

Central States Developmental Hockey League

Zero Tolerance Policy

In an effort to make ice hockey a more desirable, enjoyable and rewarding experience for all participants, The Central States Developmental Hockey League (CSDHL) has implemented an "Absolute Zero Tolerance Policy" with respect to the behavior of the players, coaches, referees and parents participating in or viewing a game. We are instructing any official who officiates a CSDHL game to adhere to certain points of emphasis relating to sportsmanship. The CSDHL does not believe that "fighting" needs to be apart of the game. We insist that our coaches teach and enforce the "No Fighting" policies of the CSDHL and strive to instill in our players a sense of respect for all participants and the game itself.

This policy is designed to require all players, coaches, officials, team officials, administrators, spectators and parents to maintain a sportsmanlike and educational atmosphere before, during and after all USA Hockey/AHAI/CSDHL sanctioned games.

We are instructing all on-ice Referees and Linesmen to carry out the following:

For 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. Uses obscene or vulgar language at any time, including any swearing, even if it is not directed at a particular person.
3. Visually demonstrates any sign of dissatisfaction with an official's decision. 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.
4. Any physical contact using the body or the stick after the whistle has blown.

Any "fighting" penalty in a CSDHL league game will result in an "automatic" (3) league game suspension to be served in the next three consecutive league games. A second or third "fighting" penalty will result in the player being referred to the CSDHL Rules & Ethics Committee for possible season suspension.

For Coaches:

It is the CSDHL's belief that a coach's behavior determines how his players and parents will behave. Therefore, 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 or vulgar language in a boisterous manner to anyone at any time at the rink before, during or after the competition.
3. Usually demonstrates 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.

If any player or players on a CSDHL team receives more than two (2) fighting penalties during the season, the matter will be reviewed by Rules & Ethics for a possible additional suspension to the player.

Any coach that receives three or more game misconduct penalties will be referred to the CSDHL Rules Committee for review and possible suspension.

For Officials on ice:

Officials are required to conduct themselves in a businesslike, sportsmanlike, impartial and constructive manner at all times. The actions of an on-ice and off-ice official must be above reproach. Actions such as "baiting" or inciting players or coaches are strictly prohibited.

On-ice officials are ambassadors of the game and must always conduct themselves with this responsibility in mind. Any official, who cannot or does not wish to enforce the CSDHL Absolute Zero Tolerance Policy, will not be scheduled for future CSDHL games.

For Off Ice Officials:

The home team score/clock and penalty box is to be monitored by a parent of that team. No player, parent, sibling of the home team are aloud to be in the visitor penalty box.

For Parents/ Spectators:

The game will be stopped by the on-ice officials when the parents/spectators displaying inappropriate and disruptive behavior interfere with other spectators or the conduct of the game. The on-ice officials will identify violators to the coaches for the purpose of removing parents/spectators from the spectators viewing and game area. Once removed, play will resume. Removal of parents/spectators for a zero tolerance violation, will be prohibited from attending the next 3 (three)

CSDHL games. Lost time will not be replaced and violators may be subject to further disciplinary action by the CSDHL Rules & Ethics Committee or AHAI. This inappropriate and disruptive behavior shall include:

Use of obscene or vulgar language in a boisterous manner to anyone at any time at the rink before, during or after a game.

Taunting of players, coaches, officials or other spectators by means of baiting, ridiculing, threat of physical violence or actual physical violence.

Throwing of any object in the spectators viewing area, player's bench, penalty box or on the ice surface, directed in any manner as to create a safety hazard.

Any parent/spectator who must be removed from the rink a second time will not be allowed to attend any CSDHL game until a hearing before the CSDHL Rules & Ethics Committee. Failure to comply with the above sanctions will result in the parent/spectator's team player not being allowed to participate while that parent/spectator is in the building.

Any decision of the CSDHL Rules Committee may be appealed in writing to the CSDHL Committee. The appeal must be accompanied by a \$125.00 appeal fee. Decisions of the CSDHL Committee shall be final.

By signing below, I acknowledge that I have received, read, understand and agree to abide by the Central States Developmental Hockey League Zero Tolerance Policy.

I will review this policy with the player listed below and all members of his/her family to assure they understand their responsibilities and penalties for violation of this policy.

Players Name: _____

Players Signature: _____

Parents Signature: _____ Date: _____