

Granite City Warrior Hockey Club (GCWHC)

Code of Conduct (2024-2025) and Expectations

GCWHC players are expected to exhibit good sportsmanship, teamwork, and respectful behavior at all times. Players are representatives of the club, even outside of hockey activities. Player behavior will reflect on the club – let's make sure it's in a positive way.

PLAYER CONDUCT

- Be on time and prepared for all activities.
- Respect the rules of the game including safety. Act in a safe and responsible manner.
- Respect all officials, coaches, and players (including the opponents).
- Do not talk to the opposing team's bench.
- Do not argue with an official's decision, let the coaches handle those conversations.
- Only captains may speak with the referees and must do so in a respectful manner. If a ref speaks to a player, yes that player can respond (respectfully).
- Show sportsmanship. Win with humility and accept defeat gracefully.
- Exhibit teamwork. Work together and support each other – uplift each other, do not tear each other down. You win *together*, you lose *together*.
- The club will adhere to a zero-tolerance stance on drugs. Suspicion of drug use before/during practices and games will result in player being sent off ice and a meeting with parents.
- In the unfortunate event of a player injury, the injured player is expected to attend games and practices when possible.
- Understand that all playing time is earned via a combination of effort, behavior, and ability.

COMMUNICATION

- Players should inform coaches if they will be late or absent. Also please use TeamSnap to update player availability for all practices and games and send messages as needed.
- Players are encouraged to come to captains and/or coaches with any concerns.
- Coaches should not be approached by parents before, during, or after a game. Parents are asked to adhere to the 24-hour rule. A parent may request a meeting with the coaches that will be scheduled before or after a practice. Coach's contact information is in TeamSnap.

LOCKER ROOM

- No phones/cameras. This is a USA Hockey policy. If a call or text must be made, step out of the locker room to handle.
- Captains/Coaches will be in charge of locker room music. Players may suggest songs for the playlist.
- No hazing/bullying/disrespect behavior.
- No property damage.
- No illegal substances (vapes, nicotine products, alcohol, drugs).

GAME DAY EXPECTATIONS

- Players should arrive to the rink one hour before game time and be ready for warm up 45 minutes before game time.
- All players should arrive to the rink in:
 - Granite City/GC Hockey jacket/shirt/hoodie
 - Black joggers, black leggings, khakis, or nice jeans (no holes)
 - No pajamas/pajama pants
 - Players may not be in any state of undress outside of the locker room
- Bring ALL jerseys and socks to every game.
- Bring all necessary pieces of equipment to every game and practice.

SOCIAL MEDIA

The Granite City Warrior Hockey Club (GCWHC), along with the MVCHA, prohibits harassment, whether that harassment comes from players, coaches, board members, or volunteers/parents (affiliate adults).

Harassment is prohibited in all forms: written, verbal, physical, and gestural and includes electronic communications or communications made through the use of technology, including social media. A player or affiliate adult who harasses anyone is subject to discipline, up to and including expulsion or termination (as appropriate).

GCWHC will not tolerate conduct that creates an intimidating, hostile, or offensive environment. GCWHC will take appropriate action against third parties who harass players and affiliate adults.

Creating, distributing, and/or accessing publications shall occur at a time and place and in a manner that will not cause disruption, be coercive, or result in the perception that the distribution or the publication is endorsed by GCWHC.

Players are prohibited from creating, distributing, and/or accessing any publication that:

- Violates the rights of others, including but not limited to material that is libelous, slanderous or obscene, or invades the privacy of others, or infringes on a copyright;
- Is socially inappropriate or inappropriate due to maturity level of the players, including but not limited to, material that is obscene, pornographic, or pervasively lewd and vulgar, or contains indecent and vulgar language, or sexting;
- Is reasonably viewed as promoting illegal drug use;
- Incites players to violate any code of conduct policies.

A player engaging in gross disobedience and misconduct and may be disciplined for:

- accessing or distributing forbidden material;
- writing, creating, or publishing such material intending for it to be accessed or distributed;
- creating and/or distributing a publication that: (1) causes a substantial disruption or a foreseeable risk of a substantial disruption to club operations, or (2) interferes with the rights of other players or affiliate adults.

The following are some top tips for using social media in a way which meets our guidelines.

- **THINK** before you post. Is it True? Helpful? Inspiring? Necessary? Kind?
- Assume that what you post will be shared and read by anyone.
- Think about who can see what you share and manage your privacy settings accordingly. Remember that privacy settings cannot guarantee that something you post will not be publicly visible.

- Do not post inappropriate or offensive material. Use good judgement about whether something you share falls below the standards expected of you.

All reported violations will be investigated by GCWHC as well as the MVCHA. Violations are subject to disciplinary action which may include fines and/or suspensions (as determined by the MVCHA); and/or loss of playing time or other consequences (as determined by GCWHC Coaches and Board).

This policy is in coordination with rule 1-G-8 in the MVCHA Rule Book.

DISCIPLINE

Players who do not adhere to the rules and expectations may face disciplinary action from GCWHC and/or the MVCHA. Disciplinary actions will be determined by the coaches. These may include, but are not limited to:

- loss of playing time;
- additional skating;
- additional physical activity;
- monetary restitution – GCWHC reserves the right to pass any fines assessed to the club for violations of the social media policy, property damages, etc. to the player(s) responsible.

Parents can request a player lose playing time due to grades, behavior, etc. at any time.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

All players and parents will need to sign the signature sheet to acknowledge that they have read and understand the above outlined expectations.

LEADERSHIP EXPECTATIONS

- Captains will lead the pre-game warm up 45 minutes before game time.
- Captains will manage behavior in the locker room.
- Captains and/or Coaches will manage locker room music playlist.
- A leadership meeting with the coaches will be held every Monday prior to practice.
- Letters are magnetic and must be moved from jersey to jersey. Captains are responsible for having their letter at every game and transferring them to the game day jersey.
- Leaders are expected to follow all rules within the code of conduct and set a high level of standards for the team. Frequent correction from the coaches may result in loss of leadership position.
- Captains are expected to attend games even if injured, if at all possible. Your role is to lead and support and you don't need to be on the ice to do that.