

EAHC Aggressive Play Policy

- 1) Purpose: This policy is intended to provide additional support to the USA Hockey, NYSAHA and EAHC playing rules and regulations, points of emphasis and not necessarily intended to impose supplementary discipline. This policy is intended to draw attention to the dangerous and/or reckless behavior of participants and will hopefully result in modifications to such behavior so that additional supplementary discipline and suspensions are not necessary. This policy is directed at both players and Team Officials.
- 2) Definitions: For the purpose of the policy, the following shall be defined as an “Aggressive Play Penalty”:
 - a. Any Major Penalty including those that result in a Game and/or Match Penalty. Note that Game Misconducts or Match Penalties that are NOT the result of a Major Penalty will NOT be considered Aggressive Play Penalties (one example is Rule 404d Game Misconducts).
 - b. Minor Penalties imposed for checking from behind or boarding.
 - c. Any penalty (minor, major or misconduct) that the referee states to the scorekeeper or writes up as “intent to injure” or “head contact” will also count as an Aggressive Play Penalty.
- 3) Implementation:
 - a. Players or Coaches may only be charged for 1 Aggressive Play penalty per incident. Any incident is defined as the penalties written up with the same clock time. For example, a Major Check from Behind plus a Game Misconduct that the referee writes up as “intent to injure” would only result in 1 Aggressive Play Penalty as all penalties were imposed with the same clock time.
 - b. Game suspensions imposed for violating the Aggressive Play Policy are not to be counted as Game Misconducts.
 - c. **Head Coaches are defined as the Coach who signs as the Head Coach for that Game. Note that Head Coaches, if present and not suspended, must sign the scoresheet as Head Coach or face an Empire Hearing under supplemental discipline.** Any rostered Head Coach who is not present for a game due to personal conflict or game suspension will not have any Aggressive Play penalties accrue against his totals for Aggressive Play penalties nor will he be credited with a game with no penalties.
- 4) Players:
 - a. Any player who incurs four aggressive play penalties during EAHC games in any season in any combination would, following the fourth such penalty, be suspended for one (1) game, in addition to any other suspensions that are incurred for the infractions.
 - b. Every additional aggressive play penalty (5th, 6th,) received thereafter would carry an automatic additional game suspension.
 - c. Upon the fifth (and higher) penalty **the player shall be suspended from all EAHC games and required to appear before the EAHC Disciplinary Committee.** This hearing must occur within a time frame not to exceed thirty (30) days from the fifth (or higher) infraction. The purpose of this hearing is to review (with the player and Head Coach as well as the parents of the player) the penalties that have occurred and the concern that this raises with the Conference.
- 5) Head Coach:
 - a. A Head Coach will be required to come before the EAHC Disciplinary Committee for a hearing, if his or her team has incurred seven (7) or more aggressive play penalties over any four game period. The Head Coach will be expected to explain the steps that they are taking to curtail this behavior. If not satisfactory to the EAHC Disciplinary Committee, supplementary discipline may be imposed by the Committee.
 - b. The Head Coach of the team for each player who appears before the EAHC Disciplinary Committee under this policy will also be required to appear with the player. The Head Coach will be expected to explain the steps that he or she is taking, both with the team and with this player, to reduce the incidence of aggressive play penalties. Where circumstances warrant, the EAHC Disciplinary Committee can impose supplementary discipline on the Head Coach and/or player.