

17.0 COACHING HELMET POLICY

SPECIFIC WORDING OF PROPOSAL:

(As it should appear with New Wording-**bold**, Deletions-~~strikethrough~~)

All Registered Member Associations shall enforce the following discipline policy for coaches who fail to wear a helmet.

In accordance with USA Hockey policy, all ice hockey coaches and instructors of registered USA Hockey Youth 18 & Under and below, ~~high~~**High school**~~School~~, ~~girls'~~**Girls'**/~~women's~~**Women's** 19 & ~~under~~**Under** and below, and disabled programs must properly wear an approved ice hockey helmet during all on-ice sessions, including practices, controlled scrimmages and all Coaching Education Program clinics and/or workshops. Failure to comply will result in a ~~30-day~~**30-day** suspension from all activities involving USA Hockey registered programs. **Proper wear shall include a secured and fastened chin strap. Member Associations may impose additional suspensions or fines above and beyond this minimum requirement.**

~~Member Associations may impose additional suspensions or fines above and beyond this minimum requirement. Member Associations will report any violations of this rule to the CAHA Vice President of Discipline within 72 hours of an incident and will report when the individual has completed their suspension.~~

Pursuant to USA Hockey rules and CAHA Bylaws, CAHA shall enforce as follows:

Any report concerning violation of this rule must be made to the CAHA Vice President of Discipline.

- **All reports will be reviewed by the CAHA Vice President of Discipline.**
- **All reports must be submitted within two (2) weeks of the incident.**
- **After review, if the report is deemed to be credible, will be referred to the relevant Member Association for action and enforcement.**
- **The Member Association must inform the Disciplinary Chair within 72 hours on the action it is taking, and the CAHA Vice President of Discipline will keep records of same and follow up as necessary.**

The penalty is mandatory. There is no discretion involved in the matter or warnings, however, as this is a disciplinary matter, the offending party has a right to a hearing. The hearing must be held by the Member Association before it invokes the penalty using USA Hockey Bylaw 10.

All reports submitted to be considered must contain the following:

- **It is recommended (but not mandatory) that contact information of the reporting party be submitted to help verify the incident. Failure to provide contact information could hinder investigation of the incident.**
- **Information sufficient to identify the offending individual can include but is not limited to:**
 - **Date, time, and place of the violation.**
 - **Identify the Member Association of the offending individual.**
 - **Real evidence of the incident, such as a photograph or video, must be included with the report for it to be actionable.**

If the identity of the individual violating the rule is clear, the CAHA Vice President of Discipline may, at their sole discretion, issue a summary suspension pursuant to the provisions of USA Hockey Bylaw 10.

PURPOSE:

To create a uniform reporting and investigation process for reports of coach helmet violations.