



## **WVMHA FAIR PLAY POLICY**

The concept of Fair Play is a critical part of all minor hockey. WVMHA recognizes its importance, and all coaches will adhere to the WVMHA Fair Play Policy.

### **PURPOSE**

Fair Play supports an environment focused on:

1. Respecting the rules;
2. Respecting the opponents;
3. Respecting the officials and their decisions;
4. Having everyone participate equally in a team environment; and
5. Maintaining self control at all times.

Fair Play encourages and expects all players on all teams to be as competitive as possible.

### **FAIR PLAY – COMPETITIVE TEAMS**

1. Fair play does not always mean equal play.
2. Coaches must do their best to roll players and lines through games equally, however, this does not mean every player will get equal ice time as there are numerous situations throughout games that impact players' ice times.
3. It is the coaches' responsibility to manage ice time of individuals in order to get the most out of the individual as well as to manage ice time for any possible disciplinary reasons that may occur.
4. It is important to look at ice time over the whole season to date, not just as isolated incidents or in 1-2 game segments.
5. It is the coaches' responsibility to manage their benches in the last 10 mins of important games as they see fit for the benefit of the entire team.
6. Goalies must be rotated in a manner that leads to them starting as close to a 50-50 split as possible when the season is complete. Fair play does not mean goalies cannot be pulled or that if a goalie is pulled, that game should be "made up" to them. Coaches reserve the right to choose the starting goalie for important games as they see fit in the best interest of the team.

### **FAIR PLAY – RECREATIONAL TEAMS**

1. It is the coaches' responsibility to ensure players and goalies receive as close to equal ice time as possible throughout the season as a whole.

### **FAIR PLAY - OVERSIZED ROSTERS**

1. Occasionally recreational and competitive teams will roster more than the standard 15 skaters and 2 goalies. In instances where a player(s) must sit out for games, it is the coaches' responsibility to rotate players through games evenly as best as possible. WVMHA understands that this is difficult to do, but it ultimately falls on the coach to try their best to ensure all skaters and goalies are rotated through the games evenly during the course of the season.