

No Fighting & No Taunting Policy for the Novice Adult Coed Hockey League (NACHL)

(last updated 2021-12-25)

The quintessential, foundational, most basic idea behind this league is to HAVE FUN while learning and playing ice hockey. So here are some truths:

- There will be times when we all get frustrated and upset.
- You will lose the puck.
- You will get hit by others accidentally.
- You will miss that absolute sitter of a goal.
- The other team will score on your team and maybe more than one.
- There will be a scramble for the puck and someone else will win it.
- The referees will “blow a call” or get it absolutely right but you don’t know why.
- The other team will celebrate their successes - including goals.

Here are the expectations:

- Understand that you will not always get the call.
- It’s better to talk and ask questions than to lose your temper.
- You will understand that a good play is a good play.
- Celebrate everyone’s successes - if an opposing player scores a great goal, celebrate it!!
- The locker rooms will be coed and that you will treat your teammates respectfully.

The following actions will be considered fighting:

- hitting/ punching anyone involved in the league at any time
- dropping your gloves
- putting your fists up/ getting ready to fight
- swinging your stick at anyone maliciously

The following actions will be considered taunting (in hockey parlance this is called “chirping”):

- talking to anyone in a negative manner
 - sensitive topics are a player’s play or skill, gender, ethnicity, sexual orientation or other personal topics
- even if you are “just kidding” the other player may not know you are kidding or their teammate may not know as well

Team coordinators are expected to coach and even discipline players as needed. If a coordinator believes that it is best that you skip a shift or the rest of the game, they are charged with this responsibility.

The League Officials will have access to Live Barn and we will be able to go back and watch a game to have a more objective understanding of the event. We will be in communication with the officials, the team coordinators and the players involved if it is deemed necessary.

If a player initiates a fight or engages in taunting behavior or language that is racist, homophobic or derides another player based on their ethnicity, they will be expelled from the league.

Penalties beyond what is administered during the game maybe:

- a meeting with the league officials before your next game
- a one-game suspension (if you are ejected from a game, you will sit at least one game)
- a multi-game suspension (if you are ejected from a game, it may warrant a multi-game suspension)
- ejection from the league with no refund of league fees paid (for fighting, malicious play, multiple suspensions (even if they occur in multiple seasons)
- being banned from future participation in the league

A message from the League Commissioner: I hope that these disciplinary actions never need to be taken. I want all players to look forward to coming to play hockey with excitement and not fear. I have played in leagues where we dread/ fear playing against an individual or a team, and that sucks. I want everyone to look forward to playing each week and each session. If you have any issues that you would like to discuss with me, please reach out via e-mail: nachl.commish@gmail.com