



Nova Elite Hockey Development Association		Team Policies & Procedures
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Practice Cancellation Policy		

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to provide a clear process for cancelling practices when necessary, due to safety, staffing, scheduling conflicts, or the overall best interests of the players and team.

The Novas recognize that players and families travel from across a large geographic area, and that weather and road conditions may vary from one community to another.

Policy

Practices may be cancelled when circumstances make it unsafe, impractical, or not in the best interests of the team to proceed.

Practice cancellation decisions will be made by the Head Coach, President, or their designate.

Whenever possible, a decision to cancel practice will be communicated by 3:00 p.m. on the day of the scheduled session. However, practices may be cancelled after that time if conditions change or new information becomes available.

Reasons for Cancellation

Practices may be cancelled for reasons including, but not limited to:

- inclement weather or unsafe travel conditions;
- arena or facility closures;
- unavoidable coaching or staff scheduling conflicts;
- lack of required coaching or team staff coverage;
- team travel, tournament schedules, or activity overload;
- player safety, health, or wellness concerns;
- or any other circumstance deemed appropriate by the Head Coach, President, or their designate.

Weather and Travel Safety

The Novas are a regional team, and players and families may experience very different weather and road conditions depending on where they live.

Practice may proceed even if some areas of the region are experiencing poor weather or unsafe travel conditions. Likewise, a practice may be cancelled if overall conditions, forecasts, road reports, facility status, or team circumstances make it unsafe or impractical to proceed.



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The decision to travel in poor weather or questionable road conditions remains the responsibility of each individual family.

If a player or family does not feel it is safe to travel to practice, they are expected to notify the coaching staff as soon as reasonably possible. Players will not be penalized for missing practice due to legitimate unsafe travel conditions.

Coaching and Staff Availability

A practice may be cancelled if an appropriate member of the coaching staff or approved team staff is not available to properly conduct or supervise the session.

Where a scheduling conflict arises, reasonable efforts should be made to identify alternate coaching or staff coverage before cancelling the practice.

Team Activity Overload

Practices may be cancelled before or after tournaments, showcases, extended travel, or heavy team activity when rest and recovery are considered to be in the best interests of the players.

The Novas recognize that recovery, health, and preparation are important parts of player development and team performance.

Communication

Practice cancellations will be communicated to players and parents through the team's usual communication channels.

Players and parents are expected to monitor team communications on practice days, particularly when weather, travel, or scheduling concerns exist.