



**South Pittsburgh Hockey Club (SPHC )  
Parent/Guardian/Spectator Code of Conduct and Spectator Zero Tolerance  
Policy for 2026-2027**

Parent/Guardian/Spectator Code of Conduct

- Do not force your children to participate in sports but support their desires to play their chosen sport. Children are involved in organized sports for their enjoyment. Make it fun.
  - Encourage your child to play by the rules. Remember, children learn best by example, so applaud the good plays of both teams.
  - Do not embarrass your child by yelling at players, coaches, or officials. By showing a positive attitude toward the game and all its participants, your child will benefit.
  - Emphasize skill development and practices and how they benefit your young athlete. De-emphasize games and competition in the lower age groups.
  - Know and study the rules of the game and support the officials on and off the ice. This approach will help in the development and support of the game. Any criticism of the officials only hurts the game.
  - Applaud a good effort in both victory and defeat and enforce the positive points of the game. Never yell at or physically abuse your child after a game or practice - it is destructive. Work toward removing physical and verbal abuse in youth sports.
  - Recognize the importance of volunteer coaches. They are important to the development of your child and the sport. Communicate with them and support them. If you enjoy the game, learn all you can about hockey - and volunteer.
- Spectators' Code of Conduct:
- Display good sportsmanship. Always respect players, coaches, and officials.
  - Act appropriately; do not taunt or disturb other fans; enjoy the game together.
  - Cheer good plays of all participants; do not boo opponents.
  - Cheer in a positive manner and encourage fair play; profanity and objectionable cheers or gestures are offensive.
  - Help provide a safe and fun environment; throwing any items on the surface can cause injury to players and officials.
  - Do not lean over or pound on the glass or fence; the glass and fence surrounding the surface is part of the playing area.
  - Support the referees and coaches by trusting their judgment and integrity.
  - Be responsible for your own safety - be alert to prevent accidents from flying pucks and other avoidable situations.
  - Respect locker rooms as private areas for players, coaches, and officials.
  - Be supportive after the game - win or lose.

- Recognize good effort, teamwork, and sportsmanship.
- Parents/guardians/spectators shall abide by all rules established by the host rink, including measures adopted during a pandemic.

### Spectator Zero Tolerance Policy

USA Hockey established a Zero Tolerance Policy to make ice hockey a more desirable and rewarding experience for all participants. Spectators shall not engage in:

- Use of obscene or vulgar language in a boisterous manner to anyone at any time.
- Taunting of players, coaches, officials, or other spectators by means of baiting, ridiculing, threat of physical violence or physical violence.
- Throwing of any object in the spectators viewing area, players bench, penalty box or on ice surface, directed in any manner as to create a safety hazard.

Game officials have authority to stop games when parents/spectators are displaying inappropriate and disruptive behavior. Game officials may identify parents/spectators for removal from the viewing and game area. Lost game time will not be replaced, and violators may be subject to further disciplinary action from the SPHC board, including suspension from team games and practices.

[ ] I have read the above; I agree to abide by the Parent/Guardian/Spectator Code of Conduct and Spectator Zero Tolerance Policy. Violation of the Code of Conduct and/or Spectator Policy may result in suspension from team games and practices by SPHC.