

# **Fairbanks Amateur Hockey Association Drug, Alcohol, and Tobacco Policy**

## Introduction

Fairbanks Amateur Hockey Association is committed to the health, safety and welfare of our athletes. We are dedicated to promoting fair competition through maintaining an environment that is conducive to our athletes developing to their fullest potential academically, athletically and socially. The Board believes that the experiences gained while involved in athletics can have a lifelong impact; however, participation in athletics is a privilege and not a right. The Board is certainly aware of the pressures that the youth of today face, especially in the area of drugs and alcohol, and realizes that due to the nature of athletic activity, the use of drugs and alcohol can lead to added risks including injury to themselves and others. As such, FAHA has zero tolerance for the possession or use of illegal substances, tobacco products, or alcohol, by its athletes; either before, during, or after any FAHA sanctioned event. If a coach, parent, volunteer, athlete, or officer of the association believes an athlete has violated this policy, they are directed to bring this concern to the team coach, manager, or an officer of the organization, who will forward the information to the designated Officer of the Association.

## Purpose

The Fairbanks Amateur Hockey Association has developed this Drug & Testing Policy that is aimed at accomplishing the following:

- To promote the health, safety and welfare of the athletes who participate in its programs and represent FAHA.
- To undermine the effects of peer pressure by providing a legitimate reason for athletes to refuse to use alcohol, tobacco, and illegal drugs.
- To deter drug, alcohol and tobacco use and abuse among athletes, and to maintain an environment that promotes their optimal health, safety and overall wellbeing.
- To identify and assist those who use or abuse drugs and/or alcohol and who would benefit from counseling, education and treatment.
- To provide Athletes, Parents, Coaches, Staff, and Volunteers of FAHA with a detailed outline of FAHA's Drug and Testing Policy.

## Athletes Tested

All FAHA athletes will be subject to testing by a licensed agency or physician according to that agency's or physicians standard procedures. This will include random testing, blanket testing, and testing of athletes due to a reasonable suspicion as detailed below. Testing done through a licensed agency or physician at the request of the Association shall be paid for by the Association. The players' parent(s) or legal guardian shall facilitate the test and be responsible for having the testing completed properly. Failure to comply with the Association's drug testing policy shall result in immediate suspension from the team and the Association.

- Random Selection Guidelines - Random selection of in-season athletes for testing is to be conducted by a licensed agency according to that agency's standard procedures. The

parents of the athlete(s) and the athletes selected shall be notified by the designated Officer of the Association and are directed to report to the designated collection site and provide a urine sample for testing within 24 hours of notification. Oral screening may be used as an alternative method of testing.

- Reasonable Suspicion Testing Guidelines - Reasonable suspicion testing occurs when the Coach or designated Officer of the Association has reason to suspect an athlete may be in violation of this policy. A reasonable suspicion test may occur based on; observed behavior, such as direct observation of drug, alcohol, or tobacco use, or possession, or physical symptoms of drug, alcohol or tobacco abuse; a pattern of abnormal conduct or erratic behavior; an arrest or conviction for drug, alcohol or tobacco related offense; information provided either by a credible source or independently corroborated regarding a student's substance or alcohol use; or evidence that the student being tested has tampered with a previous drug or alcohol test. The parents of the athlete(s) and the athlete(s) selected shall notified by the designated Officer of the Association and are directed to report to the designated collection site and provide a urine sample for testing within 24 hours of notification. Oral screening may be used as an alternative method of testing.

### Policy Violation

For the purpose of this policy, the following actions constitute a violation:

- Failure to report to collection site after notification.
- Refusal to submit urine sample for testing.
- Tampering with the sample for testing or attempting to subvert the collection/identification process.
- Confirmed positive result for banned substance.
- Aiding and/or abetting another athlete in violating this policy.
- Refusal to submit to a re-test when required following an inconclusive, adulterated, or suspect result.
- Failure of the athlete and/or the student's parent/guardian to sign the testing consent form(s) and return them to the designated Officer of the Association prior to testing.

An athlete who violates this policy will be subject to immediate suspension from the team and the Association for not less than the remainder of the season, with no reimbursement for fees paid. Following a suspension for failure to comply with the Association's drug testing policy, an athlete may return to play only as follows:

- The athlete must present a drug free test result from a licensed agency or physician at his own expense before returning to play; and
- the athlete's Coach must consent to the athlete's return; and
- the athlete shall be subject to random drug testing at his own expense during the first 30 days following reinstatement to the Association, and at the expense of the Association following the 30 day probationary period.

Confidentiality, Notification, and Appeal

Because the selection and reporting process for the athlete tested is confidential, the selection, collection, chain-of-custody documentation and reporting of results will remain with the licensed testing agency or physician, other than reporting to the designated Officer of the Association either a positive or negative test result. The designated Officer of the Association will be notified of each positive or negative test result, and will then attempt to notify the head coach of the athlete and the athletes' parent(s) or legal guardian by phone within forty-eight (48) hours. Within 5 business days of receiving this information from the licensed testing agency or physician, the athlete and parent(s) or legal guardian of the athlete will be notified in writing by certified mail of the consequences of the positive test, and will be provided the necessary documentation to obtain the details of the positive test from the licensed testing agency or physician.

After notification of a positive test, the athlete and his/her parent/guardian may, at their own expense, elect to have another test conducted with a licensed agency or physician.

If the parent/guardian fails to contact the designated Officer of the Association within forty-eight (48) hours (excluding weekends) following receipt of said notice by telephone or certified mail to schedule a meeting to appeal the test results, the results are deemed conclusive for purpose of further action under this policy and the parents/guardians and the athlete are deemed to have waived their right to challenge the test result under this policy. Any appeal will be heard by the designated Officer of the Association, and the Disciplinary Committee, who will render a decision within forty-eight (48) hours (excluding weekends).

Any penalties authorized under this policy are in effect during the pendency of an appeal.

X \_\_\_\_\_  
Player

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

X \_\_\_\_\_  
Parent (if player under the age of 18)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date