

VII. ASSOCIATION DISCIPLINE POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

It is the CRAA's intention that each matter is handled in an objective, equitable, and consistent manner with appropriate consequences based on the severity of the actions, aligned with violation categories. Various parties have the authority to impose disciplinary measures.

1) Below is a breakdown of the entities authorized to take disciplinary action, the potential range of punitive measures, and the outlined process:

a) Head Coach: Holds the authority to suspend a player from practices or games for not adhering to the team rules as documented and distributed to players and parents at the season's commencement. The coach is obligated to inform the player of the disciplinary action both verbally and in writing, within 48 hours of the incident. If a player receives a suspension spanning three or more ice times and wishes to challenge the decision, a written appeal can be submitted to the President.

b) Team Directors/ Vice President of Hockey Operations/President: Have the power to immediately remove a spectator from a practice, game, or arena for conduct violating the CRAA's Code of Conduct. They can also institute a ban on a spectator from attending practices or games for a specified duration, based on behavior deemed unsuitable within the Association's standards. Verbal communication of the disciplinary action must be followed up within 48 hours, providing written confirmation of the ban along with an explanation. In the event that a spectator opts to contest the action, an appeal must be submitted in writing to the President.

Enforcement of Discipline Policies and Procedures

Class 1 Violations include, but are not restricted to:

- Breach of CRAA Code of Conduct.
- Use of indecent or offensive language or gestures directed towards anyone.
- Employing abusive language towards players, coaches, officials, parents, opponents, or spectators.
- Taunting players, coaches, officials, opponents, or spectators via baiting or ridicule.
- Addressing players, coaches, officials, or volunteers in an unsportsmanlike, impolite, or threatening manner.
- Questioning or approaching a coach, coaches, or official regarding a decision during or immediately after practices or games (the "24-hour rule").

Class 1 violations may result in a penalty of up to a four (4) game suspension. The suspension period begins upon finalizing and communicating the decision. An immediate suspension of the individual(s) in question is possible until an investigation concludes; however, this timeframe will factor into the overall suspension duration.

Class 2 Violations include, but are not limited to:

- Expressing physical violence threats towards players, coaches, officials, parents, opponents, volunteers, or spectators.
- Hurling objects in the spectator viewing area, player's bench, penalty box, locker room, or onto the ice in a manner suggesting malice or creating a safety hazard.
- Deliberately pushing or striking a player, coach, or official during a CRAA activity, program, or event.
- Publicly defaming members or the CRAA (provided the allegations are false statements).
- Second violation of the same Class 1 offense, or three or more Class 1 violations.

Class 2 Violations may entail a maximum penalty of up to a six (6) game suspension, encompassing games, practices, and team functions. An immediate suspension of the accused party(ies) is possible until an investigation concludes; however, this period will factor into the overall suspension duration.

Class 3 Violations

- Determination of Class 3 violations rests with the Disciplinary Committee, based on a comprehensive investigation of the background and violations involved.
- If a violation is categorized as Class 3, it will be addressed via a decision made by the Disciplinary Committee.

Class 3 Violations result in a minimum one (1) season suspension from the CRAA, leading to the member being in bad standing with the CRAA. The suspension period commences upon finalizing and communicating the decision. An immediate suspension of the individual(s) in question is possible until an investigation concludes; however, this timeframe will factor into the overall suspension duration. A Class 3 decision by the Disciplinary Committee will be discussed in a private session ("in-camera").