



2023-2024 Season

CODE OF CONDUCT ***“Rules and Expectations”***

The purpose of this document is to clearly state the expectations of players and parents for the season ahead. Take some time to review this document with your child to ensure that everybody involved fully understands and accepts their responsibilities participating in Bombers Hockey. If you have any questions or concerns throughout the season, don't hesitate to ask an Executive member.

TEAM PHILOSOPHY

To give every player the best opportunity to develop and improve their personal fundamental hockey skills, while learning about team strategy and systems designed for their age rep level player as set forth by Hockey Canada Development guidelines while providing a positive and fun atmosphere.

Coaches will ensure all players understand that they are representing their community. Coaches will expect all players to work hard in practices and games and to conduct themselves appropriately on and off the ice.

SPORTSMANSHIP

Good Sportsmanship is expected and required of all players, coaches, parents and spectators. All league, association and Hockey Canada rules will be enforced.

All players will treat their own teammates and their opponents with respect. Players will not criticize their teammates, but will be courteous, supportive and cheer them on in a positive manner. Parents will not focus on winning or losing, but rather the growth and development of their child.

APPROPRIATE CONDUCT / ALCOHOL/DRUGS

Parents should use their best discretion while consuming alcohol before or after a practice, game or team function. Alcohol in an arena during a game or practice is not allowed.

RULES OF ICE SESSIONS

When the ice is being resurfaced, no player shall step on the ice until the zamboni has left the ice and the zamboni doors are closed. No players are allowed to enter the ice surface until they are supervised by a team official who is present or on the ice.

At the conclusion of a practice or game, players are expected to leave the ice surface in an appropriate and organized manner. No pushing, shoving, verbal abuse or slamming of sticks will be tolerated – and remember your water bottles!!

REPORTING INCIDENT OR INJURY

Should an Incident or Injury occur at a Glancaster Bombers Sanctioned event, coaches and Association representatives shall be contacted immediately. Coaches will remain in constant communication with Hockey Operations Staff regarding concerns on team incidents or injuries. Parents are required to complete a Hockey Canada Injury report and notify Team staff. The head coach will be required to notify the association.

ARRIVAL TIMES

Players are required to arrive at the predetermined time set by the Head Coach prior to all games.

Pre-game warmups will be completed in Bombers wear only with appropriate footwear. Players will respect the other user groups within the facility. Loud music and disruptive behavior will not be tolerated around the other user groups.

Players must be dressed at the predetermined time set by the Head coach before games. If players are not ready, they may be asked to stop dressing and wait until the coaches are finished talking before continuing. Junior aged players (u7-u10) are expected to work towards dressing themselves and when ready coaches may assist with skates. As most dressing rooms are small, this will eliminate crowding in the room & prevent injuries from occurring.

Parents are not permitted to enter dressing rooms without consent from the Head coach. Loitering outside the dressing rooms will not be tolerated. Parents and spectators can wait for players to exit the dressing room area in designated gathering spaces in all arenas.

From time to time we understand that daily schedules do not always run according to plan, and parents do their best to have children on time. However, plans should be made well in advance to allow the player to make the most of the ice time. If you're going to be late for a game or practice, please communicate this to the Head coach ASAP. There will be escalating consequences for those players arriving habitually late to games and practices. In bad weather conditions, please drive safely and according to the weather conditions.

The parents of players who habitually arrive late will be asked to meet with team officials to resolve the situation.

ATTENDANCE

100% attendance is expected to all practices, games and team functions.

The team manager and head coaches must be notified as soon as the parent/player knows they are unable to attend any game, practice or team function. From time to time, there will be specific events that are mandatory that all team players attend. These events could be but not limited to: Practices, Games, Skill Sessions, Fundraising events or Team Building sessions.

There will be a consequences for players that habitually miss a game or practice Including but not limited to loss of ice time, or potential removal from the team.

The parents of players who habitually miss games or practices maybe asked to meet with team officials to resolve the situation.

EXPECTATIONS OF PLAYERS “CODE OF CONDUCT”

I am aware that I am a representative player for the Glancaster Bombers organization.

It is a privilege to be a privilege to be a Bombers player. While attending hockey activities, people will see me and know that I am representing my community and this organization.

I am playing competitive representative hockey because I want to.

I understand my parents are also making a commitment to me and my team so I can play.

In order to be a rep player for The Glancaster Bombers, I understand that I must:

- Work hard at school and maintain my grades
- Come to the rink prepared to listen to the coach’s instruction, work hard, and give 100% effort at all times.
- Respect my teammates. I will be courteous and supportive to all teammates. I will never criticize my teammates.
- Respect the coaches, referees, parents and league officials.
- Respect my opponents.
- Maintain a positive attitude and exhibit sportsmanship.
- Win respectfully and lose graciously.
- Never use bad language or make negative racial or sexual comments at anytime.
- Fighting or horseplay in the dressing rooms, inside or outside of the arenas will not be tolerated.
- Commit to attend all practices, games and team functions.
- Have as much fun as possible.

EXPECTATIONS OF PARENTS “CODE OF CONDUCT”

In order to establish a safe and enjoyable environment for everyone, parents are expected to follow the team’s “code of conduct”. If you disagree with the team’s philosophy, development or coaching techniques, approach the team staff, in a professional, proactive manner. Negative and unfounded rumours towards coaches or players create an air of discomfort for everyone. No one benefits from negative or detrimental conduct. Open and honest lines of communication should be the priority.

- I will enjoy my child’s participation in sport.
- I will respect my child’s “identity” and let them live their own successes.
- I will ask my child about “highlights” rather than performance. What did you do well and what do you want to improve?
- I will encourage my child to participate, work hard and listen to coaches.
- I will encourage my child to constantly look to improve as a player and teammate.
- I will support the coaches and communicate any concerns directly and professionally.
- I will be involved for the good of the team.
- I will be respectful of the referees, coaches, all players, parents and spectators at the rink.
- I will ensure my son/daughter has the proper equipment.
- I will never abuse a player or coach physically or verbally either in their presence or in the presence of another player
- I will never ridicule or yell at my child or any other child for making a mistake or losing a game.
- I will be a full time spectator with positive cheers only in victory AND defeat.
- I will not “coach” or shout out directions from the stands.
- I will not use profanity.
- I will show appreciation for the volunteer coaches who give their time to coach hockey for my child.
- I will remember that these athletes are only children.

EXPECTATIONS OF SPECTATORS “CODE OF CONDUCT”

- Remember that participants play hockey for **their** enjoyment.
- Do not have unrealistic expectations. Remember that the players are not professionals and cannot be judged by professional standards. It's Minor Hockey.
- Respect official's decisions and encourage participants to do the same.
- Never ridicule a player for making a mistake during a game. Give positive comments that motivate and encourage a continued effort on and off the ice.
- Do not use bad language or harass players, officials, coaches or other spectators.
- Refrain from yelling directions to players, coaches, or officials.

Cheer in a positive manner, especially for exciting plays, individual efforts or team accomplishments.

EXPECTATIONS OF COACH* “CODE OF CONDUCT”

- We will remember that players are involved in hockey for fun and enjoyment.
- We will teach players to play fairly and to respect the rules, officials and opponents.
- We will treat opponents and officials with due respect both in victory and defeat and encourage athletes to act accordingly.
- We will ensure that all players get an equal opportunity for instruction and support.
- We will organize practices that emphasize the skills, strategies and system requirements of players for the level that is consistent with Hockey Canada Development guidelines while providing a positive and fun atmosphere.
- We will remember that participants need a coach they can respect. I will be generous with praise and set a good example. I will be fair and just. I will be consistent and honest.
- We will refrain from the use of profane, insulting, harassing or otherwise offensive language in the conduct of my coaching duties.
- We will communicate and co-operate with the athletes' parents or legal guardians, involving them in management decisions pertaining to their child's development.
- We will expect and push our players to reach their own potential, but do so in a way that is encouraging and constructive

* *Although this code is directed toward coaching conduct, it equally applies to other members of the “Team Leadership Staff”, i.e. Trainers, Assistant Coaches, Managers etc.*

COMMUNICATIONS WITH THE COACHES

Parents shall not approach the coaches with issues before or during games/ practices. After a game/ practice, there is a period of 24 hours that must pass before issues are to be discussed. Congratulations and other general remarks are appropriate but DO NOT discuss negative issues when emotions are high. The coaching staff endorses the “code of conduct” and encourages all parents to utilize the proper procedures when dealing with sensitive issues. All parents, coaches and players are expected to communicate in a positive professional manner. Parents are reminded that it is the coaches' job to coach, and our decisions are done for the best interest of the ENTIRE team.

A “Parent Rep” will be designated prior to the start of game play in order to open a communication avenue with the coaches with concerns or problems that may arise throughout the season. (See TEAM CONCERNS” below)

Failure to adhere to these rules will result in immediate discipline from hockey activities.

BENCH

No parent will approach the bench during or at the conclusion of a game, skills or practice session. If a player is injured, wait for instructions from the trainer who is certified and equipped to deal with the situation.

DRESSING ROOM

- Respect all arenas and dressing rooms – **parents will not wait or loiter outside the dressing room.**
- Players are expected to fully dress themselves - parents or coaching staff can assist with skates. Should parents be required at the junior ages parents will coordinate with the head coach.
- **No parents or siblings of players are allowed in the dressing room prior to the start of any game. The dressing room is meant for the players and coaching staff.**
- There may be times where we call on individual parents or guardians to assist in equipment preparation if needed. (ie Goalies)
- Players are expected to keep dressing rooms clean and in the condition they were found on arrival.
- Absolutely no horseplay is allowed in the dressing room.
- No throwing/shooting/kicking of snow, tape, water bottles, equipment, objects, etc.
- Once a player has their skates on, they must remain seated to prevent injury.
- Once a player is dressed, hockey bags must be pushed under the bench or stood upright in a neat fashion.
- Hockey sticks must remain neatly placed outside of the dressing room, or in a designated area.
- Players are permitted to remove their helmets and gloves after games and must wait until coaches are finished talking before continuing to undress.
- No SMOKING/VAPING/ALCOHOL/DRUGS of any kind.

SUPERVISION

A parent or guardian is required to be in attendance for all practices and games. Parents are responsible to ensure the coaching staff is informed of who is in charge of each player during a team function (ie. If another parent will be taking responsibility for your child that particular day). If you are stepping out for a brief period of time, ensure that another parent is aware that you are leaving and is willing to take responsibility to your child.

DRESS CODE

A team dress code is in effect for all games.

- Until the team members are provided with an association approved team tracksuit or team wear, players will be required to wear “school clothes” – clean clothes, no holes, etc.. OR Semi formal dress apparel.
- Once teamwear has been supplied they will become dress code inside the arena prior to games during warmups etc.
- Shoes in good condition (no holes, proper laces, clean, etc.). Winter boots can be worn to games, but athletic shoes must be worn for warmups.
- Clean and proper game jersey’s and socks.

All dress code items must be clean and in good condition.

ICE TIME

Equal ice time is **NOT** guaranteed. Whenever practical, ice time will be as fair and as equal as possible, except when players do not follow rules and expectations. There will be cases of odd-man situations and other strategic times during a game when equal ice time will not be possible. Ice time will also vary during Playoffs, tournament elimination games, Playdowns, near the end of game or in cases when a win could result in the team playing additional games. As the coach, We will do our best to ensure that EVERY child feels engaged and that they are an important part of the team.

TEAM EVENTS

Team events or social gatherings of players, coaches, parents, or staff will be considered unsanctioned during the off season. This includes games, practices, or on and off ice training. Sanctioned team events should be attended by all members of the team and player/parent participation encouraged. To be considered a sanctioned team event, approval of the event must be given by the Bombers executive.

DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS

Fighting or horseplay of any kind will not be tolerated on or off the ice. Any breach of the “code of conduct” (abusive language, violent conduct, disrespect of coaches, officials and peers) will not be tolerated. The coach will handle such problems with the players/parents directly but if the problem continues or escalates, the coach will request a meeting with the player/parents, team officials, and association representatives. It is the intention of team officials to find amicable resolutions to all problems that may arise, but some issues may be resolved by disciplinary actions such as, suspensions, loss of playing time or, in extreme cases, removal from the team.

Parents that directly interfere with the running of the team or the team’s philosophy, or refuse to abide by the teams “code of conduct” will meet with the team officials and association representatives. Any personal attack verbal or physical on any team official will not be tolerated and the parent or player involved will be removed from the team IMMEDIATELY.

The OMHA code of conduct, City of Hamilton Zero tolerance policy, and the Glancaster Bombers code of conduct will be strictly enforced with no exceptions.

The Glancaaster Bombers Discipline Committee may invoke a suspension or permanent removal of a coach, player, parent, or official after a substantiated violation of this code of conduct is reported.

Behavior deemed detrimental to the team, staff, or organization will be subject to immediate discipline up to and including removal of participation privileges.

TEAM CONCERNS

Glancaster Bombers Rep hockey is highly competitive, exciting and fast. Coaches must have some latitude to make decisions for the best interest of the team without fear of reprisals from parents. Every team will always have players that perform higher than others on a game by game basis. If the players are aware of the coaching policies, and the coach is upfront and honest, there should be no issues over ice time. The coach has the responsibility and authority of running the bench and should never feel pressured by parents on ice time allotments. Ice time is based on a season, not one game.

No problems will be addressed unless they are handled in the following manner:

- Step One: Adhere to the 24-hour rule.
- Step Two: Put it in writing (email) to the Parent Rep after 24 hours.
Resolution... or
- Step Three: Meeting with the coaching staff and/or Parent Rep.
Resolution... or
- Step Four: Meeting with the Parent Rep, Coaching Staff, and Glancaster Bombers officials.
- Step Five: Resolution

The following issues are sensitive and should not be discussed in a negative or counterproductive manner among other parents or team officials. It is extremely important that negative issues or feelings not be discussed in front of the players.

- The team’s philosophy
- Coaching strategies, tactics and styles.
- Line combinations.
- Individual play of any player.
- Ice time during games.

The Glancaster Bombers Organization expects all parents, players, coaches, staff, and volunteers practice the highest level of ethical conduct and hockey professionalism both on and off the ice and in our community as representation of the organization.

The Glancaster Bombers Organization is committed to an atmosphere of mutual respect with all players, coaches, executive members, families and volunteers that is free from discrimination, harassment (verbal or written), or other consistent behaviors that are deemed unacceptable behavior ie Threats, theft, vandalism, slander.

The Glancaster Bombers are committed to protecting individuals who report , in good faith, perceived violations of the Code of Conduct, from reprisal. Individuals will bring issues forward in a sincere and responsible manner respecting the 24 hour rule to a principle executive member (VP or President).

The Glancaster Bombers Executive discipline committee reserves the right to investigate any reported violations of this code of conduct and deliver a reasonable level of disciplinary action to the violator(s) if confirmed.

Any level of discipline including removal from hockey activities will not result in any form of a refund of hockey fees.

The Glancaster Bombers Organization is committed to making the hockey season the most rewarding, positive, and enjoyable hockey experience for everyone involved.