STOUFFVILLE MARKHAM STARS ASSOCIATION (SMGHA)

**CODE OF CONDUCT: General overview and conduct standards for all members**

This Code of Conduct, along with policies, procedures and rules outlined within all SMGHA/OWHA/Hockey Canada documents, identifies the standard of behaviour which is expected of all Ontario Women's Hockey Association (OWHA) and SMGHA members, including athletes, coaches, parents, directors, volunteers, staff, chaperones and others. Any breach of any policy, procedure, rule or other direction of the SMGHA/OWHA/Hockey Canada may result in disciplinary action, up to and including expulsion from all SMGHA events.

SMGHA/OWHA Teams, Associations, Programs and Leagues are committed to providing a sport environment in which all individuals are treated with respect.

All members of the SMGHA/OWHA shall:

* Conduct themselves at all times in a fair and responsible manner.
* Refrain from comments or behaviours which are disrespectful, offensive, abusive, racist or sexist. In particular, behaviour which constitutes harassment, abuse, bullying or cyber-bullying will not be tolerated by the SMGHA/OWHA.
* Avoid behaviour which brings SMGHA/OWHA members or the sport of hockey into disrepute, including but not limited to abusive use of alcohol and non-medical use of drugs during the course of all SMGHA/OWHA activities and events.
* Shall not use unlawful or unauthorized drugs/narcotics or performance enhancing drugs or methods.
* Shall not engage in activity or behaviour which endangers the safety of others.
* Shall set the highest level of SPORTSMANSHIP from all members of this organization that provides an environment in which all individuals are treated with respect, fairness and integrity.

All members shall adhere to the OWHA Team, Association, Programme and League operational policies and procedures, to rules governing the OWHA events and activities and to rules governing any competition in which the member participates on behalf of the OWHA.

This document contains the SMGHA Code of Conduct for Players, Parents & Spectators and Coaches. Players, parents and coaching staff are required to read this document. In addition, members on the executive of the SMGHA, each acknowledges the code of conduct and will abide by, uphold and enforce the Constitution, Policies and Procedures, Rules and Regulations of the SMGHA/OWHA.

**Player Code of Conduct**

* Play for fun, not just to please your parents or coach.
* Play by the rules.
* Never argue with the officials: Let your coach ask the questions.
* Control your temper. Don't mouth off, slam sticks or throw equipment.
* Work equally hard for yourself and your team - Everyone will benefit.
* Cheer all good plays, whether by your team or your opponent.
* Treat others as you wish to be treated.
* Play for fun and to improve your skills. Don't be a show-off and always try for the most points or penalties.
* Congratulate your coach, your team and your opponents. Without them, you don't have a game.

**Parent and Spectator Code of Conduct**

* Remember: Children play sports for their enjoyment, not yours. They are not professional athletes.
* Encourage your child to play by the rules.
* Teach your child that an honest effort is more important than victory. This ensures any game result is accepted without disappointment.
* Help your child work towards skill development and good sportsmanship.
* Never ridicule or yell at any child for making a mistake or losing a game.
* Children learn best by example. Don't embarrass your child by behaving improperly in the arena.
* Applaud all good plays by both teams.
* Do not yell at the officials or question their judgment and integrity.
* Support all efforts to remove verbal and physical abuse from the game.
* Recognize the value and importance of all volunteers. Remember: It is their time & resources that provide hockey for your child.

**Coach’s Code of Conduct**

* Coaches and Team Officials are expected to learn and abide by the OWHA Speak Out policies.
* Each coach and team official is expected to learn all SMGHA & OWHA policies and procedures.
* The coach must display respect for the player and her parent. Even where conflict arises, the coach must display sensitivity to the player while balancing the interests of the team as a whole.
* The Coach shall emphasize development of the player as an individual and as a member of a team environment.
* Player development means that a coach or her staff will make all attempts and prioritize the development of players within the association.
* Model to players how to play fairly and to respect the rules, officials and opponents.
* Ensure that all players get equitable instruction, support and playing time.
* Ensure all players play to have fun and must be encouraged to have confidence in themselves.
* Understand that participants need a coach they can respect and give praise and constructive feedback to players to improve their development
* Obtain proper training and continue to upgrade coaching skills.
* Work in cooperation with officials in a respectful manner for the benefit of the game.