

## **SDMHA Code of Conduct**

Hockey is a sport built on teamwork, dedication, and passion. To protect the integrity of the game and uphold its core values, the South Dundas Minor Hockey Association (SDMHA) has established this Code of Conduct. All participants—including players, parents, guardians, coaches, officials, and administrators—are expected to adhere to the standards outlined below to foster a respectful, inclusive, and positive environment.

As a parent, guardian, and/or player, I agree to comply with the rules, regulations, and by-laws of SDMHA, Hockey Canada, and Hockey Eastern Ontario (HEO). I understand that the HEO Code of Conduct can be found at [HEO Policies](#).

I confirm that all information provided during registration is truthful, accurate, and up to date. I acknowledge that providing false information may result in disqualification from participation in SDMHA programs.

I will always conduct myself in a respectful and ethical manner. This includes refraining from any abuse, harassment, or disrespect toward referees, coaches, team, bench staff, volunteers, or arena personnel. I will support all players, coaches, and volunteers, in alignment with the Hockey Canada Fair Play Pledge.

All concerns or complaints must be submitted only after observing a mandatory 24-hour “Cool Off” period, ensuring that issues are addressed calmly and constructively. Complaints must follow the established Chain of Command:

1. Team Coach or Manager
2. SDMHA Rules and Discipline Committee and President
3. District 1
4. HEO

SDMHA reserves the right to hold individuals accountable for inappropriate behavior occurring at any SDMHA event or arena. If necessary, individuals will be notified in writing and may be required to participate in a disciplinary hearing—either in person or online—with a panel of members of the SDMHA Executive. Members may be brought in from another association panel should a non-biased candidate be available within SDMHA. Following the hearing, the panel may issue consequences ranging from verbal or written warnings to game suspensions, membership suspension, or even expulsion from the Association. Decisions will be communicated in writing, along with instructions for appeal to District 1 if applicable.

Appeals beyond SDMHA incur a fee as determined by the governing body. While SDMHA encourages resolution at the team level, serious or unresolved concerns should be escalated according to this process.

By committing to this Code of Conduct, all members of SDMHA contribute to a safe, respectful, and supportive hockey community. Together, we ensure that hockey remains a source of joy, personal growth, and community pride for current and future generations.