



Handshaking Policy

As part of our on-going Fair Play Initiative, shaking hands prior to each MHL game is strongly encouraged. However, given the pressure to get our games finished in a timely fashion, the following policy will apply:

- All House League teams, U8 through U13 (inclusive) will shake hands **prior to** each game.
- House League teams, U15 through U18 will NOT be expected to shake hands prior to the game, but any such teams that line up on their own to shake hands should be allowed to do so.
- “A” and “RED” team(s), U10 through U18, will NOT be expected to shake hands prior to their games, but any such teams that line up on their own to shake hands should be allowed to do so.

The handshake line, as applicable, should take place toward the end of the 3-minute warm-up and prior to the drop of the puck for the opening face-off. For those age levels that DO shake hands (i.e. U8 through U13), the Game Officials should sound their whistle at the 1-minute-remaining mark of the 3-minute pre-game warm-up signifying to each team that it’s time to collect the pucks, shake hands, and then get to their benches.

We must adhere to the timelines in the arenas and supplemental discussions at the bench prior to the game should not be held. Have your players ready to play.

The intent of the League is that Fair Play must be encouraged amongst all teams.