecaps AAA Zone Hockey Association.

I further understand that lack of awareness or a misunderstanding of the code of conduct guidelines on my part is not a defense to a charge of unethical conduct.

By signing below, I acknowledge that I have reviewed the code of conduct and agree to be bound by all terms without exception

Date: _____

Signature of Parent 1 _____ Parent 1 - _____

Signature of Parent 2 _____ Parent 2 - _____