

Chester County Skating Club Ice Hockey Program and Policies

Revised September 2019

Ice Hockey

The Chester County Skating Club (“CCSC” or “the Club”) ice hockey program includes children of all ages and adults. Each team practices twice during the week and games are played on the weekends, which could include Friday nights. In addition, several hours of open hockey and family skate are available every weekend. The hockey program is committed to the development of fundamental skills in all players. Emphasis is on sportsmanship, team play, knowledge of the game and fun.

The Club may have Youth and/or Girls teams at the following levels: Learn-to-Play, 8U, 10U, 12U, 14U, 16U, 18U (Midget), and 19U (Girls). Practice times are posted at the Club and are available on our web site. All players and coaches must be registered with USA Hockey prior to participating in any on-ice activities.

Any misuse of the facilities, programs or disregard for these hockey program policies and regulations by a player, coach, parent or staff member will be escalated to the Hockey Committee.

CCSC Ice Hockey Rules

The hockey program of the CCSC is educational and recreational in nature. It is designed to teach sportsmanship and the skills and pleasures of the game itself, with a clear view to the developmental level of each child. Learning and enjoyment of the game is emphasized at the early levels. As the players mature and develop, competition becomes increasingly more important.

1. Good sportsmanship is required of all players, coaches and parents at all times. Players who display poor sportsmanship, foul or inappropriate language, lack of team play and unexcused absences from practice or games will receive less playing time per the coach’s discretion. Parents/spectators who display poor sportsmanship (foul language toward referees/coaches/players during games or practices) reflect poorly on our club and will not be tolerated. Parents/spectators may be ejected from games by the referee or coach at any time during a game. An ejected parents/spectator will receive a minimum one game suspension (not be allowed to watch the next game) after review by the Hockey Committee.
2. AAHA Officiating Abuse- Zero Tolerance Policy will be followed by all CCSC members. A copy of this document can be found at the end of the CCSC policy book. CCSC will hold the individual and the player they are supporting responsible for all suspensions to be served, and fines incurred and paid by CCSC will be reimbursed by the offender before their player is reinstated to play.
3. All members, players, coaches and employees of CCSC must comply with all USA Hockey and Club Policies including, but not limited to, the Locker Room Policy, the Travel Policy and the Mobile & Electronic Communications Policy.
4. All coaches are to be treated with respect. They devote a great deal of time, both on and off the ice, working toward a fun and successful season.

6. All concerns regarding coaching should be addressed first to the Head Coach, at the appropriate time and in the appropriate manner. Any concerns that cannot be resolved with the individual coaches should be directed to the Hockey Committee Chairman. If the matter cannot be resolved it will be brought before The Board.
7. Coaches are not expected to provide transportation for players.
8. The involvement of parents as organizers, team officials, drivers, managers, etc. is expected. Coaches need volunteers throughout the season for many duties including; timekeeper, penalty box, organizing participation in tournaments, etc. Each team should have a parent representative as the team manager.
9. The decision to place a player on a team will be made by the coaches of the respective levels according to the club policies and guidelines.
10. "Playing Up" (a player participating above his/her usual age level) as a permanent team member is not the general policy of the Club. A player may play up for a specific game with the approval of the player's coach, the player's parents, the coach of the team playing the game and the Hockey Committee Chairman. The Hockey Committee Chairman must be notified prior to the game and the Hockey Committee must review the situation after three incidents of the same player playing up over the course of one season.
11. "Playing Down" (a player participating below his/her usual age level) is against USA Hockey and CCSC policy.
12. Player movement policy between teams in his/her usual age level after the team rosters have been selected at the beginning of the season:
 - a. All movement must be approved by the Hockey Committee Chairman prior to the moving player participating in any game.
 - b. League rules involving player movement will be considered prior to any movement being approved.
13. Players who are not CCSC members and therefore not on a CCSC Hockey Team roster may not play in any CCSC games.
14. The Board and Hockey Committee will consider many factors when deciding how many skaters and goalies to roster on a team. Some of these factors include the availability of qualified coaches, available ice time, and USA Hockey's American Development Model (ADM) recommendations. In the event that a team has an unusually large number of players, a proportionate number of games may be added to the schedule.
15. Girls may be registered on a both a Youth team and a Girls team during the same season. However, a spot on two teams is not guaranteed. For a girl to play on two teams requires that both the Youth and Girls teams have available space on July 15th and the player pays hockey fees associated with both teams.
16. The club scheduler shall handle the arrangements of all games. A coach or parent may never schedule a game without going through the Club scheduler. The only exception is for tournaments. The head coach for each team will work with the families of the team to decide whether to enter away tournaments. If away tournaments will be entered, the head coach will immediately notify the Hockey Committee Chairman. Two away tournaments per team per year are allowed. Costs for away tournaments are the responsibility of the team players/families. The Hockey Committee will review and approve all schedules and tournaments.
17. Spring and fall hockey teams utilizing another ice rink may not wear CCSC uniforms or refer to their teams as such without the prior approval of the Hockey Committee.

Hockey Equipment and Uniforms

1. All players and coaches are required to comply with the equipment requirements specified in the current version of the [USA Hockey Rulebook](#) during all practices and games. These requirements are also applied to any ice session where pucks are used including, but not limited to, CCSC sponsored skills clinics and open hockey sessions.
2. All CCSC players will wear the designated CCSC jerseys and socks during games. CCSC jerseys and socks must be purchased through the designated vendor and should be done prior to the season starting. The Club may have limited quantities of socks available for purchase.
3. All teams except for Learn-to-Play and 8U (Mite) require both white (home) and green (away) jerseys with matching socks for each jersey.
4. All practices and games for Learn-to-Play and 8U (Mite) teams will use blue pucks.

Coaches

1. All coaches are volunteers.
2. Anyone who is interested in coaching must submit a coaching application.
3. The Hockey Committee will submit recommendations for head coaches to The Board for approval. The head coaches will be announced to the membership after the head coaches are approved.
4. The head coach of each team is responsible for selection of their assistant coaches. These selections must be submitted to the Hockey Committee Chairman and approved by the Hockey Committee and the Board.
5. All coaches must meet all of the requirements of the [USA Hockey Coaching Education Program](#) and the [Atlantic Amateur Hockey Association \(Atlantic District\) Screening Policy](#). The Club may impose additional requirements and/or require earlier completion dates than USA Hockey and the Atlantic District.
6. Any coach who does not meet all the requirements as of December 31st of the current season will not be permitted to continue as coach for the remainder of the season.
7. The head coach is responsible for their team's compliance with all CCSC Policies including, but not limited to, the Locker Room Policy, the Travel Policy and the Mobile & Electronic Communication Policy.

Team Selection

1. Prior to the start of registration, the Hockey Committee will recommend to the Board which teams will compete in leagues (ex: DVHL, MAWHA) for the following season and at which level the teams will compete. The Board will communicate projections to the membership during registrations.
2. The Club will announce to the entire membership the time and place of player evaluations that will be held by the head coach for the team at each age level

(provided there will be more than one team at that age level). Advertisements to the community may be made in an effort to recruit new players for each level. At least the minimum initial roster selections will be reported to the Hockey Committee Chairman.

3. The Hockey Committee will make final recommendations to The Board about what divisions to place teams in leagues. The divisions will be based upon the anticipated talent level for that given year. The Board must approve all teams and divisions. These decisions will be made prior to the deadlines set by the leagues.
4. During the first week(s) of practice at the start of the season, final evaluations will be held for age levels with more than one team and teams will be chosen. After these evaluations, the upper team at each age level will be selected by the upper team head coach.

Game Limits

CCSC strives to comply with USA Hockey's recommendations for the number of games played based on age level and adjusting for the 5½ month length of our season. Various factors contribute to the actual number of games played including available ice and time slots, the number of players on each team, and the availability of those players. The game ranges listed in the table below are not guaranteed. Teams can only play more games than the upper limit with permission from the Hockey Committee. League playoff games and tournament games do not count towards the game ranges.

Age Level (Youth and/or Girls)	CCSC Policy
8U	16-20
10U	20-25
12U	26-30
14U and 16U	27-33
18U (Midget) and 19U (Girls)	30-36

Use of Players During Games

8U and 10U

All players will play a reasonably equal amount of time during games. Attendance at practices can be a factor in determining playing time.

12U

All players will play a reasonably equal amount of time during games, except power play, penalty killing and the last five (5) minutes of a game. Attendance at practices can also be a factor in determining playing time.

14U

All players will play a reasonably equal amount of time during games, except power play, penalty killing and the last half of a game. Attendance at practices can also be a factor in determining playing time.

16U, 18U, and 19U

The coach is not expected to use every player on an equal basis in all games. The success of the team is paramount, while the younger and/or less competent players are to be developed as rapidly and thoroughly as possible. The coach has complete discretion over the playing time of all players. It is hoped that team spirit will prevail so that all players accept and respect their own abilities and those of their teammates while the success of the team is enjoyed by all.

Disciplinary Actions

CCSC has discretion to apply additional penalties to players that are above and beyond what is found in the current version of the [USA Hockey Rulebook](#) or the respective leagues the teams are playing in. All incidents involving game misconducts, fighting, match penalties or any incident that occurs prior to, during or after the game is subject to review regardless of whether the action was penalized by the Referee. All incidents must be reported by a Team Official to the Hockey Committee Chairman within 24 hours of occurrence. There also may be additional reporting requirements for each league. The Hockey Committee will review each situation and impose additional discipline at their discretion.

Additional details for certain penalty types are summarized below.

Game Misconduct

A player or Team Official incurring a game misconduct penalty will be suspended for their team's next game (the game already appearing on the schedule at the time of the infraction) except that when such penalty is imposed under Rule 403(b) (Second Major in Game) there shall be a minimum two-game suspension.

A second game misconduct in a season will result in a minimum of a two game suspension.

A third game misconduct in a season will result in the player being suspended indefinitely. Upon receipt of a third game misconduct, the Hockey Committee will review the incidents and recommend disciplinary action which must be approved by The Board.

Fighting

Any CCSC player who receives a major penalty for fighting during a game will automatically receive the suspension required by the current version of the [USA Hockey Rulebook](#). Leagues may impose additional penalties. The Hockey Committee will review each incident and impose additional discipline at their discretion.

The first major penalty for fighting will result in a one-game suspension.
The second major penalty for fighting will result in a three-game suspension.
The third fighting major will result in the player being suspended indefinitely. Upon receipt of the third fighting major, the Hockey Committee will review the incidents and recommend disciplinary action that must be approved by The Board.

Match Penalty (Attempt to Injure / Deliberate Injury of Opponents)

The player or Team Official incurring a match penalty will be suspended indefinitely. The Hockey Committee will review the incident and recommend disciplinary action that must be approved by The Board.

Suspensions

In all penalties involving suspensions, the player must attend the game(s) for which he/she is suspended but will not be allowed to dress or participate. Any suspensions near the end of one season that cannot be served during that season will be carried over to the next season.

Conduct During Practices

Players are expected to conform to the rules of hockey during practices as they would during games. Coaches are responsible for enforcing the rules during practice. Concerns regarding conduct during practice should be addressed first to the Head Coach. Any concerns that cannot be resolved with the individual coaches should be directed to the Hockey Committee Chairman. If the matter goes unresolved it will be brought before The Board.

Off-ice Conduct

Players are expected to follow club rules during all club-related activities. Coaches are responsible for managing the conduct of their players, parents, themselves and their assistant coaches during games and practices. This includes activities in the locker rooms immediately before and after games and practices. Coaches should monitor activity in locker rooms starting 30 minutes before games (15 minutes before practices) and ending 15 minutes after games and practices. Misconduct by anyone, at home or away games, tournaments, motels, restaurants, etc., will result in a one-game suspension for the offender. If the misconduct is considered by The Board to be an embarrassment to the Club, the Hockey Committee and The Board may take additional action.

Open Hockey

Open hockey sessions are for Club members only and are to be used as unstructured ice time for the kids. Private instruction or coached lessons of any kind are not permitted. Body checking is also prohibited.