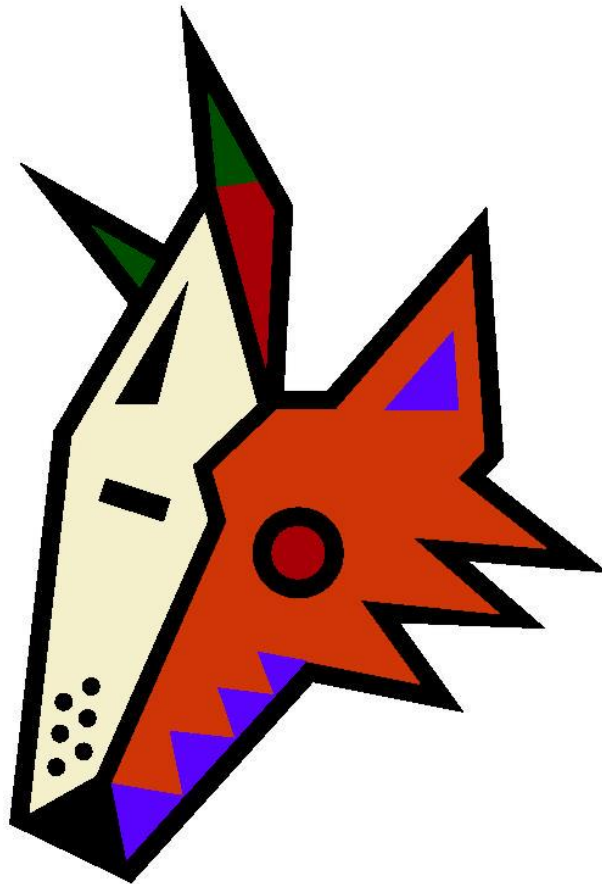


**BURFORD DISTRICT MINOR HOCKEY  
ASSOCIATION  
CODE OF ETHICS**



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**Burford District Minor Hockey Association  
Code of Ethics  
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## CODE OF ETHICS

### **Coaches and Team Officials Code**

- ~I will be reasonable when scheduling games, practices and other team activities,  
remembering that players have other interests and obligations.
- ~I will teach my players to play fairly and to respect the rules, officials and opponents.
- ~I will do my best to ensure that all players get equal instruction, support and playing  
time while balancing the needs of the team.
- ~I will not ridicule or yell at my players for making mistakes or performing poorly.  
I  
will remember that players play to have fun and must be encouraged to have confidence in themselves.
- ~I will make sure that equipment and facilities are safe and match the players' ages  
and abilities.
- ~I will remember that participants need a coach they can respect. I will be generous  
with praise and set a good example.
- ~I will obtain proper training and continue to upgrade my coaching skills.
- ~I will work in cooperation with officials for the benefit of the game.

### **Parents Code**

- ~I will not force my child to participate in hockey.
- ~I will remember that my child plays hockey for his or her enjoyment, not for mine.
- ~I will encourage my child to play by the rules and to resolve conflicts without resorting to hostility or violence.
- ~I will teach my child that doing one's best is as important as winning, so that my child will never feel defeated by the outcome of a game.
- ~I will make my child feel like a winner every time by offering praise for competing  
fairly and trying hard.
- ~I will never ridicule or yell at any child for making a mistake or losing a game.
- ~I will remember that children learn best by example.
- ~I will applaud good plays/performances by both my child's team and their opponents.
- ~I will never question the officials' judgment or honesty in public.
- ~I will support all efforts to remove verbal and physical abuse from children's hockey  
games.

~I will respect and show appreciation for the volunteer coaches who give their time to coach hockey for my child.

### **Players Code**

~I will play hockey because I want to, not because others want me to.  
~I will play by the rules of hockey, and in the spirit of the game.  
~I will control my temper – fighting and “mouthing off” can spoil the activity for everybody.  
~I will respect my teammates and opponents.  
~I will do my best to be a true team player.  
~I will remember that winning isn’t everything – that having fun, improving skills, making friends and doing my best are also important.  
~I will acknowledge all good plays/performances – those of my team and of my opponents.  
~I will remember that coaches and officials are there to help me. I will accept their decisions and show them respect.

### **Spectator’s Code**

~I will remember that participants play hockey for their enjoyment. They are not playing to entertain me.  
~I will not have unrealistic expectations. I will remember that players are not professionals and cannot be judged by professional standards.  
~I will respect the officials’ decisions and I will encourage participants to do the same.  
~I will never ridicule a player for making a mistake during a game. I will give positive comments that motivate and encourage continued effort.  
~I will condemn the use of violence in any form and will express my disapproval in the appropriate manner to coaches and league officials.  
~I will show respect for my team’s opponents, because without them there would be no game.  
~I will not use bad language, nor will I harass players, coaches, officials or other spectators.

### **League Organizers Code**

~I will do my best to see that all players are given the same chance to participate, regardless of gender, ability, ethnic background or race.  
~I will absolutely discourage any sport program from becoming primarily an entertainment for the spectator.  
~I will make sure that the age and maturity level of the participants are

considered in  
program development, rule enforcement and scheduling.  
~I will remember that play is done for its own sake and make sure that winning is kept  
in proper perspective.  
~I will distribute the fair play codes to spectators, coaches, athletes, officials,  
parents,  
and media.  
~I will make sure that coaches and officials are capable of promoting fair play as well  
as the development of good technical skills and I will encourage them to become certified.

### **BDMHA Coaching Philosophy**

~Regardless of the age or level, there are 8 principles we feel you need to remember as  
a coach when teaching the game of hockey in the BDMHA program.

1. RESPECT IS EARNED NOT BESTOWED
2. BE AWARE OF THE EFFECTS OF NEGATIVITY
3. KEEP THE LEARNING PROCESS FUN
4. ALWAYS CONFIRM THEY ARE LEARNING
5. DEMONSTRATE AND TEACH TEAM BUILDING
6. DEAL WITH ADVERSITY IN A CONSTRUCTIVE MANNER
7. BE PREPARED
8. COMMUNICATE

### **RESPECT IS EARNED NOT BESTOWED**

~Remember a title is sometimes nothing more than just that. As a coach you are a very important person in the lives of these young people and they need to build trust

and respect for you quickly. Once you have this from them they will be excellent students and be willing to play hard for you, their mentor. Be consistent with your message, sincere with your convictions and gentle in your delivery.

### **BE AWARE OF THE EFFECTS OF NEGATIVITY**

~Although we sometimes need to identify weaknesses in individuals as well as the team, we need to remember that negativity can really damage confidence. Confidence is the most important element we want to instill in these young people as it

is the most important quality needed to succeed in life. It is our job to protect it and

nurture it. This doesn't mean we ignore areas for improvement, but rather we identify

them, work with them to improve, and once they have improved, reward them with praise because they deserve it. If we can remove the fear of failing and build their confidence to try new things, we can consider this an important achievement for them, as well as you, the coach.

### **KEEP THE LEARNING PROCESS FUN**

~Much like those who love their work and don't consider it work, those who are having fun trying new things may not consider it school. Whether in a game or in practice we don't want this experience to be void of any fun. Ask the kids if they have favourite drills or games and perhaps use this as a reward for good efforts in learning new or more challenging drills. Try to keep practice drills similar to the game and how the game is played. Reward for individual and team successes and don't penalize for failure as you may inadvertently teach them to never take chances. Understand that sometimes you have to find success somewhere other than the scoreboard.

### **ALWAYS CONFIRM THEY ARE LEARNING**

~In school they give tests. In hockey we too can give tests. They may be verbal as opposed to written but they still confirm whether or not we are getting the results we want. Rather than tell the kids before the game what new plays or skills they need to apply, maybe ask them or have them draw it on the board for the rest of the team. This will tell you how successful you are at transferring what is in your mind into theirs and whether or not a different approach is needed.

### **DEMONSTRATE AND TEACH TEAM BUILDING**

~Win or Lose, we do it as a team. This is a team sport, and they must get this from their experience here. One way to demonstrate this easily is to make sure the coaching staff operates as a team unto itself. If they see the coaching staff as fragmented they will pick up on this and it will transfer down to them. Identify early each of your staff members' roles and work with them to deliver the best hockey

experience

possible for the kids. Reinforce the need for the team to work together, and bring attention to any successes that were a direct result of a team effort, that

otherwise

wouldn't have been possible. Deal with selfishness in a team member on a one

on one

basis to ensure they may save face and not be centered out.

### **DEAL WITH ADVERSITY IN A CONSTRUCTIVE MANNER**

~Like life, hockey is filled with adversity. Some teams have bigger players; some times the referee's judgment is in question, sometimes the ice is poor. These are adverse things we have little or no control over. Adverse effects can be frustrating and

can generate a very intense and uncontrolled emotional response. They can also

generate a very intense and controlled frame of mind. They will learn in hockey that life

isn't always fair, but what we also want them to learn is that if they respond in a certain

way, they can defeat adversity rather than submit to it. The teacher must have mastered this discipline before he can expect to teach it to his students.

### **BE PREPARED**

~Whether running practices, dealing with parent concerns, or a temporary loss of players, make sure you are prepared. This will give you the confidence you need to

demonstrate leadership and manage your team regardless of what situations may

occur.

### **COMMUNICATE**

~This seems to be something we all realize as important but sometimes we aren't

diligent enough in delivering. Remember communication should be an interaction

rather than a one way delivery. Make sure you not only communicate to the team, staff

and the parents your views, but that you implement a procedure for them to constructively express their concerns or praises to you as well.

~When we coach, how we coach is very important. The lessons and methods we use

and the manner with which we conduct ourselves will be

examples for our players. Maybe examples they use later in life and maybe

when they coach. It's an awesome responsibility but also an awesome opportunity to touch the future, but that's what we do when we coach.