



WIHOA Code of Conduct 2024 – 2025 Season

WIHOA has implemented the following Code of Conduct for all members of WIHOA. All officials will be expected to abide by this Code of Conduct for the 2024-2025 Season.

The WIHOA Board of Directors has adopted and will enforce a code of conduct outlining the expected behavior of WIHOA officials. This code, along with the consequences for violations, will be uniformly enforced by the WIHOA Board of Directors. The code of conduct applies to all officials, irrespective of their age, experience, or expressed familiarity with it.

General

Officials are required to conduct themselves in an impartial, professional, and sportsmanlike manner at all times. Their actions must be above reproach, and behaviors such as "baiting" players, coaches, or spectators are strictly prohibited. WIHOA officials must remember that they are ambassadors of the game and representatives of WIHOA, and they must always conduct themselves with this responsibility in mind, both on and off the ice.

Any official found guilty of violating the WIHOA code of conduct or the WIHOA Bylaws by engaging in conduct deemed detrimental to the game of hockey or to WIHOA by the WIHOA Board of Directors may have their membership suspended or forfeited.

Scheduling

Game assignments distributed through WIHOA are a privilege granted to WIHOA officials. These assignments are only valid when approved by the WIHOA Board of Directors. Scheduling of these games will be conducted by schedulers specifically designated by the Board. A list of these approved schedulers will be provided at the association's seminar at the start of each season. Additionally, this list will be updated as necessary throughout the season to ensure accuracy and compliance.

Tardy Policy

If an official is not on the ice for the start of the game (first puck drop) they will be fined one-third of the total game fee. If the first puck drop of the game is delayed for an official because they are late, the official will be considered late for that game and will be fined accordingly.

If the official is not on the ice for the start of the second period (drop of the puck to start the period) they will be fined two-thirds of the game fee.

If the official is not on the ice for the drop of the puck to begin the third period (drop of the puck to start the period), they will be fined the entire game fee.

If an official is late for more than 2 games in a season, they will be suspended from working WIHOA scheduled games for two weeks. If an official is late for more than 3 games in a season, they will be suspended indefinitely, pending a hearing by the board of directors. The board of directors will decide the additional suspension on a case-by-case basis. Officials have the right to a hearing if they so request.



Bylaw Policies

| Infraction | First Offense | Second Offense | Repeated Offenses |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| No Call, No Show | Game fee fine + written warning | 10-day suspension + game fees | Indefinite suspension pending disciplinary committee review and hearing |
| Social media/Communication Violation | Written warning | Up to a 10-day suspension | Indefinite suspension pending disciplinary committee review and hearing |
| WIHOA Code of Conduct Violation | Written warning | Up to a 10-day suspension | Indefinite suspension pending disciplinary committee review and hearing |
| Match Penalty While Playing | Indefinite suspension pending league hearing (i.e., WIHOA suspension length will match league discipline) | Indefinite suspension pending league hearing (i.e., WIHOA suspension length will match league discipline) | Indefinite suspension pending judiciary committee review and hearing |

Social Media Policy

WIHOA members must maintain a professional demeanor in all communications related to WIHOA, including on social media. Online harassment or bullying will not be tolerated. Members should avoid sharing confidential information, posting offensive content, or making comments that could harm WIHOA’s reputation. Personal opinions should be clearly distinguished from official positions, and members must not speak on behalf of WIHOA unless authorized.

Returning Scheduled Games Policy

Once an official has accepted an assignment from a scheduler that assignment becomes that official’s responsibility. They will be held accountable to the Bylaw and Tardy Policies as detailed above. If an official needs to get out of an accepted assignment, they must contact the scheduler who gave them the assignment and the scheduler may then relieve them of their obligation by agreeing to schedule someone else. If, however, the scheduler is not available, then it is the responsibility of the assigned official to find their own replacement for their assignment. The scheduler must be reached by email/text message (with a response) or live conversation by phone or in-person. Unreturned voicemail and email/text messages will not suffice as notice. The replacement official must be of sufficient experience for the game(s) being covered. The scheduler must then be informed of the change. In the event the official or the scheduler cannot find a replacement, then the originally assigned official must work the games.

Horizon Decline Policy

The Horizon scheduling system enables WIHOA officials to set their availability by specifying dates, times, and rinks. Consequently, declines should be rare. Officials marked as available in Horizon are expected to accept and work the assigned games regardless of game level, location, or compensation.

Due to an increase in game declines by WIHOA officials, the WIHOA Board of Directors has implemented a review process for each declined assignment. Declines for invalid reasons such as "I’m not working squirts," "I don’t want to drive to Bountiful," or similar excuses will incur a \$5 fine. Additionally, officials who repeatedly decline games will face escalating fines and potential suspensions.



WASATCH ICE HOCKEY OFFICIALS ASSOCIATION

Fines apply to assignments published between 3 and 17 days before the scheduled game. Declined games within this period are subject to fines. If a declined assignment is submitted without a comment, the fine is automatic. If a comment is provided, the fine will be subject to review by the WIHOA Board of Directors.

Furthermore, screening (neither accepting nor declining an assignment) is unacceptable. If an assignment is not accepted within 3 days of being published, it will be marked as declined in Horizon and a fine will apply. However, for assignments given with less than 3 or more than 17 days' notice, no fine will be applied for declines.

BY SIGNING BELOW, I ACKNOWLEDGE THAT I HAVE READ AND ACCEPT THESE POLICIES AND CODE OF CONDUCT AND AGREE TO ABIDE BY THEM AT ALL TIMES WHILE I AM A MEMBER OF THE WASATCH ICE HOCKEY OFFICIALS ASSOCIATION (WIHOA).

Officials Name (Please print) _____

Officials Signature _____ Date _____