

EASTERN CONNECTICUT HOCKEY ORGANIZATION

CODE OF CONDUCT

Section 1: Definitions

As used in this section, the following terms shall have the following meanings:

§ 1.1 “Code of Conduct”: A written specification of the behavior of ECHO players, and their parents, legal guardians, relatives, guests and coaches, prepared by the Board of Directors of the Eastern Connecticut Hockey Organization (ECHO).

§ 1.2 “ECHO Event”: Any game, competition, practice, instructional or social event involving one or more ECHO players. Event locations may include, but are not limited to, ice rinks, sports arenas, rink or arena lobbies, rink or arena parking lots, hotels, restaurants, other places of business and private homes or automobiles, where an individual or group of individuals can be associated with an ECHO player.

§ 1.3 “ECHO Player”: A person under the age of eighteen who is rostered on or registered with an ECHO hockey team or program of any kind, including, but not limited to, a travel team, a house team or other instructional or developmental program such as mini-mites and learn to play. This definition shall not include a person under the age of eighteen who is serving in the role as a student coach or an on-ice helper.

§ 1.4 “Player”: An ECHO player or a registered or rostered player from a team other than an ECHO team.

§ 1.5 “ECHO Coach”: An adult or minor designated to serve as a head coach, assistant coach or on-ice helper for one or more ECHO teams.

Section 2: Adherence to Code of Conduct

All ECHO players, and their parents or legal guardians, relatives, guests, and all ECHO coaches, in consideration of being afforded the opportunity to participate in or attend ECHO events, shall be required to follow the Code of Conduct.

Section 3: Availability of Code of Conduct

The Code of Conduct shall be made available to all ECHO coaches and ECHO players, and their parents or legal guardians, and relatives and guests.

Section 4: Prohibited Conduct

The following conduct shall be prohibited at any ECHO event:

§ 4.1 Unsportsmanlike Conduct: Engaging in unsportsmanlike conduct with or toward any player, coach, official, parent, legal guardian or any other attendee.

§ 4.2 Encouraging Unsportsmanlike Conduct: Encouraging another person or persons to engage in unsportsmanlike conduct with or toward any player, coach, official, parent, legal guardian or any other attendee.

§ 4.3 Endangering Health, Safety or Well-Being of Others: Engaging in any behavior that could endanger the health, safety or well-being of any player, coach, official, parent, legal guardian or any other attendee.

§ 4.4 Encouraging Endangerment of Health, Safety or Well-Being of Others: Encouraging another person or persons to engage in any behavior that could endanger the health, safety or well-being of any player, coach, official, parent, legal guardian or any other attendee.

§ 4.5 Use of Illicit Drugs or Use of Alcohol By a Minor: Using illicit drugs or, in the case of a person under the age of twenty-one, using alcohol, while attending or participating in an ECHO event, or attending or participating in an ECHO event while under the influence of illicit drugs.

§ 4.6 Encouraging Use of Illicit Drugs or Use of Alcohol By a Minor: Encouraging another person or persons to use illicit drugs or, when the person or persons are under the age of twenty-one, to use alcohol, while attending or participating in an ECHO event, or encouraging another person or persons to attend or to participate in an ECHO event while under the influence of illicit drugs.

§ 4.7 Obscene or Profane Language or Slurs: Engaging in or using obscene or profane language or gestures, or racial, ethnic or gender-related slurs, regardless of whether such language or conduct is directed at other persons.

§ 4.8 Encouraging Obscene or Profane Language or Slurs: Encouraging another person or persons to engage in or to use obscene or profane language or gestures, or racial, ethnic or gender-related slurs.

§ 4.9 Verbal Abuse: Engaging in any verbal abuse directed toward any player, coach, official, parent, legal guardian or any other attendee.

§ 4.10 Encouraging Verbal Abuse: Encouraging another person or persons to engage in any verbal abuse directed toward any player, coach, official, parent, legal guardian or any other attendee.

§ 4.11 Physical Abuse or Threats of Abuse, Fights or Scuffles: Engaging in any

physical abuse directed toward any player, coach, official, parent, legal guardian or any other attendee, or threatening the same, or initiating or participating in any fight or scuffle with any player, coach, official, parent, legal guardian or any other attendee.

§ 4.12 Encouraging Physical Abuse or Threats of Abuse, Fights or Scuffles: Encouraging another person or persons to engage in any physical abuse directed toward any player, coach, official, parent, legal guardian or any other attendee, or encouraging another person or persons to threaten the same, or encouraging another person or persons to initiate or to participate in any fight or scuffle with any player, coach, official, parent, legal guardian or any other attendee.

§ 4.13 Entering Ice Surface: Entering the ice surface for the purpose of engaging in physical or verbal abuse directed toward any player, coach, official, parent, legal guardian or any other attendee, or for the purpose of threatening physical abuse.

§ 4.14 Encouraging Entering of Ice Surface: Encouraging another person or persons to enter the ice surface for the purpose of engaging in physical or verbal abuse directed toward any player, coach, official, parent, legal guardian or any other attendee, or for the purpose of threatening physical abuse.

§ 4.15 Throwing Objects onto or Toward Ice Surface: Intentionally throwing any object onto the ice surface or causing any object to be propelled toward the ice surface with the intention of having it deposited thereon.

§ 4.16 Encouraging Throwing of Objects onto or Toward Ice Surface: Encouraging another person or persons to intentionally throw any object onto the ice surface or to cause any object to be propelled toward the ice surface with the intention of having it deposited thereon.

§ 4.17 Use of Artificial Noisemakers or Use of a Megaphone Without Prior Approval: Using artificial noisemakers such as, but not limited to, air horns, horns, drums, cymbals, bells, rattles whistles, cowbells, bells, thunder claps or stix, or clappers, or using a megaphone without prior written approval from the ECHO Board of Directors.

§ 4.18 Refusal or Failure to Leave Premises: Refusing or failing to leave the premises as specified in section 6 of the Code of Conduct.

Section 5: Penalties for Violations

§ 5.1 First-Time Violations: Any person subject to the Code of Conduct who violates one or more of its provisions for the first time may receive a written warning or may be banned from attending, coaching at or participating in ECHO events for a minimum of one event and a maximum period not to exceed twelve

months.

§ 5.2 Persistent Violations: Any person subject to the Code of Conduct who violates one or more of its provisions more than one time may receive a written warning, or may be banned from attending, coaching at or participating in ECHO events for a period of between one week and twelve months, or may be permanently banned from attending, coaching at or participating in ECHO events. For purposes of this section, persistent violations may occur at the same ECHO event if they occur at intervals that are separated by a span of time of at least five minutes during which no violation of the Code of Conduct has occurred, with the exception that a refusal or failure to leave the premises, as specified in section 6, shall be deemed a separate violation of the Code of Conduct, regardless of the span of time between the refusal or failure to leave and another violation or other violations.

Section 6: Authority of Law Enforcement Personnel, Event Referees, Employees of Rink or Other Establishment, and Members of the ECHO Board of Directors

Any player, coach, or parent, legal guardian, relative or guest of any player or coach, or any other attendee at any ECHO event shall be subject to the authority of all law enforcement personnel, referees, employees of the rink or establishment, if any, at which an ECHO event is occurring, and members of the ECHO Board of Directors. This authority shall include the authorization to direct any persons involved in any incident involving a potential violation or violations of the Code of Conduct to immediately leave the premises. Refusal or failure to promptly leave the premises constitutes a separate violation of the Code of Conduct for which penalties may be imposed in accordance therewith.

Section 7: Penalties Assessed by Other Organizations

Any penalties assessed under the Code of Conduct are in addition to, rather than in lieu of, any penalties assessed by other organizations or governmental bodies. Any bans assessed under the Code of Conduct shall commence upon completion of any bans assessed by other organizations, to the extent that such bans overlap in coverage.

Section 8: Anger Management Program; Suspension of Ban from ECHO Events

Any person who is banned from ECHO events for a period of three months or

more for a violation or violations of the Code of Conduct may have such ban terminated, at the discretion of the Code of Conduct Committee, upon: (1) completion of an anger management or an equivalent counseling program at his or her own expense, consisting of not less than twelve hours of instruction, with the prior approval of the Code of Conduct Committee; (2) proof of satisfactory completion of such program; and (3) the issuance of a written apology to the persons who were the victims of the behavior or conduct constituting a violation or violations of the Code of Conduct.

Section 9: Procedures for Violations

§ 9.1 Initial Inquiry: Upon notice of a potential violation or violations of the Code of Conduct, the Code of Conduct Committee shall convene either in person or by other reliable method of communication within 15 days of such notice (1) to determine whether a violation or violations of the Code of Conduct have occurred, and (2) in the event that such violation or violations are found to have occurred, to recommend appropriate action by the ECHO Board of Directors.

§ 9.2 Action by ECHO Board of Directors: Upon referral of the matter by the Code of Conduct Committee in a case in which a violation or violations have been found, at least two-thirds of the members of the ECHO Board of Directors shall, within 5 days following referral, determine, by a majority vote, either in person, or by other reliable method of communication, whether a warning shall be issued or whether a penalty shall be assessed and, if so, the exact nature of the penalty. For purposes of this section, a majority vote shall consist of more than 50 percent of the total members voting.

§ 9.3 Notice of Penalty or Warning: Upon determination by the ECHO Board of Directors as to whether a warning shall be issued or whether a penalty shall be assessed and, if so, the exact nature of the penalty, the person found in violation of the Code of Conduct shall be notified by telephone/cell phone or by first class mail of such warning or penalty. If telephone/cell phone contact is unsuccessful and no physical address is available, the person shall be notified by e-mail. If no e-mail address is available, other reliable methods of communication may be utilized.

§ 9.4 Appeal from Determination of Code of Conduct Committee: Any person who receives notice as specified in § 9.3 and who wishes to contest the determination of a violation or violations by the Code of Conduct Committee, shall file a written request to appeal with the ECHO Board of Directors within 7 days of receiving such notice. Such written request shall state the violation or violations found, the penalty assessed and the basis for the appeal, and shall be either personally delivered or sent via first class mail to the chairperson of the Code of Conduct Committee. Upon receipt of such written request, at least three-

quarters of the ECHO Board of Directors shall convene a hearing within 15 days at which the person found in violation of the Code of Conduct and any other interested persons may appear and may be heard. Questioning of such persons shall be conducted by one or more members of the ECHO Board of Directors. Within 5 days of such hearing, at least three-quarters of the members of the ECHO Board of Directors may, by majority vote, either sustain or deny the appeal from the determination of the Code of Conduct Committee, or dismiss the appeal for procedural error. Such vote may be taken in person or by other reliable method of communication. If the appeal is denied, at least three-quarters of the members of the ECHO Board of Directors may decide, by majority vote, to reduce the penalty previously imposed but may not increase such penalty. The person appealing shall be notified by telephone/cell phone or by first class mail of the outcome of the appeal. If telephone/cell phone contact is unsuccessful and no physical address is available, the person shall be notified by e-mail. If no e-mail address is available, other reliable methods of communication may be utilized. Any penalties previously imposed shall remain in effect during the disposition of the appeal. All determinations on appeal by the ECHO Board of Directors shall be final and binding.

§ 9.5 Trespassing / Violation of Ban: Any person who is subject to a ban as a result of one or more violations of the Code of Conduct and who knowingly enters into a facility at which an ECHO event is occurring or will soon occur shall be considered a trespasser and may be subject to prosecution by the appropriate law enforcement agency.

Section 10: Code of Conduct Committee

The ECHO Vice President of Travel shall serve as the chairperson of the Code of Conduct Committee and shall be responsible for convening any meetings or sessions held in connection with the administration and enforcement of the Code of Conduct, notifying appropriate persons regarding a violation or violations of the Code of Conduct, and receiving notice for purposes of any appeals. Each head coach for all ECHO hockey teams also shall serve as a member of the Code of Conduct Committee in the particular season in which he or she is serving as a head coach. In addition, the ECHO Board of Directors may solicit up to three persons who do not serve as a head coach to serve on the Code of Conduct Committee in any particular season. A minimum of three Code of Conduct Committee members, including the chairperson, shall participate in order for any action to become binding, provided that adoption and amendment of the Code of Conduct shall be effective only upon a majority vote of at least three-quarters of the members of the ECHO Board of Directors.

Effective November 1, 2010

(ECHO Board of Directors)