**Parent Code of Conduct**

The parent plays a critical role for the athlete in terms of both physical and athletic development. Inherent in this role is a power imbalance which parents must recognize and take care not to abuse. The parent must understand and respect the relationship and commitment their child makes to be a member of a team. The parent should realize that the child must understand and adhere to the values and goals of their coach and the CZHA in order to achieve complete success. The parent, as a role model for their child, is expected to conduct himself/herself in a manner that will allow the values and goals of the organization to be achieved. The following code of conduct has been created to guide parents to achieve a level of behaviour which will allow all sports participants to become well rounded, self confident, and productive human beings and enhance their and others enjoyment of the events

**PARENTS HAVE THE RESPONSIBILITY TO**:

1. Treat everyone fairly within the context of his or her activity, regardless of gender, place of origin, colour, sexual orientation, religion, political belief or economic status.
2. Direct comments or constructive criticism at the performance rather than the individuals
3. Consistently display high personal standards and project a favourable image of the sport.
	1. Refrain from public criticism of athletes, coaches, officials, volunteers, and other parents
	2. Refrain from the use of tobacco products while in presence of athletes at events
	3. Refrain from the use of alcohol while in the presence of the athletes at events
	4. Refrain from the use of profane, insulting, harassing, or otherwise offensive/derogatory language.
4. Ensure that the activity being undertaken is suitable for the age, experience, ability and fitness level of the athlete and work with the coaches to educate the athletes on a safe environment.
5. Communicate honestly with training staff regarding diagnosis by registered medical practitioners involving treatment and management of the athlete’s medical and psychological problems. Consider the athlete’s future health and well being foremost when making decisions regarding a time frame for return to playing or training.
6. Understand that team performance goals take precedence over individual goals.
7. Treat opponents and officials with due respect both in victory and defeat, and encourage athletes to act accordingly. Actively encourage athletes to uphold the rules of their sport and spirit of the rules.
8. Be involved, understand the development decisions pertaining to the athlete, communicate, and co-operate with the staff in achieving this development.
9. Resolve all conflicts without resorting to hostility or violence. Discuss all concerns with team staff in a responsible, respectful and open-minded manner.

**PARENTS MUST**:

1. Never force the athlete to participate in sports.
2. Teach the athlete that doing one’s best is just as important as winning or losing, so that the athlete never feels defeated by the outcome of the game or event.
3. Remember that the athlete plays for his or her enjoyment not for the parent’s.
4. Make the athlete feel like a winner by offering praise for competing fairly and trying hard.
5. Show respect and show appreciation to the volunteers, officials, and coaches for their time given to provide the sporting activities for the athlete.
6. Remember not to have unrealistic expectations and understand that the athletes are not professionals and cannot be judged by professional standards.
7. Never ridicule or single out any athlete for making a mistake during a competition and offer positive comments that motivate and encourage continued effort from all participants.
8. Never condone the use of violence in any form and express their concerns in an appropriate manner to the coaches or association executive.

Clarington Zone Hockey Association
Parental Code of Conduct Agreement

*Agreement*

 *I, the undersigned parent(s), have read and agree to abide by, the Clarington Zone Hockey Associations Parental Code of Conduct.*

 *I understand that violations of the Parental Code of Conduct may result in my and/or my child’s removal from all programs sanctioned by the Clarington Zone Hockey Association.*

 *I further understand that lack of awareness or a misunderstanding of the code of conduct guidelines on my part is not a defence to a charge of unethical conduct.*

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