

SMHA Disciplinary Policy

When a discipline issue arises this is the process that will be followed by the Association. All attempts will be made to come to a quick and fair resolution.

Stage 1 - Resolved within the Division

All team disciplinary issues will be addressed within the division first. Issue escalation will be as follows:

1. Meeting with coach – if unresolved
2. Meeting with Division Coordinator – if unresolved
3. Meeting with Vice President of the Division – if unresolved goes to SMHA Discipline Committee

Non-team issues involving parents or fans are effective immediately without a meeting.

SMHA has zero tolerance of any forms of abuse and/or harassment during minor hockey events from any participants, any such conduct will result in a notice of suspension as follows:

1st Offense: 7-day suspension from all SMHA functions, including home and away games, tournaments, and practices.

2nd Offense: 14-day suspension from all SMHA functions, including home and away games, tournaments, and practices

3rd Offense: Indefinite suspension from all SMHA functions, including home and away games, tournaments, and practices, pending a review by a SMHA Discipline Committee.

No appeal will be entertained.

Suspensions:

The Head Coach has the authority to suspend a player/goalie for one (1) game only. Parent and player/goalie must be given twenty-four (24) hours' written notice if possible. Exceptions would be a tournament, back-to-back games on the same day. Game must be a game where the player is in attendance, or the goalie. playing.

The VP of Hockey for a Division and/or Division Coordinator has the authority to suspend a player, coach, and/or parent up to three (3) games or VP of Hockey can send incident direct to Stage 2. Incident must be documented and copied to the Ombudsman. At this stage anyone can appeal their suspension, and it will be set directly to Ombudsman.

(All parties can only appeal once, meaning if you appeal at this level the Ombudsman's decision is final).

Stage 2 - Referred to Ombudsman

The disciplinary committee comprised of (First Vice President, Risk Management, President, and Ombudsman) can suspend anyone pending an investigation. The incident must be documented and copied to the Ombudsman to open the investigation.

Stage 3 - Appeals

Any party in Stage 2 can appeal the Disciplinary Committee's Decision by paying a \$50.00 deposit to the secretary. The President will hold a meeting with the executive to review the appeal. This is the final decision. If the suspension is reduced or waived, the \$50.00 will be returned.

*All parties are expected to adhere to the '24-hour rule'. When an issue occurs and a party has a resulting complaint to make or issue to be resolved, they are asked to wait **24 hours**, then put the issue in writing and submit it to the appropriate party.