

NHGHA Fair Play Policy – House League

NHGHA is committed to a “Fair Play – Fair Ice Time” policy that provides all players, regardless of skill level, with equal ice time opportunities throughout the entire course of the game. A player’s development can be hindered if they are not playing in all game situations including power play, penalty kill, and the last minute of the game regardless of the score. In House League, each player will therefore receive equal ice time and be treated by all team members and staff equally regardless of their skill level. Head Coaches who fail to observe this policy will warrant a warning from the Director and or Convener of House League. Repeat violations of this policy may lead to possible discipline up to and including suspension.

Fair Play Includes:

- All forwards receiving approximately the same amount of ice time during the game
- All defensemen receiving approximately the same amount of ice time during the game
- When the goalie is pulled - the player coming onto the ice must come from the next forward or defensive line
- Penalty Kill/Power Play - the players on the ice must come from the players already on the ice or from the next forward and defensive line when changing the lines
- Supporting all team members and making them all feel valued
- Teaching that winning is not the primary goal of house league hockey
- Focusing on developing individual and team skills
- Working towards all players enjoying hockey and looking forward to practices and games

Fair Play does NOT Include:

- Shortening the bench so that stronger players receive additional or longer shifts
- Putting players on the ice out of rotation
- Any other tactics, such as “double shifting Centers”, that limit the opportunities of developing players in favour of stronger players.

When Does Fair Play Policy Apply?

- All house league teams in all divisions
- All games including Regular season and Playoff games
- All tournaments, including the Twisters tournament, and any other away tournaments
- All parts of a game including, the first minute of the game to the last and including any over time
- Even if the other team is not following the fair play policy

Line Up Guidelines

Below are line up guidelines based on the number of skaters present that will promote equal and fair ice time for all. Consideration should be made to adjust the lines in a fashion that shares extra ice with all players and will balance out over the course of the season. For example, if there are 8 forwards, one week Centres are double shifted, the next week the Left Wingers are double shifted, and so on. Rotating players between forward positions is also an option to keep players fresh and balance their ice time.

# Skaters	# Forwards	# Defense
15	9 (3 Lines)	6 (3 Lines)
14	9 (3 Lines)	5 (Rotate)
13	9 (3 Lines)	4 (2 Lines)
12	8 (Rotate)	4 (2 Lines)

# Skaters	# Forwards	# Defense
11	7 or 6	4 or 5
10	6 (2 Lines)	4 (2 Pairs)
9	6 (2 Lines)	3 (Rotate)
8	5 (Rotate)	3 (Rotate)

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Who is Responsible for Promoting Fair Play?

The simple answer is everyone on the team is responsible, this includes coaches, trainers, team managers, team moms, parents, players and convenors. The head coach has the responsibility to set the standard and lead by example.

Who to Contact with Questions

Talk to your Convener, Director of House League or Twisters VP.