

Moose Jaw Minor Hockey Bullying and Harassment Policy

It is the position of Moose Jaw Minor Hockey that harassment and bullying cannot and should not be tolerated in any environment, including hockey. Both harassment and bullying are unacceptable and harmful. MJMHA recognizes the negative impact from all types of harassment and bullying on personal dignity, individual and group development and performance, enjoyment of the game and in some cases, personal safety.

Definitions

Child Abuse

Child abuse is any form of physical, emotional and/or sexual mistreatment or lack of care which causes physical injury or emotional damage to a child. A common characteristic of all forms of abuse against children and youth is an abuse of power or authority and/or breach of trust. Across Canada a person is considered a child up to the age of 16 to 19 years depending on provincial/territorial legislation.

Emotional Abuse

Emotional abuse is a chronic attack on a child's self-esteem; it is psychologically destructive behaviour by a person in a position of power, authority or trust. It can take the form of name-calling, threatening, ridiculing, berating, intimidating, isolating, hazing or ignoring the child's needs.

Physical Abuse

Physical abuse is when a person in a position of power or trust purposefully injures or threatens to injure a child or youth. This may take the form of slapping, hitting, shaking, kicking, pulling hair or ears, throwing, shoving, grabbing, hazing or excessive exercise as a form of punishment.

Neglect

Neglect is chronic inattention to the basic necessities of life such as clothing, shelter, nutritious diets, education, good hygiene, supervision, medical and dental care, adequate rest, safe environment, moral guidance and discipline, exercise and fresh air. This may occur in hockey when injuries are not adequately treated or players are made to play with injuries, equipment is inadequate or unsafe, no-one intervenes when team members are persistently harassing another player, or road trips are not properly supervised.

Sexual Abuse

Sexual abuse is when a young person is used by an older child, adolescent or adult for his or her own sexual stimulation or gratification. There are two categories:

- | Contact | Non-Contact |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Touched or fondled in sexual areas• Forced to touch another person's sexual areas• Kissed or held in a sexual manner• Forced to perform oral sex• Vaginal or anal intercourse• Vaginal or anal penetration with an object or finger• Sexually oriented hazing | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Obscene remarks on phone/computer or in notes• Voyeurism• Shown pornography• Forced to watch sexual acts• Sexually intrusive questions and comments• Forced to pose for sexual photographs or videos• Forced to self-masturbate/forced to watch others masturbate |

Definition of Harassment

Harassment is defined as conduct, gestures or comments which are insulting, intimidating, humiliating, hurtful, malicious, degrading or otherwise offensive to an individual or group of individuals, and which create a hostile or intimidating environment for work or sports activities, or which negatively affect performance or work

conditions. Any of the different forms of harassment must be based on the grounds prohibited in human rights legislation, such as race, ethnicity, colour, religion, age, sex, marital status, family status, disability, pardoned conviction and sexual orientation.

Harassment may occur among anyone between peers (e.g.: player to player of the same age group, parent to official, coach to coach) or between someone in a position of power or authority and an adult in a subordinate position (e.g.: coach to player, sports administrator to employee).

The following is a non-exhaustive list of examples of harassment:

1. Unwelcome jokes, innuendo or teasing about a person's body, looks, race, sexual orientation etc.
2. Condescending, patronizing, threatening or punishing actions which undermine self-esteem
3. Practical jokes which cause awkwardness or embarrassment, or may endanger a person's safety
4. Degrading or inappropriate hazing rituals
5. Unwanted or unnecessary physical contact including touching, patting, pinching
6. Unwanted conduct, comments, gestures or invitations of a sexual nature which are likely to cause offence or humiliation, or which might on reasonable grounds be perceived as placing a condition of a sexual nature on employment or on any opportunity for training or advancement
7. Sexual assault or physical assault

It is important to note that the behaviours described in items 5 to 7, when directed towards a child or youth, constitute abuse under child protection legislation. This may also be true of other behaviours, for example, certain hazing practices. In such cases, the duty to report provisions of the Recognition and Prevention of Abuse Policy are applicable.

Definition of Bullying

Bullying involves a person expressing their power through the humiliation of another person. Bullying occurs between people at any age and is not addressed under human rights legislation. It is inappropriate behaviours that are typically cruel, demeaning and hostile toward the bullying targets (most commonly occurs between children under the age of twelve but may also constitute behaviours between youth or between adults. Bullying is similar to harassment but the behaviours are not addressed under human rights laws. Bullies are typically cruel, demeaning and hostile towards the targets of their bullying.).

The actual issue of bullying is not addressed by the law, except when the behaviour does become a criminal issue - e.g. extortion, physical assault etc...

Bullying can be broken down into four types:

- Physical (hit or kick victims; take/damage personal property)
- Verbal (name calling; insults; constant teasing)
- Relational (try to cut off victims from social connection by convincing peers to exclude or reject a certain person)
- Cyber bullying

The following is a non exhaustive list of tactics used by bullies to control their targets:

1. Unwarranted yelling and screaming directed at the target
2. Continually criticizing the target's abilities
3. Blaming the target of the bullying for mistakes
4. Making unreasonable demands related to performance
5. Repeated insults or put downs of the target
6. Repeated threats to remove or restrict opportunities or privileges
7. Denying or discounting the targets accomplishment
8. Threats of and actual physical violence

Duty to Report Harassment, Bullying or Abuse

Any persons having knowledge of harassment, bullying or abuse shall report the alleged incident to any member of the board of directors or the office of Moose Jaw Minor Hockey, who will bring it forward to the Board of Directors, who will act accordingly. MJMHA will require verbal allegations to be followed up with a written submission.

Moose Jaw Minor Hockey follows the Hockey Canada protocol for harassment/abuse situations. Upon receipt, written or verbal, of a harassment/abuse allegation, an individual/committee as designated by the President will review the situation and make recommendations for follow-up. The individual/committee reserves the right to forward allegations to the appropriate Police Service or Child Protection Agency. Repeat offenses are subject to indefinite suspension until reviewed.