



**ACADEMY**  
**HANDBOOK**

POWERED BY TPH ACADEMY

**2026-27**



**TPH**  
**ACADEMY**



## **ATTENDANCE POLICY**

One of the key benefits offered by the Avalanche Academy is the academic schedule flexibility that accommodates the competitive and training schedule of aspiring-elite student-athletes. It is our policy that each student-athlete is responsible for meeting the minimum attendance requirements of their respective academic program of study. Parents or guardians are required to notify Academy staff of any anticipated absences or appointments that will impact the student-athlete's attendance. When dropping a student-athlete off after the normal start to the academy day or if picking up earlier than normal dismissal, the student athlete's parent must notify the designated academy staff member when they arrive at the academy to drop off or pick up their child.

## **ACADEMIC EXPECTATIONS POLICY**

If a student fails to stay on track in his/her coursework, and falls behind by 10 or more assignments, the Head of Academics or Academic Success Coach will employ the following protocol:

- A formal meeting will be held between the Head of Academics and/or Success Coach and the student to formulate a plan to get the individual back on track.
- If performance does not improve, the student will not be permitted to participate in training sessions until an improved standard is met.

## **ACADEMIC DISHONESTY POLICY**

Avalanche Academy's commitment to excellence includes maintaining standards and expectations for academic integrity among all students. Academic integrity is essential to our student-athletes' success both in and out of the classroom. It is our policy to have zero tolerance for any form of cheating. This policy does not replace any academic dishonesty policy that the student-athlete may be subject to through his or her online academic platform provider. Violations of this policy will be dealt with on a case-by-case basis by Avalanche Academy staff.

## **NCAA/CAA/U SPORT DISCLAIMER POLICY**

Avalanche Academy is not responsible for a student-athlete's compliance with National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA), Canadian Collegiate Athletic Association (CAA), or U SPORTS eligibility. Responsibility for compliance with the rules for eligibility with those entities, rests solely with the student-athlete and his or her parents and or legal guardian, including, but not limited to, the selection of core coursework and academic performance which satisfies NCAA, CAA, or U SPORT, requirements.



## **SAFESPORT AND RESPECT IN SPORT POLICY**

It is our policy that every participant complies with the USA SafeSport program. This policy is designed to promote an environment at the Academy where staff and student-athletes can work and learn together free of emotional, physical, and sexual abuse and misconduct. The Respect in Sport and SafeSport Policies apply to all participants of sports that fall under the Olympic umbrella and national governing bodies. The policies and procedures set forth in the USA SafeSport Program Handbook and are incorporated in this handbook by reference and may be accessed at:

<https://portal.usahockey.com/forms/usah-safesport-handbook.pdf>. All U.S. student-athletes who will turn 17 during 2026 or are older must take the SafeSport Certification training course. All Avalanche Academy employees will be SafeSport Certified.

## **ZERO TOLERANCE POLICY**

It is our policy for all student-athletes, parents, and staff to maintain an appropriate sportsmanlike atmosphere before, during, and after Academy activities. Inappropriate and disruptive behavior interferes with both academic and athletic training.

Inappropriate and disruptive behavior includes but is not limited to:

- Using obscene, vulgar, hateful or discriminatory language to anyone at any time.
- Taunting of student-athletes, staff, or others by means of baiting, ridiculing, threat of physical violence or physical violence.
- Abusing or destroying locker rooms or rink property.
- Disregarding or violating facility-imposed rules.
- Uttering any racial slur or epithet.

Violations of any policy will be subject to review by Academy staff and could result in discipline and/or suspension of the student-athlete.

## **OPEN DOOR POLICY**

Avalanche Academy has an Open-Door Policy to discuss concerns, suggestions, or questions at any time. You should feel free to discuss any concerns, suggestions, or questions with any Academy personnel. No person, regardless of the nature of the concern, suggestion, or question, will be penalized for using the Open-Door Policy.

## **POLICY ON BEHAVIOR DETRIMENTAL TO THE PROGRAM**

Academy student-athletes and staff are expected to adhere to the policies in this Handbook as well as the SafeSport Handbook, and to conduct themselves in accord with the values they represent. As such, they are expected to demonstrate discretion and respect in their actions and choices.

Additionally, it is our policy to review all actions of a student-athlete or staff member that violates any Academy rule, policy, or provision of the U.S. SafeSport Handbook, and this Handbook, and to render appropriate discipline when warranted. Discipline can include, but is not limited to, suspension or expulsion from the Academy, and, where appropriate, reporting to local law enforcement.



## **POLICY ON PERSONAL PROPERTY**

When student-athletes or adults bring personal property to Avalanche Academy activities or functions, they do so at their own risk and are responsible for the safeguarding of that property. Personal property includes, but is not limited to, mobile phones, tablets, computers, book bags/backpacks, or athletic equipment and gear.

It is our policy that student-athletes respect the property of others. Defacing, destroying, or removing the property of others – including sports equipment - is a violation of this policy and such incidents will be subject to review by Academy staff.

Any personal property brought to Academy activities or functions including, but not limited to, lockers, kit, backpacks, electronics, and packages may be inspected upon reasonable suspicion of unauthorized possession of Academy property, weapons, or illegal substances.

## **SEXUAL MISCONDUCT AND CHILD ABUSE POLICY**

Avalanche Academy has adopted the Sexual Misconduct and Child Abuse policies set for by the US Center for Safe Sport and all staff and student-athletes are required to comply with these policies. SafeSport policies may be found at: [uscenterforsafesport.org](https://uscenterforsafesport.org). The Universal Code of Conduct can be found at: <https://sportintegritycommissioner.ca/uccms>. Any violations of the US Center for Safe Sport Sexual Misconduct and Child Abuse policies shall subject such person to appropriate disciplinary by the Center, the particular sport's National Governing Body, Ice House, and/or law enforcement authorities.

Sexual Misconduct offenses include, but are not limited to (as such terms are defined in the Safe Sport Code):

- sexual or gender related harassment.
- non-consensual sexual contacts (or attempts to commit the same).
- non-consensual sexual intercourse (or attempts to commit the same).
- sexual exploitation.
- bullying or hazing or other inappropriate conduct of a sexual nature.

## **POLICY ON SEXUALLY EXPLICIT MATERIALS**

It is our policy to expressly prohibit the possession, sharing, or distribution of sexually explicit materials at any Avalanche Academy activity. Violations will be subject to review by Avalanche Academy staff.



## PHYSICAL MISCONDUCT POLICY

Avalanche Academy prohibits physical misconduct or abuse of any student-athlete or staff member involved in any academy program or event by any other student-athlete or staff member. Any person who violates this policy will be subject to disciplinary action by the academy staff. Physical misconduct is any behavior done on purpose that causes (or could reasonably cause) physical harm to another person. Physical misconduct includes:

- **Contact Acts:** punching, beating, slapping, or strangling someone; knowingly letting someone return to play without medical clearance after a serious injury.
- **Non-contact Acts:** not letting someone have water or food, illegally giving them alcohol or drugs (including prescription medications not prescribed to them), forcing someone to assume a painful stance or position for no athletic purpose.
- **Criminal Conduct:** any behavior described as physical abuse or misconduct under federal or state law, such as assault or child abuse.

Physical abuse does not include physical contact that is reasonably designed to coach, teach, or demonstrate athletic skill within the rules of contact in a particular sport and in a non-threatening manner.

## EMOTIONAL MISCONDUCT POLICY

Avalanche Academy prohibits emotional misconduct or abuse of any student-athlete or staff member involved in any Avalanche academy program or event by any other student-athlete or staff member. Any person who violates this policy will be subject to disciplinary action by the academy. Emotional misconduct includes:

- **Verbal acts:** repeated and excessive verbal attacks for no productive reason, such as name calling, body-shaming, or ridiculing someone for reasons not related to performance.
- **Physical acts:** being repeatedly or severely physically aggressive, such as throwing equipment at someone or punching walls near them.
- **Acts that deny attention or support:** such as ignoring or isolating someone for long time periods, or routinely excluding them from activities or coaching guidance for no productive reason.
- **Stalking:** intentional and repeated behaviors (in person or using technology) that would reasonably make someone feel scared (for themselves or others) or very upset, such as following, monitoring, observing, threatening, or excessively messaging them.
- **Criminal conduct:** any behavior described as emotional abuse or misconduct under federal or state law, such as child abuse or child neglect.



## BULLYING POLICY

It is our policy that there shall be no hazing or bullying of any student-athlete involved in any Avalanche Academy program by any other student-employee or staff member. Any person who violates this policy will be subject to disciplinary action by academy staff. Bullying behaviors are repeated, or severe aggressive behaviors directed at someone under age 18. The behaviors are intended or likely to hurt, control, or diminish that person emotionally, physically, or sexually.

Bullying involves repeated or severe behaviors such as:

- **Physical:** hitting, beating up, spitting at, or throwing objects at someone
- **Verbal:** ridiculing, name-calling, taunting, or threatening to harm someone
- **Social (including cyberbullying):** spreading rumors or lies to harm someone's reputation, socially excluding them and asking others to do the same, or using technology to harass, frighten, intimidate, or humiliate them
- **Sexual:** ridiculing or taunting someone about their gender identity, gender expression, looks, or sexual orientation or behavior
- **Criminal conduct:** any conduct described as bullying under federal or state law

Bullying does not include:

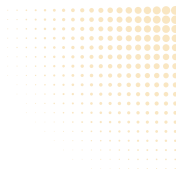
- Rude or mean behaviors that may be hurtful (by accident or on purpose) but are not part of an ongoing pattern
- A conflict in which people disagree.
- Coaching techniques and behaviors that are professionally accepted.

## HARASSMENT POLICY

We prohibit harassment of student-athletes by other student-athletes or staff. Any person who violates this policy will be subject to disciplinary action by academy staff.

Harassment is repeated or severe conduct that does at least one of the following:

- **Causes fear, humiliation, or annoyance:** such as threatening to harm someone or repeatedly ridiculing them
- **Offends or degrades:** such as repeatedly using slurs or making offensive jokes to or about someone
- **Creates a hostile environment:** such as repeated or severe actions that affect someone in a way that limits their ability to participate in programs or activities
- **Attempts to establish dominance, superiority, or power because of discriminatory bias** against a person or group's age, race, ethnicity, culture, religion, national origin, or disability: such as saying someone will fail because of one of these characteristics is described as harassment under federal, provincial, and state law.



## **HAZING POLICY**

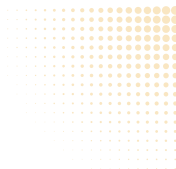
It is our policy that there shall be no hazing of any student-athlete by any other student-athlete. Hazing is any conduct that occurs within a context that is reasonably related to hockey or other sport and that subjects another person, whether physically, mentally, emotionally, or psychologically, to anything that may endanger, abuse, humiliate, degrade, or intimidate the person as a condition of joining or being socially accepted by a group, team, or organization. Purported consent by the person subject to Hazing is not a defense, regardless of the person's perceived willingness to cooperate or participate.

## **POLICY ON TOBACCO PRODUCTS DRUGS AND ALCOHOL**

For the purposes for this policy, key definitions are as follows:

- Mood Altering Substances:
  - Intoxicating beverages including, but not limited to, alcohol.
  - Non-prescription or non-prescribed controlled substances (whether controlled by federal or by state law).
  - Prescription or prescribed controlled substances when used to excess in violation of doctor's orders, or to produce the state of intoxication in the participant.
- Tobacco and Similar Products:
  - smoking tobacco
  - smokeless tobacco known as dip
  - chewing tobacco
  - electronic cigarette
  - vaporizers
  - e-liquid products used in vaping.

It is our policy to prohibit possession or use of any Mood-Altering Substances and Tobacco and related products, during any Avalanche Academy program. Violation of this policy shall result in disciplinary action which could result in suspension or expulsion of the student-athlete. We also prohibits the use of banned and restricted substances and the methods for the purpose of performance enhancement. Any violation will be subject to review by Avalanche Academy.



## **LOCKER ROOM POLICY**

All players and student-athletes are required to conduct themselves in a manner that is respectful of themselves and all other people in the locker room while participating in any Avalanche Academy event. Players are required to adhere to and follow this policy regarding conduct in and around the locker room.

1. Student-athletes may only be in a locker room if there is an adult who they know present, either in the locker room or near the locker room, as a locker room monitor, consistent with Ice House's locker room monitoring policy.
2. Student-athletes may only be in the locker room during assigned times.
3. Student-athletes may not use any electronic device into the locker room. Electronic devices include but are not limited to phones, tablets, laptops, cameras, video recorders, or any device capable of capturing or recording images or sounds. If you have a question about whether a device is permitted in the locker room, ask your coach, instructor, or locker room monitor in advance.
4. Student-athletes are forbidden from engaging in any activity that could be construed as "locker boxing", that could result in emotional or physical harm to any person.
5. Student-athletes are not permitted to invite or permit people who are not a part of the Avalanche Academy in the locker room. This includes but is not limited to family members and friends. Exceptions for emergencies and other situations may be granted by the Director, coach or designated staff member.
6. Conduct that violates any part of this policy must be reported in confidence to the Director, coach, locker room monitor, or any other adult associated with the Avalanche Academy.

Failure on the part of any player to follow and adhere to this Locker Room Policy will result in disciplinary action being taken, which could include suspension or expulsion from the Avalanche Academy. We will assign locker room monitors to enforce compliance with this policy.

## **EQUIPMENT POLICY**

It is our policy that all student-athletes comply with any equipment rules, safety standards, or safety policies required by the national governing body of their sport. This includes, but is not limited to, mouthguards, helmets with cages, and earpieces in all helmets. Players not wearing proper equipment may be removed from the sport training, not allowed to resume participation until proper and/or mandated equipment is worn and approved by the Academy staff.

# ONLINE SOCIAL MEDIA POLICY

For the purposes for this policy, key definitions are as follows:

- *Online social media* – an online service, platform, or site that allows users to share information, ideas, comments, events, or media (for example: articles, photos, video, or music).

We understand and appreciate the importance of social media as it relates to the personal and professional lives of its members and its stakeholders. This immediate and public forum provides unique opportunities for networking and promotion; however, it also provides an unsupervised medium for inappropriate conduct to occur. This conduct may be deemed detrimental to the welfare of the Avalanche Academy and its student-athletes. We hold our student-athletes and staff who participate in social media to the same standards as it would with all forms of communication including television, radio, and print.

These policies are designed to protect all parties from harassment, stalking, inappropriate contact, or behavior. If requested by an outside party to participate in social media as a direct result of your affiliation or participation with Avalanche Academy, we recommend that this request is declined.

The following are some examples of social media behavior that will result in review by the Avalanche Academy:

- Posting or divulging confidential information including, but not limited to, a student-athlete's personal information, contact information, medical conditions, injuries, and/or other sensitive matters pertinent to Avalanche Academy and its student-athletes.
- Posting negative or derogatory comments about any staff, programs, stakeholders, or student-athletes.
- Posting photographs, video, or comments regarding fights, penalties, or other such in-game incidents.
- Posting photographs, videos, or comments promoting negative influences or criminal behavior including, but not limited to, drug use, alcohol abuse, public intoxication, sexual exploitation, etc.
- Posting sexually explicit materials of any kind.
- Participating in any online activity in contravention of academy policy.
- Posting any inappropriate, derogatory, racist, or sexist comments in contravention of academy policy.

Avalanche Academy student-athletes and staff always represent program and are expected to demonstrate the requisite discretion and respect. A simple rule of thumb is that if a posting would be inappropriate in other environments, then it is inappropriate for social media. Any student-athlete or staff member that posts material, comments, or actions in social media that is inappropriate will result in review by the program.

