



C Level Player Expectations 2026 V2

Thank you for your valuable presence and expertise in the Maine Novice Hockey League.

Your contribution is essential to the league's success. You play a vital role in guiding developing players, maintaining game structure, and enhancing the overall experience for all participants. While you are not a dedicated coach, we encourage you to offer tips and guidance to other players as you see fit. To ensure a fair and enjoyable experience for everyone please adhere to the following expectations

1. Be a Mentor First

Your primary role is to elevate the players around you playing at their level.

- Teach positioning.
- Help direct breakouts.
- Encourage puck support.
- Give feedback on the bench.
- Celebrate beginner's improvements.

2. No End-to-End Rushes

To keep games competitive for lower level players:

- Do not carry the puck from your zone to the opposing net solo.
- Move the puck early, get open, and let others develop the play.

Use your IQ more than your speed.

3. Shooting/Scoring

To maintain fairness:

- Limit personal scoring to 1 MAX per game.
- You can only score when the game has a 2 goal differential.
- Focus on setups, cycling, and puck movement.

Your value isn't goals - it's teamwork and development.

When able to, you should only shoot/score when:

- It's a tap-in or quick release near the crease.
- The team has already made a few attempts on net.

No long-range shots from the blue line.

4. Maintain Composure and Sportsmanship

Beginner leagues can be chaotic.

- Avoid showing frustration on dead plays.
- Keep communication positive.
- Help settle the bench when things get tense.
- Lead by example with refs and opponents.

Your presence helps maintain a safe, fun environment.

5. Purpose of These Expectations

These guidelines ensure:

- Fair games.
- Player development.
- A positive atmosphere.
- Equal opportunity for all levels.
- A safe, enjoyable league for new players.

Your cooperation is appreciated and valued - the league only works when skilled players embrace the mentor role.

A truly skilled player doesn't just focus on dominating the game, they strive to elevate the performance of everyone around them. Your commitment to a positive attitude and strong leadership is essential in making the MNHL the most welcoming, supportive, and fun beginner league in Maine.

The MNHL is specifically structured for D/E level players and those who struggle on the lower end in the C leagues. For those seeking higher-skill competition, numerous alternative leagues are available in Maine. To maintain fair play, promote positive development, and ensure an enjoyable atmosphere for everyone, our more skilled players are **expected** to respect and adhere to the outlined guidelines.

Failure to adhere to these expectations can lead to a negative and unbalanced experience, particularly for newer players. Consequently, the MNHL reserves the right to discontinue this accommodation or remove individual players who do not meet these standards. It is important to recognize that the 8 "Skilled Players" will have varying skill levels therefore, these players must control their speed and adjust their play to match the level of those around them.

Thank you for your cooperation, leadership, and commitment to making the MNHL a great place for everyone to learn and enjoy hockey.

Any questions please reach out to info@mainenhl.com