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## **Erie Youth Hockey Association (EYHA) Behavioral Policies**

**EYHA follows the USA Hockey SafeSport policies, and a full listing of policies can be found at:**  
<https://www.usahockey.com/safesportprogram>

Included on this site are USA Hockey's policies on:

- Sexual Abuse
- Physical Abuse
- Emotional Abuse
- Bullying, Threats, and Harassment
- Hazing
- Locker Room Policies
- Electronic Communications Policies
- Travel Policy
- Billeting Policy

Each coach, on-ice volunteer, and manager is required to take the SafeSport Initial Training or refresher every other year.

### **EYHA ZERO TOLERANCE POLICY**

All persons who participate in EYHA-sanctioned events, including players, coaches, on-ice and off-ice officials, parents, and other spectators, are expected to abide by and conduct themselves in accordance with the Zero Tolerance policy. On-ice officials, coaches, managers, and Board members are expected to abide by and enforce the Zero Tolerance policy.

### **Conduct Included and Prohibited by the Zero Tolerance Policy:**

- The use of vulgar language, obscene or boisterous language, or behavior to annoy, harass, ridicule, taunt, threaten, or intimidate another or the use of comments or slurs of a racial, ethnic, or sexual nature.
- The infliction or threatened infliction of physical or offensive harm or contact that is not part of the recognized regular play of the game of hockey, whether on or off the ice.



- Throwing any object within the spectator's area, player's bench, playing surface, or other area within an arena to create a hazard to the safety of players, officials, or spectators.
- Openly disputing or persistently displaying signs of dissatisfaction with a decision of a game official.
- The theft or mishandling of or infliction of damage to any arena or the real property of others.
- The possession, supply, or use of any unlawful substance or the commission or any criminal offense on property on which a game or other event sanctioned by EYHA is being conducted.
- Encouraging or inciting any other person to engage in conduct that is prohibited by the zero-tolerance policy.
- Engaging in any other conduct that is unsportsmanlike, disruptive or detrimental to the game of hockey or the programs of the Association, or which is disruptive to the good order or morale of any team.

#### **Enforcement and Disciplinary Action Regarding the Zero Tolerance Policy:**

- It is the coaches' responsibility to maintain order and discipline on their teams regarding the behavior of players, all personnel on the bench, and all persons who participate in practices. The coaches shall be responsible for seeing that all such persons abide by the zero-tolerance policy. Coaches will adhere to any policy or rule established by the Association, Mid-Am District, or USA Hockey.
- Coaches have the authority to impose any reasonable disciplinary measures necessary to maintain order on the team, to enforce the Zero Tolerance Policy and to safeguard the morale of the team in the best interest of the EYHA. Such measures may include:
  - Punishment during practice
  - Suspensions from any practices or games
  - Expulsion from the team
- Any parent/guardian of a player who is disciplined may request a review of the board's action. The Board will either: 1. Sustain the action 2. Modify the penalty 3. In the case of suspensions, convene a hearing to be conducted promptly by at least 3 Board members. In all cases of expulsion, the President shall convene a hearing with the board. All Board decisions will be final.



- Any Spectator that is found to be in violation of the Zero Tolerance Policy will be subject to the following discipline:
  - First Offense- a suspension from all events involving EYHA for a minimum of 14 days.
  - Second Offense- suspensions from all events involving EYHA for a minimum of 30 days.
  - Third Offense- a suspension from all events involving EYHA until a decision has been rendered from a USA Hockey Affiliated hearing.
- Failure to comply with assigned discipline may result in player removal without a refund.
- Any Board member who becomes aware of a credible complaint of conduct that violates the Zero Tolerance Policy or who witnesses such conduct may, at his or her discretion, immediately impose a suspension from all EYHA-sanctioned events. In cases of suspension, the President may, at his or her discretion, convene a hearing regarding the action. In cases where the officer receiving the complaint or witnessing the conduct recommends expulsion, a hearing will be convened.

### **Reporting of Violations:**

Reports of player/coach/official/spectator violations that are outside the area of Safe Sport Reporting should be reported to the appropriate program director:

- ADM- [adm@erieyouthhockey.com](mailto:adm@erieyouthhockey.com)
- House- [House@erieyouthhockey.com](mailto:House@erieyouthhockey.com)
- Boys Travel- [boys\\_travel@erieyouthhockey.com](mailto:boys_travel@erieyouthhockey.com)
- Girls Travel- [girls\\_travel@erieyouthhockey.com](mailto:girls_travel@erieyouthhockey.com)

If a program director is the person alleged to be in violation, reports should be made to: [vice\\_president@erieyouthhockey.com](mailto:vice_president@erieyouthhockey.com)