



Steve Laing, President, California Amateur Hockey Association

September 19, 2010

To: Northern California Amateur Hockey League (NORCAL)
Southern California Amateur Hockey League (SCAHA)
All Associations governed by California Amateur Hockey Association (CAHA)

Subject: **USA Hockey Helmet Policy Enforcement**

During the past season, CAHA has received several complaints regarding coaches on the ice during sanctioned practices and scrimmages without wearing an ice hockey helmet.

All ice hockey coaches and instructors of registered USA Hockey youth, high school, disabled, girls/women's 19 & under and below programs must properly wear an approved ice hockey helmet during all on-ice sessions, including practices, controlled scrimmages, select camps, try-outs and coaches and referee clinics (seminars) as defined in the 2009-2010 USA Hockey Annual Guide, helmet policy, page 135.

The responsibility for the enforcement of this USA Hockey policy falls to the Affiliate, CAHA. CAHA delegates the responsibility for reporting policy infractions to all leagues (NORCAL and SCAHA) and association (clubs) officers throughout the state. CAHA expects all league and association ACE coordinators; Coaching Directors and Hockey Directors will communicate and educate their respective association coaches on this policy and sanctions for violations of such. Each association is encouraged to keep spare helmets available for coaches' use.

1. **First Offense – Coach** – The coach sits the next 2 previously scheduled games (may practice with team).
2. **Second Offense – Coach** – Coach is suspended 30 days from all contact with team (s).
3. **Second Offense – Association** – Fined \$250.00 payable to CAHA.
4. **Third Offense – Coach** – The coach is suspended indefinitely pending a hearing in which the coach **MUST** appear for a hearing before the CAHA Disputes and Resolutions Committee at their next scheduled meeting.
5. **Third Offense – Association** is fined \$500.00 payable to CAHA. The association president and/or Director of Coaches and the coach must appear for a hearing before the CAHA Disputes and Resolutions Committee at their next scheduled meeting. The offending coach could face a suspension for the remaining season and the following season for said violation.

I appreciate your compliance and understanding of this important policy. Thank you for your service to our sport and your dedication to USA Hockey.

Sincerely,
Steve Laing
Steve Laing, President