

Chester County Skating Club (CCSC)

Hockey Program

Policies and Regulations

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Ice Hockey

The ice hockey program starts at age five (as defined by USA Hockey) and goes through adult. Each team practices at least twice a week and games are scheduled for the weekends and occasionally on Friday night. In addition, several hours of open hockey and open skate are available every weekend for both younger and older players. The hockey program is committed to the development of fundamental skills in all players. Emphasis is on sportsmanship, team play, knowledge of the game and, most of all – **FUN!!**

The Club fields youth teams at the following levels: In-house, Atom, Mite, Squirt, Pee Wee, Bantam, Midget, and Girls U12-U16. Practice times are noted on the website under the calendar tab. All players and coaches must be registered with USA Hockey. Each team is required to have a parent representative as the team manager.

Any misuse of the facilities, programs or disregard for these hockey program policies and regulations by a player, coach, parent or staff member will be brought to the attention of the Hockey Committee.

CCSC Ice Hockey Rules

The hockey program of the CCSC is educational and recreational in nature. It is designed to teach sportsmanship and the skills and pleasures of the game itself, with a clear view to the developmental level of each child. Learning and enjoyment of the game is emphasized at the early levels. As the players mature and develop, competition becomes increasingly more important.

1. Good sportsmanship is required of all players, coaches and parents at all times. Players who display poor sportsmanship, foul language, lack of team play and unexcused absences from practice or games will receive less playing time per the coach's discretion. Parents/spectators who display poor sportsmanship (foul language toward referees/coaches/players during games or practices) reflect poorly on our club and will not be tolerated. Parents/spectators may be ejected from games by the referee or coach at any time during a game. An ejected parents/spectator will receive a minimum one game suspension (not be allowed to watch the next game) after review by the hockey committee.
2. Please treat all coaches with the respect they deserve. The Hockey Committee recommends and the Board approves all coaches. Our coaches are volunteers. They devote a great deal of time on and off the ice, working toward a fun and successful season.
3. All concerns regarding coaching should be addressed first to the Head Coach, at the appropriate time and in the appropriate manner. Any concerns that can not be resolved with the individual coaches should be directed to the Chair of the Hockey Committee. If the matter goes unresolved it will be brought before the Board of Directors.
4. Coaches are not expected to provide transportation.
5. The involvement of parents as organizers, minor officials, drivers, managers, etc. is expected. Coaches need volunteers throughout the season for many duties including; timekeeper, penalty box, tournaments, etc.
6. The decision to place a player on a team will be made by the coaches of the respective levels according to the club policies and guidelines.
7. "Playing Up" (a player participating above his/her usual age level) as a permanent team member is not the general policy of the Club. A player may play up for a specific game with the approval of the player's coach, the player's parents, the coach of the team playing the game and the Chair of the Hockey Committee. The Hockey Committee Chair must be notified prior to the game and the Hockey Committee must review the situation after three incidents of the same player moving up over the course of one season.
8. "Playing Down" (a player participating below his/her usual age level) is against CCSC policy. If in very rare circumstances a player plays down, the Chair of the Hockey Committee must approve and the opposing team's coach must be notified prior to the game. The player will not be allowed to play if the opposing coach does not consent.
9. Player movement policy. (Same Level)

- a. B Team to A Team – Any player from a B team may play in an A game at the discretion of the A coach and with the input of the B coach. The move should not be made at the expense of the B team.
 - b. A to B team – The A coach will designate those players that should never be used in B games. The skill level of the individual players on the team will determine this selection. The only reason to use an A player in a B game is lack of available B players. (That player number is fewer than 10.)
10. Players who are not CCSC members rostered on a CCSC Hockey Team may not play in any games.
11. Recommended maximum number of games at each level is listed below. Any exceptions must be approved by the Hockey Committee.
12. CCSC teams are designed to have 15 players and two goalies (maximum 18 players and 2 goalies). In the event that more than 15 players are rostered on a team, a proportionate number of games may be added to the schedule.
13. During the development of the girl's hockey program, girls may be registered on a both a co-ed team and a girl's team during the same season. However, a spot on two teams is not guaranteed. For a girl to play on two teams requires that the girl's and co-ed teams each have available space on July 15th and all players pay hockey fees associated with both teams.
14. The club scheduler shall handle the arrangements of all games. A coach or parent may never schedule a game without going through the club scheduler. The head coach for each team will work with the families of the team to decide whether to enter away tournaments. If away tournaments will be entered, the head coach will immediately notify the scheduler. Two away tournaments per team per year are allowed, not including DVHL playoffs. The Hockey Committee will review and approve all schedules and tournaments.
15. Spring and fall hockey teams utilizing another ice rink may not wear Chester County Club uniforms or refers to their teams as such without the prior approval of the Hockey Committee.
16. All practices and games for the In-house, Atoms and Mites teams will use blue pucks.
17. All hockey players must wear equipment as specified by USA Hockey rules at all practices and games.

Team Selection

General guidelines for dividing and selecting teams is outlined below.

1. In February/March of each year, the Hockey Committee will identify which teams will compete in the DVHL for the following season, at which level the teams will compete, and will select head coaches for each of these teams. Assistant coaches will be placed after final evaluations. Evaluations will be scheduled and announced to the entire membership. Advertisements to the community will be made in an effort to recruit new players for each level.
2. In April or May (depending on the requirements of the DVHL) of each year, the head coach for each DVHL team will hold player evaluations and will report the results of these player evaluations to the Chair of the Hockey Committee.
3. In July of each year, the Hockey Committee will make the final decision to place teams at the proposed levels in the DVHL. The level of the DVHL team will be based upon the anticipated talent level of that given year. This decision must be made prior to the DVHL scheduling meeting in August.
4. During the first week of practice in the fall, final evaluations will be held for all age levels and teams will be chosen. The upper team at an age level will be selected by the head coach after discussions with the other coaches after evaluations. Player selection will be finalized at the end of the first week of practices and players informed.

Game Limits

The recommended number of total hockey games for each age group has been established by the hockey committee. Teams can only play more games than the upper limit with permission from the Hockey Committee. Up to two away tournaments are allowed per season for all teams and are not included in the total number of games allowed per season. DVHL playoffs are not included as a tournament.

Team Level	USA Hockey Recommendations	CCSC Policy
In-House		5-10
Atoms		10-15
Mite	15	13-18
Squirt	20	18-23
Pewee	30	24-29
Bantam	35	27-32
Midget full season	45	30-35
Midget half season		10-15
Girls (upper)		24-29
Girls (lower)		18-23

Hockey Policies

Game misconduct

The name of the player receiving a game misconduct will be reported immediately to the Chair of the Hockey Committee by the coach. The player will receive a minimum of a one-game suspension (as required by USA Hockey) and the incident will be reviewed by the Hockey Committee. A second game misconduct will result in a minimum of a two game suspension (one more than required by USA Hockey) and the incident will be reviewed by the Hockey Committee. For both the first and second game misconducts, the Hockey Committee may take disciplinary action beyond the minimum suspensions stated above. A third game misconduct will result in the player being suspended indefinitely pending reinstatement by the Board of Directors. In this case, the Hockey Committee will review the incidents and recommend disciplinary action which must be approved by the Board of Directors.

First time penalty for fighting

The player receives a one-game suspension. (This is identical to the USA Hockey required penalty)

Second time penalty for fighting

The player receives a three-game suspension. (This is two more than USA Hockey required penalty)

Third time penalty for fighting

The player is suspended indefinitely. The Board may, at its discretion, meet to consider reinstatement.

Intent to Injure – Match Penalty

The player is suspended indefinitely. The Board may, at its discretion, meet to consider reinstatement.

Suspensions

In all penalties involving suspensions, the player must attend the next game(s) for which he/she is suspended but will not be allowed to dress or participate. Any suspensions near the end of one season that cannot be served during that season will be carried over to the next season.

Conduct during practices

Players are expected to conform to the rules of hockey during practices as they would during games. Coaches are responsible for enforcing the rules during practice. Concerns regarding conduct during practice should be addressed first to the Head Coach. Any concerns that can not be resolved with the individual coaches should be directed to the Chair of the Hockey Committee. If the matter goes unresolved it will be brought before the Board of Directors.

Off-ice conduct

Players are expected to follow club rules during all club-related activities. Coaches are responsible for managing the conduct of their players, parents, themselves and their assistant coaches during games and practices. This includes activities in the locker rooms immediately preceding and after games and practices. Coaches should monitor activity in locker rooms starting 30 minutes before games (15 minutes before practices) and ending 15 minutes after games and practices. Misconduct by anyone, at home or away games, tournaments, motels, restaurants, etc., will result in a one-game suspension for the offender. If the misconduct is considered by the Board to be an embarrassment to the Club, the Hockey Committee and the Board of Directors may take additional action.

Hockey Participation Policies

In-House, Atom, Mite and Squirt

All players will play a reasonably equal amount of time during games. Attendance at practices will be a factor in determining playing time.

Pee Wee and Girls

All players will play a reasonably equal amount of playing time during games, except power play, penalty killing and the last 5 minutes of a game. Attendance at practices can also be a factor in determining playing time.

Bantam

Same as Pee Wee except that a coach may choose to play to win during the last half of a game.

Midget

At Midgets, the coach is not expected to use every player on an equal basis in all games. The success of the team is paramount, while the younger, less competent players are to be developed as rapidly and thoroughly as possible. It is hoped that team spirit will prevail so that all players accept and respect their own abilities and those of their teammates while the success of the team is enjoyed by all concerned.

Hockey Equipment

1. All players and coaches are required to use the equipment specified by USA Hockey for all practices and games.
2. All CCSC players will wear CCSC jerseys and socks during games. Club jerseys and socks can be purchased through the club.
3. Pee Wee, Girls, Bantam and Midget levels require white (home) as well as black (away) jerseys.
4. With the exception of the Senior Men's team, all players are required to wear an approved facemask.
5. PeeWees/Girls U12 and older are required to wear an internal mouth guard at all practices and games. While younger players are not required to wear a mouth guard, it is recommended for all players wear one to protect against concussions.
6. Hockey sticks and pucks may be used on the ice only during scheduled hockey hours.

Open Hockey

Remember to sharpen your skills by joining in open hockey sessions that are open for *members only*. All ages are welcome but remember that full equipment is mandatory. A no-check rule is strictly enforced for all participants.