



USA HOCKEY

**SOUTHEASTERN DISTRICT
TOURNAMENT CHAMPIONSHIP**

RULES AND REGULATIONS

Revised February 4, 2019



Southeastern District Tournament Championship Rules and Regulations



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COACHES AND MANAGERS INFORMATION

Player Eligibility

All players must be registered with USA Hockey and certified to a USA Hockey Team Roster (1-T) on or before December 31 of the current playing season to be eligible for a District Championship with that team only.

Players who are citizens of another country and residing with a parent shall be considered eligible if the parent(s) hold one of the following legal documents: Alien Registration Receipt Card, Permanent Resident Card or if the parent(s) holds a non-immigrant temporary visa. See page 134 of the 2018-2019 USA Hockey Annual Guide for eligible visa categories or contact your USA Hockey Associate Registrar for more information.

Players who are citizens of another country and are in the U.S. without a parent must hold an Alien Registration Receipt Card, Permanent Resident Card or an F. Academic Student Classification visa or J. Exchange Alien visa.

Credentials

The credentials review process includes mandatory pre-certification of credentials by USA Hockey Associate Registrars serving the locale of the respective teams participating in the tournament and a final verification of credentials at the credentials meeting at the tournament site.

All teams must provide copies of required documentation for credentials to the USA Hockey Associate Registrar for their Affiliate Association within 24 hours of qualification for the tournament. Credential requirements for teams participating in USA Hockey National Championships and District Playoffs can be found in the 2018-2019 USA Hockey Tournament Guidebook, N. Credential Requirements of Teams for Districts and Nationals, pages 28-29. A representative from the team should contact the appropriate USA Hockey Associate Registrar to make arrangements for a pre-certification review, in person or barring that, to have the required documentation for credentials delivered to the Associate Registrar.

In addition, teams are required to present the required documentation for credentials at the District Tournament credentials meeting. **Failure to have a representative present at the credentials meeting will result in disciplinary action and/or forfeiture of games for the team.**

USA Hockey Associate Registrars

PVAHA (MD, DC)	Bob Otte	301-854-0856	bobotte123@gmail.com
PVAHA (VA)	Beth Lenz	703-242-1698	vastateregistrar@gmail.com
CAHA	Jessica Westphal	904-673-8221	icemom@aol.com
SAHA	David Polk	404-444-0755	dpolk17@gmail.com
SAHOF	Cindy Friedman	954-752-3889	cin24k@aol.com



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Credentials Meetings

A team representative must be present at the credentials meeting. Any errors or omissions not previously resolved by the Associate Registrar will be clarified at the credentials meeting. **All questions raised during the credentials process must be resolved prior to the start of that team's first game.**

Each team is required to furnish the Credentials Committee the following items:

(See N. Credential Requirements of Teams for Districts and Nationals, pages 28-29 of the 2018-2019 USA Hockey Tournament Guidebook)

- (a) A completed Credentials Verification Form (form 1-C) and a USA Hockey Certified Roster Form (form 1-T) created by registration software.
- (b) A verification and affirmation that a review of each player's birth certificate has been completed by a district registrar or his/her designee. When no verification and affirmation is provided, a copy of government-issued birth certificate, verification of birth or copy of a passport identification page for each rostered player is required. Birth certificates are not required for players shown as verified on the official roster (Form 1-T) or the credentials verification report (Form 1-C).
- (c) USA Hockey Waiver and Release completed for each registered participant and team manager. (Not required for participants who have registered online at usahockey.com).
- (d) Sanctioned game scoresheets to verify compliance with 20/10 for Youth teams, 14/10 for Girls'/Women's teams, minimum number of games for eligibility rule for each team and rostered player.
- (e) USA Hockey Consent to Treat Form for each rostered player, coach and team manager.
- (f) Coaching credentials for each coach at the level mandated by USA Hockey as shown on the official roster (Form 1-T), credentials verification report (Form 1-C) or required registration and coaching credentials generated through registration software, whichever demonstrates the most complete and current information.
- (g) Non-U.S. citizens must meet proof of resident status eligibility and transfer from home country federation (if required) as stated on page 134 of the 2018-2019 USA Hockey Annual Guide.
- (h) Other documents pertinent to team activities and player eligibility.



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Coaching Requirements

All coaches must have current USA Hockey certification and the corresponding online age-specific module to participate in the District Tournament. Additionally, all coaches must be SafeSport verified and have completed a background screening in accordance with their Affiliate's background screening policy. All coaches are expected and required to follow all USA Hockey rules, including the helmet rule, during all pre-tournament and tournament events. Non-compliance will result in a Discipline Committee hearing with a minimum one game suspension. A complete listing of the coaching education levels and requirements can be found on pages 144-148 of the 2018-2019 USA Hockey Annual Guide, V. Coaching Education Program, B. Coaching Education Program Requirements.

All problems with Coaching Education Program certification must be settled with the local Association Coaching Program Director prior to your arrival at the District Tournament.

Mandatory Coaches Meetings

An opening meeting for all teams participating in the tournament shall be held prior to the start of play at a time and place to be set by the on-site Tournament Director. All participating teams are required to have a representative (coach and/or manager) present at such meeting. No one person may represent more than one team at this meeting unless prior approval is granted by the Tournament Director. **Failure to have a team representative present shall result in the suspension of the head coach, as listed on the team's official roster, from that team's first game of the tournament.** See L. Mandatory Coaches/Managers Meeting, page 19 of the 2018-2019 USA Hockey Tournament Guidebook. The team representative is required to inform the Tournament Director of any suspension that must be served at the District Tournament. A member of the Tournament Committee will be available to answer any questions.

TOURNAMENT REGULATIONS

Except as noted herein, the Tournament will be conducted in accordance with the Rules and Regulations for District Playoffs and National Championships as published in the 2018-2019 USA Hockey Annual Guide and USA Hockey Tournament Guidebook. All tournament games will be played under the USA Hockey Official Rules of Ice Hockey.

Tournament Format: Girls'/Women's Teams

Each Southeastern District Affiliate Association may enter one team at each Girls and Women's classification. If any given Affiliate does not have a team at a particular Girls or Women's classification the District shall extend an invitation to an additional team from other Affiliates until the four team quota is met. Preference shall be given to Affiliates based on total player registration for that age classification, highest to lowest. If only two Affiliates declare teams for the District Tournament at a particular classification additional teams will not be added to the District Tournament.



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Two Team Format - The two teams within each age classification will play in a best two out of three game tournament. The team that wins two games will be the tournament champion. If one team wins the first two games of the tournament, the third game will not be played.

Three Team Format – The three teams within each age classification will play each of the other teams in a round robin competition. The team’s ranking will be based on each team’s total game points as outlined in Scoring and Rating of Teams. The two highest ranked teams will meet in the championship game to determine the tournament champion.

Four Team Format - The four teams within each age classification will play each of the other teams in a round robin competition. The team’s ranking will be based on each team’s total game points as outlined in Scoring and Rating of Teams. The two highest ranked teams will meet in the championship game to determine the tournament champion.

Tournament Format: Youth Teams

Each Southeastern District Affiliate Association may enter one team at each Tier I age classification. This will provide for a maximum four-team playoff bracket for Tier I teams. If any given Affiliate does not have a team at a particular Tier I classification the District shall extend an invitation to an additional team from other Affiliates until the four team quota is met. Preference shall be given to Affiliates based on total player registration for that age classification, highest to lowest. If only two Affiliates declare teams for the District Tournament at a particular classification additional teams will not be added to the District Tournament.

Two Team Format - The two teams within each age classification will play in a best two out of three game tournament. The team that wins two games will be the tournament champion. If one team wins the first two games of the tournament, the third game will not be played.

Three Team Format – The three teams within each age classification will play each of the other teams in a round robin competition. The team’s ranking will be based on each team’s total game points as outlined in Scoring and Rating of Teams. The two highest ranked teams will meet in the championship game to determine the tournament champion.

Four Team Format - The four teams within each age classification will play each of the other teams in a round robin competition. The team’s ranking will be based on each team’s total game points as outlined in Scoring and Rating of Teams. The two highest ranked teams will meet in the championship game to determine the tournament champion.

Scoring and Rating of Teams

During the round robin games each team will be awarded three points for a win in regulation, two points for a win in overtime or shootout, one point for a loss in overtime or shootout and zero points for



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a loss in regulation. See U. (2) Process to Determine Quarter-Finalists, Semi-Finalists and/or Finalists, page 34-35 of the 2018-2019 USA Hockey Tournament Guidebook.

To qualify for the final game, the team ranking will be based on each team’s total game points as outlined above. If teams are tied for a ranked position, the tiebreaker rules will apply.

Overtime and Shootouts

All round robin games are played to a winner. If the game is tied following regulation play, one five minute sudden death overtime period shall be played. At the completion of the third period, the tied teams shall receive a two-minute rest period. The teams will remain on the ice. The teams shall change ends. If the score is tied at the end of the five-minute sudden death overtime period, there shall be a shootout. The shootout shall be conducted as set forth on pages 33-34 of the 2018-2019 USA Hockey Tournament Guidebook. The winner of the shootout will be credited with one additional goal in the final score.

Ice Cleaning: Girls’/Women’s

The ice will not be resurfaced between periods in Women’s round robin games. Ice shall be cleaned at least every two periods for Girls’ games and before each championship game unless approved by the Southeastern District Tournament Director. See R. (3), page 31 of the 2018-2019 USA Hockey Tournament Guidebook for additional information.

Ice Cleaning: Youth

Tier I 14 & Under, Tier 1 15 only, 16 & Under - Ice shall be cleaned before each game and between the second and third periods. There shall be a two minute rest period between the first and second period, including in the semifinal and championship games. Any variation must be approved by the applicable Tournament Chair. See R. (3), page 31 of the 2018-2019 USA Hockey Tournament Guidebook for additional information.

Tier I 18 & Under- Ice shall be cleaned before each game and between each 20 minute period, including the semifinal and championship game. Any variation must be approved by the applicable Tournament Chair. See R. (3), page 31 of the 2018-2019 USA Hockey Tournament Guidebook for additional information.

Time of Periods

14 & Under	-	16 Minutes	18 & Under	-	20 Minutes
15 Only	-	17 Minutes	19 & Under	-	17 Minutes
16 & Under	-	17 Minutes	Women’s	-	15 Minutes



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Tiebreaker Rules

If two or more teams have an equal number of points, their position in the standings shall be determined by the following tiebreaking format. If one tie-breaker establishes a position for one or more teams, each team is placed in the applicable position. Once a team is placed, the remaining tied teams shall start the tiebreaking process over again at step 1. *(If all tied teams have not played each other, then proceed to step 2. Note: a team may go into the tiebreaking process having defeated another of the tied teams and still not advance).*

The tie-breaker formulas are as follows:

1. The results of the head-to-head games played between the tied teams in the following order:
 - a. Standings - Most points.
 - b. Most total wins (whether in regulation, overtime and shootout).
 - c. Differential - Subtracting goals scored against from goals scored in these games, the positions being determined in order of the greatest surplus.
 - d. Quotient - Dividing the goals scored in these games by the goals scored against, the positions being determined in order of the greatest quotient. A quotient involving dividing by zero (0) has higher standing than a quotient from dividing by any number other than zero. Where two or more teams have no goals against and the quotient tiebreaker is required, the teams shall be ranked high to low in descending order of "goals for."
2. If after applying the formulas of 1 a, b, c, or d the tie still exists, the results of all the games played by the teams tied in the following order.
 - a. Most total wins (whether in regulation, overtime and shootout).
 - b. Differential - Subtracting goals scored against from goals scored in these games, the positions being determined in order of the greatest surplus.
 - c. Quotient - Dividing the goals scored in these games by the goals scored against, the positions being determined in order of the greatest quotient. A quotient involving dividing by zero (0) has higher standing than a quotient from dividing by any number other than zero. Where two or more teams have no goals against and the quotient tiebreaker is required, the teams shall be ranked high to low in descending order of "goals for."
 - d. Most periods won - In the games played by each tied team, points will be awarded for each regulation period won (2 points) and for each regulation period tied (1 point). Positions shall be in the order of highest point total.
 - e. Quickest first goal - The team that scored the quickest goal in their preliminary round games shall be ranked highest.
3. If the above procedure does not break the tie, the teams shall use a shootout procedure as described on pages 33-34 of the 2018-2019 USA Hockey Tournament Guidebook.



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Note: Forfeits - If a team forfeits any of its games, and becomes involved in any tie-breaking formula to determine its eligibility to advance to the next level of play, the team forfeits all games in the round robin play and the games are recorded as 1-0 victories for the non-offending team.

See page 37 of the 2018-2019 USA Hockey Tournament Guidebook for additional information.

Overtime for Championship Games

1. The game shall be continued to determine a winner.
2. At the completion of the third period, there shall be a two (2) minute rest period before the start of the first overtime session.
3. All overtimes shall be equal to the length of the third period and shall be sudden death. Teams shall switch ends at the end of third period and each overtime period.
4. If the teams are still tied at the completion of the first overtime, the teams shall leave the ice and the ice shall be resurfaced. A second overtime period shall begin immediately following the ice resurfacing.
5. Following the second overtime, there shall be a two (2) minute rest period prior to the start of the third overtime session.
6. If the teams remain tied at the completion of the third overtime period, the teams shall leave the ice and the ice shall be resurfaced.
7. Thereafter, the foregoing process in items 1-6 shall be repeated until such time as a winner is determined by the competition.
8. In the Tier I 18 & Under classification, rather than a two (2) minute rest period prior to the first overtime and after the second overtime period, the ice shall be resurfaced prior to the first overtime and between each overtime period.

The Tournament Directors will determine ice resurfacing between overtime periods following the third overtime period.

Concussion Protocol

If the on-site EMT or trainer suspects that a player has a concussion, the following steps shall be taken:



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1. The athlete will be removed from play.
2. The athlete will be referred for evaluation by an appropriate health care professional. The on-site EMT or trainer will not try to judge the seriousness of the injury.
3. The athlete's parents or guardians will be informed about the known or possible concussion and given a fact sheet on concussion.
4. The athlete will be allowed to return to play **only** with permission from an appropriate health care professional.

Tournament Rules

1. Except as noted herein, the Tournament will be conducted in accordance with the Rules and Regulations for District Playoffs as published in the 2018-2019 USA Hockey Annual Guide and USA Hockey Tournament Guidebook.
2. All tournament games will be played under the USA Hockey Official Playing Rules of Ice Hockey.
3. All teams must have satisfactorily completed their credentials review prior to playing their first tournament game.
4. It is required that each team has a team representative (coach and/or manager) present at the appropriate meeting. Failure of a team to have its team representative present at the Coaches Meeting shall result in the suspension of the Head Coach from that team's first game of the tournament. See L. Opening Coaches/Manager Meeting, page 19 of the 2018-2019 USA Hockey Tournament Guidebook. All adults on the bench must have proper coaching certification, Safe Sport verification, a current background screening and be certified to the team roster for that team.
5. There is no goalie pool for the tournament. Teams are encouraged to arrive at the tournament with two (2) goalkeepers.
6. All teams are required to have two (2) complete sets of jerseys of opposing colors available for each and every game. The home team will wear white or light colored jerseys. If the jerseys selected by each team are deemed to be too close in color by the on-ice officials, the Tournament Directors and on-ice officials will select and decide which color jersey each team will wear.
7. Games may begin up to **15 minutes** prior to their scheduled start times. Teams are requested to be at the rink **60 minutes** prior to their game time and ready to play prior to the scheduled start time. If the game in progress on the ice surface where the teams are scheduled to play is running ahead of schedule, the next game will be started **15 minutes** early if the on-ice officials are available.



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8. All players and coaches **must** sign in **before** their first game, at the designated Tournament table.
9. Teams are requested to provide Penalty Box Keepers for each of their games. The Tournament Committee will provide Official Timekeepers and Scorers for all games.
10. It is the policy of USA Hockey that all Affiliates, Districts, leagues, and local hockey programs have at least one responsible adult present directly monitoring the locker room during all team events to assure that only participants (coaches and players), approved team personnel and family members are permitted in the locker room and to supervise the conduct in the locker room. Any individual meetings with a minor participant and a coach in a locker room shall require a responsible adult be with the coach. Each team is required to provide **locker room monitors** whenever players are in the locker room. All locker room monitors should be gender correct and meet the background screening requirements of their governing Affiliate. See USA Hockey SafeSport Program Handbook, Locker Room Policy.
11. All tournament Girls'/Women's games will consist of three (3) stop time periods of 16 minutes for 14 & Under, 17 minutes for 16 & Under, 17 minutes for 19 & Under and 15 minutes for Adult Women.
12. All Tournament Youth games will consist of three (3) stop time periods of 16 minutes for Tier I 14 & Under, 17 minutes for Tier I 15 only, 17 minutes for Tier I 16 & Under and 20 minutes for Tier I 18 & Under.
13. A five (5) minute warm-up period will be provided at the beginning of each game commencing at the scheduled start time of the game. Teams may not begin warm-ups until the on-ice officials are present on the ice surface.
14. Penalties will be two (2) minutes for a minor infraction, five (5) minutes for a major infraction and ten (10) minutes for a misconduct infraction.
15. Each team is permitted one time-out of 60 seconds, whether in regulation or overtime per USA Hockey Playing Rules.
16. Teams are required to play all round robin games. Any team not electing to play all of its scheduled round robin games is ineligible to advance to semi-final or championship games.
17. All games ending in a tie will be continued to determine a winner as previously stated under the **Overtime and Shootouts** section of this document.
18. All suspensions in effect prior to the tournament will be carried over until completed.
19. Abuse of on-ice officials, minor officials, tournament officials or rink staff by anyone, including but not limited to coaches, players, parents and spectators **WILL NOT BE TOLERATED**, and will be dealt with immediately by the Tournament Officials.



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20. All participants are expected to abide by the respective USA Hockey **Zero Tolerance Policy and Codes of Conduct.**
21. **Parents or spectators are not allowed on the ice surface after championship games.**



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DISCIPLINE COMMITTEE

Persons eligible to serve on the Discipline Committee are the Tournament Directors and the Affiliate Presidents or their designees. The Tournament Directors shall appoint a three (3) member Discipline Committee comprised of a Tournament Director and two (2) others as defined above.

The Committee shall be responsible for deciding any action, suspension or otherwise, to be taken against a player or team official to be served during the tournament in question. The committee shall have full power to increase the one or two game suspension imposed under Rule 404 (b), Game Misconduct.

The Committee shall have the authority to initiate action involving supplementary discipline against a player or team official whether or not it involves the playing rules, provided, however, that no suspension shall occur without first giving notice of the intended action and providing the opportunity for a hearing.

There shall be no hearing for a game misconduct unless deemed necessary by the Discipline Committee. The Discipline Committee shall hold a hearing on any match penalty prior to the team's next game.

All disciplinary action taken by the committee shall be reported to the home association of the team(s) involved for any further action at the home associations' discretion.

All actions taken by the Discipline Committee as a result of incidents occurring at the District Tournament must be reported within five (5) days to the Youth Council Chair; the National Championship Chair; and the respective Affiliate(s).

The National Championship Appeal Committee shall have the authority to review and take appropriate action on any incident in the District Championship. For any incident occurring in the last game of a team's, coach's or player's participation in the District Tournament, and the team, coach and/or player is scheduled to participate in a National Championship Tournament, then the National Championship Appeal Committee shall have jurisdiction and be responsible for determining the team's, coach's eligibility and any suspension for the National Championship Tournament.

The National Championship Discipline Appeals Committee shall be the sole authority in determining the eligibility of the individual(s) for the National Championships.

All suspensions incurred in the course of the national playdown schedule (i.e., in state or district playoffs) shall be served during regularly scheduled games of the championship playoff schedule. In no case, may such suspension(s) be served in a game occurring outside the championship playoff schedule, by scheduling a game not included in the national playdown configuration and having the player sit out that game.



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The District and National Discipline Committee's authority and the National Championship Appeals Committee's authority shall solely determine eligibility to participate in the applicable tournament, and any discipline that may extend beyond the applicable District or National Championship shall be referred to the applicable Affiliate Association.

If a player receives a major penalty during the District Tournament, the Discipline Committee shall review the player's status to ensure compliance with Rule 411 (Progressive Suspensions) and shall impose any required suspensions thereunder.

DISPUTES/OPERATION OF TOURNAMENT

1. The Southeastern District Tournament Chairperson in consultation with the presiding Affiliate President shall resolve pre-tournament disputes between the Tournament Director, the Host Committee and/or the District Referee-in-Chief.
2. After commencement of the first game, the District Referee-in-Chief or his appointee shall act as the final arbitrator in all disputes involving the interpretation of the playing rules.
3. For any other decision, other than playing rules interpretation, with regard to the operation of the tournament, (including Zero Tolerance, tournament play or conduct not in the best interest of hockey), the Tournament Director shall have the final authority to make the appropriate decision.
4. USA Hockey Officers, in all matters pertaining to tournament play, shall have the authority to adjust matters at any time in the best interest of the tournament and ice hockey in general.



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CODES OF CONDUCT

PARENTS CODE OF CONDUCT

- Do not force your children to participate in sports, but support their desires to play their chosen sports. Children are involved in organized sports for their enjoyment. Make it fun.
- Encourage your child to play by the rules. Remember, children learn best by example, so applaud the good plays of both teams.
- Do not embarrass your child by yelling at players, coaches or officials. By showing a positive attitude toward the game and all of its participants, your child will benefit.
- Emphasize skill development and practices and how they benefit your young athlete. De-emphasize games and competition in the lower age groups.
- Know and study the rules of the game and support the officials on and off the ice. This approach will help in the development and support of the game. Any criticism of the officials only hurts the game.
- Applaud a good effort in both victory and defeat, and enforce the positive points of the game. Never yell or physically abuse your child after a game or practice - it is destructive. Work toward removing the physical and verbal abuse in youth sports.
- Recognize the importance of volunteer coaches. They are important to the development of your child and the sport. Communicate with them and support them.
- If you enjoy the game, learn all you can about hockey - and volunteer.

PLAYERS CODE OF CONDUCT

- Play for fun.
- Work hard to improve your skills.
- Be a team player - get along with your teammates.
- Learn teamwork, sportsmanship and discipline.
- Be on time.
- Learn the rules and play by them. Always be a good sport.
- Respect your coach, your teammates, your parents, opponents and officials.
- Never argue with an official's decision.

SPECTATORS CODE OF CONDUCT

- Display good sportsmanship. Always respect players, coaches and officials.
- Act appropriately; do not taunt or disturb other fans; enjoy the game together.
- Cheer good plays of all participants; avoid booing opponents.
- Cheer in a positive manner and encourage fair play; profanity and objectionable cheers or gestures are offensive.
- Help provide a safe and fun environment; throwing any items on the ice surface can cause injury to players and officials.
- Do not lean over or pound on the glass; the glass surrounding the ice surface is part of the playing area.
- Support the referees and coaches by trusting their judgment and integrity.



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- Be responsible for your own safety - be alert to prevent accidents from flying pucks and other avoidable situations.
- Respect locker rooms as private areas for players, coaches and officials.
- Be supportive after the game - win or lose. Recognize good effort, teamwork and sportsmanship.

ZERO TOLERANCE POLICY

PLAYERS

A minor penalty for unsportsmanlike conduct (zero tolerance) shall be assessed whenever a player:

1. Openly disputes or argues any decision by an official.
2. Uses obscene or vulgar language at any time, including any swearing, even if it is not directed at a particular person.
3. Visually demonstrates any sign of dissatisfaction with an official's decision. Any time that a player persists in any of these actions, they shall be assessed a misconduct penalty. A game misconduct shall result if the player continues such action.

COACHES

A minor penalty for unsportsmanlike conduct (zero tolerance) shall be assessed whenever a coach:

1. Openly disputes or argues any decision by an official.
2. Uses obscene or vulgar language in a boisterous manner to anyone at any time.
3. Visually displays any sign of dissatisfaction with an official's decision including standing on the boards or standing in the bench doorway with the intent of inciting the officials, players or spectators.

Any time that a coach persists in any of these actions, he/she shall be assessed a game misconduct penalty.

PARENTS/SPECTATORS

The game will be stopped by game officials when parents/spectators displaying inappropriate and disruptive behavior interfere with other spectators of the game. The game officials will identify violators to the coaches for the purpose of removing parents/spectators from the spectator's viewing and game area. Once removed, play will resume. Lost time will not be replaced and violators may be subject to further disciplinary action by the Tournament Discipline Committee. This inappropriate and disruptive behavior shall include:

1. Use of obscene or vulgar language in a boisterous manner to anyone at any time.
2. Taunting of players, coaches, officials or other spectators by means of baiting, ridiculing, threat of physical violence or physical violence.
3. Throwing of any object in the spectators viewing area, player's bench, penalty box or on ice surface, directed in any manner as to create a safety hazard.