

## Parent Code of Conduct Agreement

It is the objective of the Denville PAL Ice Hockey program to provide your child with a wholesome atmosphere in which to engage in a healthy athletic competition. Our primary goal is to build character in our children. Because of the excitement and high emotion of some of our games, we thought it important to express some policies regarding what we expect from you and your guests.

- Children are involved in organized sports for their enjoyment. I will encourage and support my child's desire to play his/her chosen sport but will not pressure him/her into participating.
- I will remember that the game is fun. I will not taunt or disturb other fans, or embarrass my child by yelling at players, coaches, or officials.
- I will support and promote Fair Play by encouraging my child to play by the rules. I will display good sportsmanship by applauding a good effort by both teams in victory and defeat, and respecting players, coaches, and officials.
- I will remember that "wins" are based on my child's performance, teamwork, and playing within the rules.
- I will recognize the importance of volunteer coaches and of the volunteer board, and will be attentive to team communications to get to know my child's coach's philosophy, expectations, and guidelines. I will communicate with my child's coaches and support them.
- I will make my best effort to ensure my child attends all practices and games. I acknowledge the effort that coaches make toward planning for these events and will give my child's coach reasonable advance notice if he/she will be unable to attend.
- I understand that when my child is on the ice, the coaches do the coaching. I will not yell instructions to my child from the sidelines or give my child instructions counter to those of the coach.
- I understand that it is my role to teach my child sportsmanship, how to deal with success and failure, and to support my child's development in the game.
- I will strive to become knowledgeable about the rules of the game and support the officials' decisions on and off the ice.
- I understand the importance of skill development. For the lower age groups, I will remember that practices benefit my child more than games and competition.
- I will respect locker rooms as private areas for players, coaches, and officials.
- I will not place unreasonable expectations on my child, and will ensure that the car ride home does not become a stressful part of game day.
- I will respect the coaches' "24 Hour Rule."

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## The "24 Hour Rule"

Coaches should not discuss any practice-related situations, game, a game incident or a situation that occurred during the game that has provoked an adverse emotional response or created a hostile situation until at least 24 hours after the fact. A Member is not to approach a coach to discuss a practice-related situation, a game, a game incident or a situation that occurred during the game that has provoked an adverse emotional response or a hostile situation until at least 24 hours after the fact.

Note to 24 Hour Rule: Hockey is an emotional sport. The physical battles that players fight for control of the puck can spill on to the bench and stands and create strong reactions from coaches. This intense emotional aspect of hockey is one of the reasons it makes exciting entertainment.

For parents, it is important to separate game emotions from the best interests of their child's sports development. For this reason, Denville Ice Hockey has adopted the "24 Hour Rule". The intent of this rule is to move an emotional and confrontational discussion away from the presence of the players, and to allow the parties to "cool off", compose themselves and put the provoking incident or situation that occurred in the game in perspective before meeting to discuss it.

I have read and understood the principles stated above that were put forth by Denville Ice Hockey. I agree to abide by those principles with the understanding that if I do not follow them I may be asked to leave any practice, game, or event. I understand that this Parent Code of Conduct extends to my spouse and other guests who I may invite to Denville Ice Hockey events.

My electronic acknowledgement of this Code of Conduct is equivalent to a physical signature.

You are encouraged to print this form and save it for your records.