



MOUND WESTONKA HOCKEY ASSOCIATION PLAYER PARTICIPATION

MWHA Mission:

The Mound Westonka Hockey Association seeks to provide a community and volunteer-driven program to promote the growth and development of our players. Our association works to promote a fun, fair, and safe environment that maximizes participation and improves players' skills while developing sportsmanship, teamwork, and self-confidence.

Purpose of the Mound Westonka Hockey Association Corporation (as stated in Bylaws)

- a. To educate young people in the Mound Westonka area in the rules and skills of the game of ice hockey;
- b. To provide an organized ice hockey program for the youth of Mound Westonka area with participation and developmental opportunities;
- c. To develop hockey players for the Mound Westonka High School Junior Varsity and Varsity levels;
- d. To provide for participation through scholarship in cases of need as determined in the sole discretion of the Board of Directors; and
- e. To operate as a non-profit association of members and to expend any excesses of revenue over expense for the improvement and promotion of the activities of the Corporation.

MWHA PHILOSOPHY

The MWHA has adopted the same principles as USA Hockey and MN Hockey for planning, programming, and play which include the following:

The pursuit of excellence at the individual, team and organizational levels: Each member of the organization, whether player, volunteer or staff, should seek to perform each aspect of the game to the highest level of his or her ability.

Sportsmanship: Foremost of all values is to learn a sense of fair play, become humble in victory, and gracious in defeat. We will foster friendship with teammates and opponents alike.

Respect for the individual: Treat all others as you expect to be treated.

Integrity: We seek to foster honesty and fair play beyond the mere strict interpretation of the rules and regulations of the game.

Enjoyment: It is important for the hockey experience to be fun, satisfying and rewarding for all participants.

Loyalty: We aspire to teach loyalty to the ideals and fellow members of the sport of hockey.

Teamwork: We value the strength of learning to work together. The use of teamwork is reinforced and rewarded by success in the hockey experience.



In order to achieve our mission, we will ask our coaches to do their best to ensure all players have a positive experience and enjoy the sport of hockey. We have put together the following positional and playing time policies for our travel teams.

Travel Teams

All MWAH travel teams will be designated as “developmental teams”. It is MWAH’s philosophy that each player will have an opportunity to play different positions in practice and in games to become well-rounded hockey players.

Coaches will do their best to have all players rotate between forward and defensive positions throughout the season and provide practice and game time at that position. At the Squirt level each player will be required to play a minimum of 10 games at the defense and forward positions (with the exception of goalies).

Playtime should be close to equal for all players over the course of the season including goalie rotation. All players should have opportunities to play special teams – both power play and penalty kill during the regular season. The only situations that may warrant ice time adjustments would be the district, regional and state playoffs at the end of a season where the team has the opportunity to advance and/or play more games if the team wins or ties.

For all teams player Ice time may be affected for disciplinary reasons. The discipline should be related to player behavior, not performance of the player on the ice. Discipline should fit the code of conduct violation and/or team rules guidelines.

If a parent has concerns related to playing time or position policy during the season, the parent should follow these steps:

1. MWAH employs the “24-hour Rule” where it is expected that the member will consider the situation objectively and privately for at least 24 hours (no phone calls, texts or emails) after it arises and before discussing it with the head coach.
2. Ask the coach about the situation. Open communication between the coach and player or parent often will resolve the issue.
3. If the informal discussion with the Head Coach or Team Manager does not resolve the matter, the member’s next option is to discuss the situation with the appropriate Hockey Operations Committee Level Coordinator. See <http://www.westonkahockey.org/page/show/47135-hockeyoperations-committee> for the Level Coordinator contact information.