



VIAHA Yellow Card Program 2009-2010



1. Each association will be given a number of Yellow Cards based on the number of declared teams (both rep and rec from Atom and up).

Atom Dev – 2/team
Atom Rec – 2/team

Bantam Carded – 3/team
Bantam Rec – 3/team

Juvenile – 2/team

PeeWee Carded – 3/team
PeeWee Rec – 3/team

Midget Carded – 3/team
Midget Rec – 3/team

Based on 2009-2010 declared teams, from an initial order of 1000 cards, this will leave 55 for office supply.

2. One poster promoting the program will be provided for each rink being used by the member associations.
3. Cost per card and poster will be determined once the invoice has come from the printer and each association will be billed accordingly with minimal mark-up.
4. The purpose of this Program is to educate and increase awareness of inappropriate behaviour in the stands. It is strongly urged that all Associations communicate and promote the aims of the program to all their members.
5. Associations will have the discretion of how to distribute the cards among their rep and recreational teams.
6. Teams should designate either a Team Manager or other Team Official who will be at most of the games to carry/issue the cards. Association Executive members may also wish to carry cards.
7. As each occurrence will be unique, VIAHA strongly suggests that the Respect for Sport program serve as guidelines on what is inappropriate behaviour.
8. If you feel uncomfortable approaching someone on your own, bring another person with you. The offeree will be less likely to escalate the situation and your partner serves as support and a witness.
9. Issuing a yellow card is not meant to be confrontational. It is to draw attention to inappropriate behaviour which contravenes the spirit of good sportsmanship, detracts from the enjoyment of the game by all watching and that such behaviour will not be tolerated (whether a fan from the other team or your own team). It goes without saying that each situation will be different and how you approach it will vary. Let SpeakOut and Respect in Sport be your guide. Conversation is not necessary – you can simply say “Excuse me” and hand them the card. All associations will be given posters to post in prominent spots at all arenas regarding the program.
10. **IMPORTANT:** If unable to determine the name of the spectator, try to determine who the spectator belongs to (ie. Home or away team) and record on the VIAHA Game Report the particulars (name, a brief description of the person, what the situation was, etc).
11. You may wish to advise the referee that a yellow card has been issued in the stands at a stoppage in play or during the break (the game does NOT stop at this point). Identify yourself to the referee and your role.
12. If the offender does not cease the inappropriate behaviour, a second yellow card may be warranted. Please advise a game official if this happens immediately. The referee should then stop the game until the spectator leaves the arena.
13. Abuse in the issuance of these cards will not be tolerated.
14. What happens on the ice is under the jurisdiction of the game officials.
15. We all serve as ambassadors of our own associations. We are all here to watch and support in a positive manner, all participants of the game – both on the ice and off the ice in the stands.

Education and awareness are the key components to effective change.