

PLAY TIME POLICY

1. The BHC believes in a policy of 'equal play for equal effort' and our coaches at all levels are instructed to follow that policy. Equal play for equal effort means that over the course of a season all players who are giving equal effort on the ice at practice/games, have good attendance at team events, display a good attitude both on the bench and in the locker room and conducting themselves as good citizens should play approximately an equal amount of time. However, if a player is not giving good effort, is causing disruption to their team on or off the ice, not listening to the coach, missing team events, taking bad penalties, playing selfish hockey or not following team rules, etc. they may be subject to discipline which can include 'sitting' the player. It is expected that any discipline will be applied in a consistent manner to all players on the team.
2. Although it is discouraged, coaches of **Junior Gold, Bantam A/B1, Pee wee A/B1, Girls U14A and U12A** teams are the **ONLY** teams that may consider the use of distinct power play/penalty kill lines in game situations. The BHC requires that all players on every team be given the opportunity to experience and develop in all facets of the game. In instances where distinct lines are being utilized, it is the BHC policy that coaches will work with **ALL** players on developing their skills for power play/penalty kill situations during practice and give opportunities to demonstrate their ability to perform on these specialty units.

These levels are also the **ONLY** levels that are granted the following exceptions to the playtime policy. These exceptions must be exercised with good judgment, balancing the priority of developing players with winning closely contested games.

- In the final minutes of the third period and overtime for Boys Pee wee A & Pee wee B1 teams as well as Girls U12 A and U14 A teams.
- In the last half of the third period and overtime for Boys Junior Gold, Bantam A and Bantam B1.

At **ALL** other levels coaches are required and expected to play **ALL** players as equally as possible in every type of game situation including power play and penalty kill situations subject to # 1 above. The BHC believes that it is important for players at these levels to experience and develop in all facets of the game.

In addition, we strongly encourage our Squirt A, B, C and U10 A & B coaches to have their players be exposed to playing both forward and defense during the season so they can develop skills in both positions.

3. The BHC will support and stand behind our coaches regarding their decisions on how to best run and develop their team as long as they are following this playtime policy and the BHC's '*Coaches Code of Conduct*'. Should a parent or player feel that the coach is not following this policy or the Coaches Code of Conduct, they should take the following actions:
 - a) Set up a meeting with the coach to discuss the issue and seek resolution. Parents are not allowed to confront coaches at practices/games. They must set up a meeting with the coach with both parties trying to accommodate the others schedule. Hopefully by utilizing open communication the coach and parent will better understand the situation and be able to find common ground that is acceptable to both parties.
 - b) If the parent feels that the situation has not been resolved by talking with the coach and if they'd like further action, they must put their concerns in writing for the Level Director to review. The Level Director will review the situation and, if they agree that the parent has a legitimate concern, they will meet with the coach (possibly including the parent and player) to discuss the situation and try to resolve the issue to everyone's satisfaction.