



## Yellowknife Minor Hockey Association



### Spectator Policy

It is YKMH policy to require parents/spectators to maintain a sportsmanlike and educational atmosphere before, during, and after all YKMH sanctioned events. On-ice officials will stop the game when parents/spectators displaying inappropriate and disruptive behaviour that interferes with the other spectators or the game. The on-ice officials will identify violators to the coaches for the purpose of removing parents/spectators from the spectators' viewing/game area. Only when the offending person(s) are removed will play resume. Lost time will not be replaced, and violators may be subject to further disciplinary action by the local governing body. This inappropriate and disruptive behaviour shall include, but not be limited to:

- a) Use of obscene or vulgar language in a boisterous manner to anyone at any time.
- b) Taunting of players, coaches, officials, or other spectators by means of baiting, ridiculing, threat of violence, or actual physical violence.
- c) Throwing of any object in the spectators viewing area, players bench, penalty box/timekeeping box, or on ice surface, directed in any manner as to create a safety hazard.

Spectators involved with a YKMH event are expected to conduct themselves with the highest degree of courtesy, integrity, and behaviour. Parents and spectators are requested to remain behind the glass of the rinks. Furthermore, parents and spectators are to avoid any contact with the players' bench or the official timekeepers' area (including penalty boxes), unless specifically requested by a member of the coaching staff to be there. At no time will spectators have any contact with the referees, either before, during, or after the game.

In the event of disorderly conduct, the coach or assistant coach will be responsible for ordering the spectators to leave the premises. The coach is then required to file a letter of incident with the YKMHA.

The Director of Ethics and Discipline will review the situation and make recommendations based on the following guidelines:

#### **First Offense:**

1. For profanity or other verbal abuse, a minimum 30-day suspension is applied.
2. For any other action more egregious than #1, a minimum 90-day suspension will be considered.

#### **Second Offense:**

Will lead to a longer suspension, possibly up to the duration of the season, and the laying of charges will be considered, for the most serious of violations. Profanity/verbal abuse or physical abuse includes any behaviours aimed at players, coaches, officials, rink employees, and/or other spectators. This policy will also be in effect for away games.