



Knights - Player Attendance and Communication Policy

The Knights Hockey Club is committed to fostering a culture of dedication, discipline, and teamwork among its players. Regular attendance at practices is essential for individual skill development as well as team development and the success of our hockey program.

It is important to acknowledge that coaches invest substantial time in planning and strategizing for both games, practices and team events. A player's absence and/or lack of communication of attendance can disrupt the planned routines, strategies, and overall team dynamics. The collaborative effort of the coaching staff relies on the active participation of every team member.

Knights Hockey Club is introducing an Attendance & Communications Policy designed to maintain a high level of commitment from all players, recognizing the significant time and effort invested by coaches in preparing for games and practices.

Player Communication – TeamSnap

- Parents or players will update the child's availability through TeamSnap.
- Coaches and/or managers are encouraged to track attendance at all games, practices, team events and off-ice conditioning sessions.
- Players who consistently fail to update TeamSnap and/or contact the coach regarding attendance for games or practices will be given one written warning. After this warning, if the issue continues the player will be sat for one period. Continuance of non-compliance of updating TeamSnap will then result in the player being sat for 1 game. Further non-compliance will result in a meeting involving the player, coach and at least one of the VP On Ice or VP Safety and Governance of the Knights Hockey Club.

Unexcused Absence

- Any player who misses three team events (games, practices, dryland, team building, team outings etc.) for unexcused reasons; the coach has the option to sit the player for up to one period.
- If the player misses an additional three team events; the coach has the option to sit the player for a full game. Therefore, after 6 infractions the coach has the ability to sit the player for a full game.
- Further non-compliance will result in a meeting involving the player, coach and at least one of the VP On Ice or VP Safety and Governance of the Knights Hockey Club.
- Coaches need to ensure this information is communicated to the parents and or players. We recommend a meeting between the family, the manager, and the head coach.

Excused absences include the following but are not limited to suspensions, injuries, medical/sick, out of town, family commitments, holidays or approved affiliations to other teams.



Limitations:

The Head Coach may choose from the following limitations, based on the severity of the attendance issue:

First Offence

- **Sitting a Shift:** The player may be required to sit out a specific shift during the game.
- **Sitting a Shift Each Period:** The player may be required to sit out a shift during each period of the game.
- **Sitting a Period:** The player may be required to sit out an entire period during the game.

Second Offence

- **Sitting a Shift:** The player may be required to sit out a specific shift during the game.
- **Sitting a Shift Each Period:** The player may be required to sit out a shift during each period of the game.
- **Sitting a Period:** The player may be required to sit out an entire period during the game.
- **Sitting an Entire Game:** In more severe cases or multiple unexcused absences the player may be required to sit out the entire game.

Notification: It is the obligation of the Head Coach to notify the families of the affected player and the team parent representative 24 hours before the start of the game in which limitations will be imposed. This notification will include the nature of the limitation and the reasons behind it.

By adhering to this policy, the Knights Hockey Club aims to instil a sense of responsibility and commitment among its players, recognizing the valuable time coaches invest in preparing for team activities.