



Vancouver Island
Amateur Hockey Association

INFORMATION BULLETIN # 2008-11-IN

January 14, 2009

TO: VIAHA Executive, Association Administrators, Registrars, Managing Directors, Commissioners, All Teams

FROM: Mark Kenny, VIAHA President and Joe McDonald, BCH District Director

SUBJECT: Recreational Team Officials

VIAHA has commenced reviewing all the Recreational Team Officials for certifications and team requirements (current HCSP rostered to each team) as per Hockey Canada Regulation E-1a:

1. Definition of 'team' for registration purposes:
 - a) a group of team officials, at least one of whom must be a coach, with all coaches meeting Branch certification and SpeakOut requirements, and one of whom must be qualified in the Hockey Canada Safety Program.

Several questions have come up during the review and the following provides clarity to the questions asked:

"What if it is found and proven that a recreational team official does not have the proper certifications in place after the mandated December deadline?"

Q: Is BC Hockey going to review all recreational team rosters and approve/disapprove team officials?

A: The BCH office staff has not been tasked to do this at this time. Should they be tasked to carry out this function, they will localize it to the team officials only and identify those who are ineligible. They would then notify the MHA/District accordingly of the deficiencies.

Q: Who is responsible to enforce this regulation?

A: Since this is a mandated regulation which is set by the membership, the responsibility begins with the MHA executive bodies to uphold. If the MHAs fail to enforce the regulations, then the District may step up and enforce the BCH regulation where MHAs fail to do so.

Q: What if the MHA does not want to enforce and pull the ineligible team official(s) off the bench? Who has the authority then?

A: The next level of authority is the District after the MHA. Each MHA is a member in good standing with the District; the District administers the leagues. The MHA is responsible to uphold the regulations, if they do not, then the District is next in line to uphold this responsibility.

As discussed in a recent VIAHA Executive meeting, this review is ongoing. Many of the deficiencies have been missing records and housekeeping issues. If your team officials are able to provide confirmation of certification, please direct that information to BCH and they will be happy to update the profiles.

Questions on Coaching certifications can be directed to Mike Mowat, VIAHA/BCH Coach Coordinator and questions regarding SpeakOut and HCSP can be directed to Carol Fergusson, VIAHA/BCH Safety & Risk Manager.