



Central States Developmental Hockey League Zero Tolerance Policy

The Central States Developmental Hockey League zero tolerance policy affords all participants direction in developing self-discipline, leadership, integrity and a healthy attitude and respect for rules and regulations.

The CSDHL support the Zero Tolerance Policy of USA Hockey and the Amateur Hockey Association of Illinois (AHAI). Our position is that abusive or excessive behavior by any CSDHL parent, guardian, coach, manager, team official or player will not be tolerated.

Any violation of the Zero Tolerance Policy constitutes conduct detrimental to hockey and makes the offender subject to disciplinary action, with possible suspension by the CSDHL Rules and Ethics Committee. All violations are also subject to review by the AHAI Rules and Ethics Committee.

I. Players shall not:

- 1) Openly dispute, argue or protest a decision made by an Official.
- 2) Use obscene or vulgar language, including swearing, at any time, even if not directed at a particular person.
- 3) Visually demonstrate any sign of dissatisfaction with an official's decision in a manner that openly embarrasses the Official and/or challenges his/her judgment.
- 4) Taunt, bait, ridicule or threaten any Official, player, coach or spectator.

II. Coaches shall not:

- 1) Openly dispute, argue or protest a decision made by an Official.
- 2) Use obscene or vulgar language, including swearing, at any time, even if not directed at a particular person.
- 3) Visually demonstrate any sign of dissatisfaction with an official's decision in a manner that openly embarrasses the Official and/or challenges his/her judgment.
- 4) Taunt, bait, ridicule or threaten any Official, player or spectator.
- 5) Make any aggressive physical contact with any Official, player or spectator.

III. Parents and Spectators shall not:

- 1) Use obscene or vulgar language/gestures, including swearing, to anyone at anytime.
- 2) Openly dispute, argue or protest a decision made by an Official.
- 3) Taunt players, coaches, officials or other spectators (verbally or through use of gesture(s)) by means of baiting, ridiculing, threatening physical violence or physical violence.
- 4) Throw any object in the spectators viewing area, player's bench, penalty box or on the ice surface.

Violations and Sanctions

I. Players

- 1) Official may assess a minor penalty for unsportsmanlike conduct (Zero tolerance).
- 2) Any time the player persists in any of these actions, he/she shall be assessed a Misconduct Penalty.
- 3) A Game Misconduct shall result if such player continues.
- 4) If any player receives a game misconduct for Zero Tolerance abuse of an Official, the Chargers, after investigation by the Rules and Ethics Committee, may assess a one (1) game suspension in addition to the one (1) game suspension the player is already serving. A second offense of the same nature will result in an additional three (3) game suspension. A third offense will result in suspension of the player by the Chargers until such player applies for reinstatement before the Board of Directors.

II. Coaches

- 1) The Official may assess a Bench Minor penalty for unsportsmanlike conduct (Zero Tolerance).
- 2) Any time that a Coach persists in any of these actions, the Official may assess a Game Misconduct penalty.
- 3) If any coach receives a game misconduct for Zero Tolerance abuse of an Official, the CSDHL, after investigation by the Rules and Ethics Committee, may assess a one (1) game suspension in addition to the Game Misconduct penalty assessed by the Official.

III. Parents and Spectators

On-ice officials will stop the game when the parents/spectators displaying inappropriate or disruptive behavior interfere with other spectators or participants of the game. The on-ice officials will identify the violators to the coaches for the purpose of removing the violators from the game and spectator viewing areas for the remainder of the game. Game play will not resume until the violators have left the game and spectator viewing areas.

Note: If you are asked to leave the rink (guilty or not), do it! Refusal to leave or attempts to discuss the reasons for your ejection with the Official will only escalate the situation. Leaving the rink means leaving the rink; do not return to the seating area or attempt to watch the game through doors, hallways etc.

Additionally, all reported violations of the Zero Tolerance Policy shall be investigated and reviewed by the CSDHL Rules and Ethics Committee and penalties/sanctions shall be assessed based on the following classifications. Each case may also be reviewed and further discipline issued by USA Hockey, AHAI or the league in which the team participates.

Class 1 – A first time offense of basic nature, but which shall not include a violation under Class 3, will be reviewed by the CSDHL R&E Committee. Penalties may include reprimands and/or up to a (5) game suspension inclusive of all team activities until the fifth game is complete.

Class 2 – Any repeat offense, any violation which requires rink personnel or law enforcement to become involved, any physical contact involving adults or any incident which endangers others will be reviewed by the CSDHL R&E Committee and may result in suspension from five (5) games to thirty (30) days, inclusive of all team activities during the suspension period.

Class 3 – Violations involving threats, physical harm or repeated Class 2 offenses will result in a suspension of from ninety (90) days to one (1) year, inclusive of all team activities during the suspension period and require a reinstatement hearing before the CSDHL Board of Directors.

Note: “team activities” include all practices, scrimmages, practice games, league games and tournament games.

Right of Appeal

Any person sanctioned under the Zero Tolerance Policy has the option to accept the disciplinary action or has five (5) days to notify the Rules and Ethics Chairperson to request a hearing. Any disciplinary action will be imposed until such hearing is held. Rules and Ethics will make every effort to conduct a requested hearing within 10 days. Upon receiving the results of the hearing, you will have further right to appeal to the entire CSDHL Board of Directors at its next scheduled board meeting.

Policy Acknowledgement

Prior to the beginning of league play each season, each family will receive a copy of this policy and be required to sign a form acknowledging they have received, read, understand, and agree to abide by this policy. If during the course of the season circumstances required a change to this policy, each family would be informed of the change(s) and required to sign a new acknowledgement form.

Please direct all inquiries regarding this policy to the CSDHL Rules and Ethics Chairperson. Contact information is available on our website: www.csdhl.org.



Central States Developmental Hockey League

Zero Tolerance Policy Acknowledgment

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 (current revision dated September 1, 2008). **

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.

Player's Name: _____

Organization: _____

Player's Signature: _____

Parent/Guardian Name: _____ Relationship: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

** Acknowledgement by one parent or legal guardian represents notice and acknowledgement to all family members.