**Zero Tolerance Policy – Parent/Guardian Pledge**

MLMHA has a **Zero Tolerance Policy** that aims to create a safe and fair environment for all participants. The policy requires all players, coaches, officials, team officials, administrators, and parents/spectators to maintain a sportsmanlike and educational atmosphere before, during, and after all MLMHA Hockey sanctioned games

Any verbal, emotional and/or physical abuse or harassment towards players, officials, volunteers and spectators will not be tolerated. Offenders will be instructed to leave the premises immediately.

The following points of emphasis must be implemented by all MLMHA participants and spectators:

* **Players:** A minor penalty for unsportsmanlike conduct (zero tolerance) shall be assessed whenever a player:
	1. Openly disputes or argues any decision by an official.
	2. Taunts or incites an opponent.
	3. Visually creates a disturbance during the game. Any time that a player persists in any of these actions, they shall be assessed a misconduct penalty. A game misconduct shall result if the player continues such action
* **Coaches:** A minor penalty for unsportsmanlike conduct (zero tolerance) shall be assessed whenever a coach:
	1. Openly disputes or argues any decision by an official.
	2. Uses obscene, profane, or abusive language to anyone at any time.
	3. Visually displays any sign of dissatisfaction with an official’s decision including standing on the boards or standing in the bench doorway with the intent of inciting the officials, players, or spectators. Any time that a coach persists in any of these actions, they shall be assessed a game misconduct penalty[**. In addition, any player/coach who uses language that is hateful or discriminatory in nature anywhere in the rink before, during, or after the game shall be penalized under Hockey Saskatchewan Rule 6.09.04 (a) (b) resulting in a gross misconduct.**](https://hockeysask.ca/members/handbook/suspensions-mr)
* **Officials:** Officials are required to conduct themselves in a businesslike, sportsmanlike, impartial, and constructive manner at all times. The actions of an official must be above reproach. Actions such as “baiting” or inciting players or coaches are strictly prohibited. Officials are strongly encouraged to introduce themselves to the coaches prior to the game to establish a basis of mutual respect and to facilitate/define in-game communication. Officials are ambassadors of the game and must always conduct themselves with this responsibility in mind
* **Parents/Spectators:** Parents are expected to be a positive role model by treating all players, coaches, officials, and fellow spectators with respect and support. The game will be stopped by game officials when parents/spectators displaying inappropriate and disruptive behavior interfere with other spectators or the game. RCMP may be called to remove the person/persons in violation. The game officials will identify violators to the coaches for the purpose of removing parents/spectators from the spectator’s viewing and game area.
* **Coaches/Parents/Spectators:** At no time shall an Official be approached after a game in a negative way. Officials Dressing Rooms are for Officials only.

MLMHA will not tolerate any physical, verbal, or social behavior related to race, ethnicity, culture, national origin, religion, gender, gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, or mental or physical disability meant to bully, harass, or intimidate another person, on or off the ice.

**Parents/Spectators in violation may be given a 30-day ban from all MLMHA events for a 1st time offence. A 2nd offence will result in a 90 day ban and 3rd offence will be a lifetime ban from all MLMHA events. Subject to appeal.**

**Parent/Guardian Pledge**

This pledge is in accordance with the MLMHA Zero Tolerance Policy:

* I will support and work with my child to fulfill their commitments.
* I will ensure that my child plays for their own enjoyment (not mine).
* I will encourage my child to play by the rules and display proper sportsmanship at all times.
* I will applaud and acknowledge great efforts and good plays by my child’s team and their opponents.
* I will not question any Official’s judgment publicly.
* I will support all efforts to remove verbal and physical abuse from children’s hockey.
* I will respect and show appreciation to volunteers who devote their time for my child to play hockey.

I agree to abide by the principles of this pledge as set out by MLMHA.

I acknowledge that MLMHA reserves the right to administer disciplinary actions for breaches/violations of this pledge/policy.