



PENNSYLVANIA ICE HOCKEY OFFICIATING

CODE OF CONDUCT POLICY



All Officials are expected to commit to and maintain the highest standard of professionalism and ethical behavior on and off the ice.

To confirm each Official's commitment to this standard, each Official must agree to abide by the rules and guidelines set forth in this document for the duration of their involvement as an independently-contracted Official for the leagues, associations, and teams serviced by PIHO.

A. EXPECTATIONS

All Independently Contracted Officials are expected to:

- Act in a professional manner at all times and take their role as a hockey official seriously at all levels.
- Know all the playing rules, their interpretations and their proper application.
- Pass all required rules exams.
- Officiate games according to the currently applicable 'Standard of Enforcement,' thus creating a positive and safe experience for all participants.
- Use honesty and integrity when answering questions about any facet of their participation in a game.
- Use only approved officiating techniques and policies for each particular league/level of play, as appropriate.
- Maintain physical health through a physical conditioning program, good nutrition, etc.
- Refrain from engaging in behavior that endangers or threatens their safety, or the safety of others which is contrary to the law or brings discredit to the game, their fellow officials, the league, or other persons/organizations affiliated with a particular game.
- If under the age of 21, refrain from the possession or consumption of alcoholic beverages, and if over the age of 21, refrain from furnishing or permitting the possession or consumption of alcoholic beverages by underage persons at any time.
- Refrain from use or possession of any controlled substances or performance enhancing drugs. These include prescription medications not legally obtained, steroids or mood altering substances considered illegal under United States law.
- Not participate in any form of hazing; be it physical, emotional, or any form of hazing via social media.

- Maintain and properly use the property of the facilities utilized to conduct officiating business, including rinks, hotels, and meeting venues
- Show respect for others' personal property at all times.
- Refrain from any form of unlawful or unethical conduct.
- Refrain from speaking or commenting to any media outlet (newspaper, TV, blogger, etc.) about any game they have officiated or are scheduled to officiate, including commenting on the league, teams, players, coaches, officials, or venues involved in the game.

B. SOCIAL MEDIA

This section is related to any and all social media platform such as Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Snapchat, etc.

All Independently Contracted Officials shall refrain from:

- Including, posting photos, or mentioning personal information of/about fellow game officials or team/league/organization personnel.
- Posting photographs or videos from inside the official's dressing room or from official game related activities.
- Using social media to make or promote any comments that could have negative impact on colleagues or team/league/organization personnel.
- Publicly criticizing officials, teams and their respective individuals, or event organizers.
- Post internal officiating information, such as game assignments, issues related to management or allocation of games, etc.
- Posting unnecessary post-game activity announcements, which may engender disrespect or cause disrepute to yourself, fellow game officials, or team/league/organization personnel.
- Using profanity or words/terms that could be interpreted as racist, sexist, or prejudiced.

AGREEMENT

By accepting any game assignment for the above-referenced leagues/teams/organizations:

- I am agreeing to abide by this 'Code of Conduct.' I acknowledge that I have read and understand this 'Code of Conduct.' I further agree to support and abide by this 'Code of Conduct' at all times. I fully understand and accept discipline for not adhering to the policies listed above in the 'Code of Conduct.'
- I understand that the penalties for any breach of this 'Code of Conduct' shall range from discipline to dismissal from any future game assignments for the above-referenced leagues/teams/organizations, and others.
 - I have read this document and agree to adhere to these standards to promote professionalism and responsibility.