

DPL Hockey Handbook

2009 - 2010



I. General Team Rules

- a. All parents, players, managers and coaches will always conduct themselves in a first class manner, be encouraging to others and maintain a positive attitude.
- b. All players and managers are expected to attend and be on time to all practices, bus departures and team activities.
- c. All players will have a curfew of 10:00 p.m. on nights before a game.
- d. All players and managers will act within their respective school rules during practice, games and all other team events.
- e. All players and coaches will adhere to the team dress code. All players and coaches are expected to wear khaki pants, button up shirt and team jacket. No alternatives will be accepted and if failure to adhere, the player will not be allowed to travel to the game.
- f. Cell phones will not be allowed in the locker room during practices or games and will be turned off before entering the team bus. The coaches carry cell phones and upon an emergency a cell phone will be available to the player.
- g. Excessive penalties will not be tolerated.
 - i. Any player that receives (4) penalties during (1) game will be handed a (1) game suspension to be served immediately regardless of next opponent or any other circumstances.
 - ii. Any player that receives a game disqualification will be handed a (3) game, not including the (1) game suspension imposed by the WIAA, to be served immediately regardless of next opponent or any other circumstances.
 - iii. Any player that receives a penalty for fighting will be handed a (1) game suspension to be served immediately regardless of next opponent or any other circumstances.
 - iv. Any other problems that may arise will give reason for the coaching staff to discuss and set a precedent to be followed and added to the handbook going forward.
- h. If you are unable to attend practice an email or voicemail message giving the reason is expected.
- i. Please no phone calls to discuss playing time or emails at work unless it is Blue Line Club related or a general question regarding the team.

II. Philosophy

- a. Varsity - The coaching staff will attempt to put the best team possible on the ice regardless of a player's age or grade. We will look for ability and attitude when putting together a competitive team. Also, we want players that will work hard to **earn** their position on a daily basis.
- b. Junior Varsity - The focus of JV will be to develop the players by improving hockey skills and expanding their understanding of the game. JV players will have every opportunity to play at the Varsity level throughout the year.

III. Player Expectations

- a. Put the teams' goals, welfare and success before your own.
- b. Maintain a GPA of at least 2.0. Players will turn in grade status reports to the head coach every (2) weeks to remain in good standing with the coaching staff.
- c. Act in a way that shows you have respect for others and yourself. How you act in public reflects upon the DPL hockey team and our communities.
- d. Be disciplined in all aspects of your life (i.e. academics, athletics and social).
- e. All players are expected to work to their potential in practices and games.
- f. Be responsible for all uniforms and equipment.
- g. Be receptive to all coaches and constructive criticism.

IV. Captain Expectations

- a. The captaincy is a vote of confidence from your coaching staff, and from your peers, that you can be looked upon to represent the values of the team.
- b. Captains are selfless. They are "team players" in the truest sense of the term. They are about the success of the hockey team above all else, including their own individual production.
- c. Captains always use their performance as an example to lead others.
- d. It's important that your actions reflect what your team stands for.
- e. Any captain that does not adhere to team rules will be removed from their role of captain immediately. This will include unexcused absences from practice, lack of maintaining a 2.0 GPA and/or disciplinary actions resulting from your respective schools.

V. Unexcused Absences and Tardiness

- a. Definition - An unexcused absence is an absence or being late for practice by more than 20 minutes that is not approved by the head coach.
 - i. The coaches realize players get sick from time to time but we will reserve the right to confront or penalize a player who is absent too frequently.
 - ii. The coaches also realize that driving conditions may not favor the player getting to practice on time or extra time was spent regarding school work.
- b. 1st offense - Warning to player and the coaches will document appropriately.
- c. 2nd offense - The player will sit out (1) period of the next game regardless of opponent or any other circumstances.
- d. 3rd offense - The player will sit out the next full game regardless of opponent or any other circumstances.
- e. 4th offense - The player will sit out (2) games regardless of opponent or any other circumstances.
 - i. If tardiness becomes repetitive, the player, parent and respective Athletic Director will schedule a meeting to discuss the situation.

VI. Participation on the DPL Hockey Team

- a. It's a privilege, not a right.
- b. Players must respect their coaches, captains and team.
- c. No player will be accorded equal or guaranteed ice time.

VII. Home Game Day

- a. Busses will no longer be taken to home games played at Hartmeyer Ice Arena. JV players will need to arrive at HIA 60 minutes prior to the start of warm-ups or to be determined by the JV coach. Varsity players will need to arrive at HIA for the start of the JV game, no exceptions. Remember we are all one team and support for all players is expected.

VIII. Game Day

- a. Team stretching and warm-up will begin 45 minutes before game time. Stretching and pre-game warm up is expected and will be coordinated by the captains.

- b. Players will be asked to enter the locker room 30 minutes before game time to get dressed and prepare mentally.
 - i. Drinks and food will need to be purchased before entering the locker room.
 - ii. All players need to understand that this is essential and an important aspect to every game.

IX. Dealing with Questions or Concerns

- a. There will be a chain of command that must be followed when addressing concerns:
- b. 1st Step - The player must set up a meeting to talk to the coach.
- c. 2nd Step - Meeting between the coach, parent and player.
- d. 3rd Step - Meeting with coach, parent, player and appropriate Athletic Director.
 - i. Feel free to discuss any concerns with the coaching staff except ice time allocation or who is playing on what line.
 - ii. All questions and concerns will be dealt with only if these steps are followed. The meetings with the player can be set up before or after practice but meetings with the player and parent must take place outside of the rink.
 - iii. The coaching staff does not promote gossip or negativity from players or parents. We must all remain positive and work together by addressing issues in a constructive manner.
 - 1. Please make every attempt to discuss any problem with the coaching staff first. The three Athletic Directors are busy and the situation is not always communicated to the coaches.

X. Voting for Captains

- a. The voting for captains will take place at the beginning of each season and will take place after the first full week of practice.
- b. Players will be allowed to vote for captains. If the responsibility is not taken seriously the coaches will have the right to overturn the team's choices.

- c. There will always be (1) Senior captain, (1) Senior assistant and (1) Junior assistant.

XI. End of the Year Awards

- a. The voting for awards will take place after the last practice of the year. The following awards will be voted on:
 - i. Most Valuable Player
 - ii. Most Improved Player
 - iii. The Coaches Award for Determination
- b. Players will be allowed to vote for the awards. If the responsibility is not taken seriously the coaches will have the right to overturn the team's choices.
- c. Each player will be recognized with a certificate that maintains a GPA greater than 3.0 and 4.0.

XII. Lettering Criteria

- a. Due to the expanded JV schedule, all players must play in an average of (1) period per varsity game to earn a hockey letter.
 - i. One shift = one period.
 - ii. Example - There are (23) Varsity hockey games and (69) periods. Therefore a player must play in (1/3) of the total periods played. If a player plays in an entire Varsity game, that will be considered playing 3 periods.
 - iii. This rule will be evaluated on a yearly basis by the coaches. The number of players and JV games will have a direct effect on the changing of this rule.

XIII. Varsity Roster

- a. Due to the expanded JV schedule, the Varsity roster will consist of the following at all Varsity games:
 - i. (2) Goalies
 - ii. (6) Defensemen

- iii. (9) Forwards
- iv. There will be only (1) roster for all state playoff games.
- v. All players will be notified the night before the games on where they will be playing.

XIV. Pre-game Activities

- a. For the first (10) games the team will be holding a pre-game activity the night before the game at a predetermined location.
 - i. Players home
 - ii. Local restaurant
 - iii. Watch game film
- b. It will be the responsibility of the head coach to kick the season off and then the responsibility will shift to the (3) captains.
- c. The event should be funded by the player and is intended to keep the team together throughout the year.

XV. Beginning of the Year Activity

- a. This activity is for both the players and the parents. Please answer the following questions separately and discuss with your respective players:
 - i. What do you want out of the season?
 - ii. What does a good season look like to you?
 - iii. What are your expectations of the team?
 - 1. Players please put your name on the top of yours and turn into me before leaving.