



Ontario Hockey Federation
3 Concorde Gate, Suite 212
Toronto, Ont. M3C 3N7
Tel: (416) 426-7249
Fax: (416) 426-7347
www.ohf.on.ca

News Release (NR 11.05)
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Release Date: May 4, 2011

OHF Removes Body Checking from Recreational Hockey

The Ontario Hockey Federation's (OHF) Minor Council met on Friday April 29th to discuss the minor programs and among the topics was body checking in recreational hockey.

The OHF Minor Council unanimously endorsed the following motion:

Effective the 2011 – 2012 season body checking will be removed from all age divisions of House League and House League Select hockey.

House League and House League Select make up the majority of the OHF playing membership. The majority of House League hockey was already non body checking, which made it practical to standardize the rule across the entire membership. The extension of this decision to House League Select was similarly practical since Select teams are formed out of House League registered hockey players.

The OHF continues to review the delivery of all levels of hockey in order to create a safe and fun environment for all of its participants. Removing body checking at House League and House League Select is a positive decision for player recruitment and safety.

The removal creates a safer environment for new players that join the game at any age to develop the fundamental skills of skating and puck handling without the concern of being intentionally hit by another player.

At the end of the day hockey is a sport intended to give health benefits and life lessons to participants, and the OHF wants to highlight these core attributes of the game. With this new rule change, more players and parents will feel safer in these leagues and bring the focus back to the basics of the 'good old hockey game'.

The OHF is one of three Hockey Canada Branches operating in the Province of Ontario and is the largest of all thirteen across Canada. The OHF is comprised of seven Member Partners and has a membership base that represents over forty percent of Hockey Canada.

- 30 -

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Phil McKee
Executive Director
Ontario Hockey Federation
Phone: (416) 426-7413
Email: pmckee@ohf.on.ca

Lisa McInerney
Coordinator - Communications, Marketing & Events
Ontario Hockey Federation
Phone: (416) 426-7022
Email: lmcinerney@ohf.on.ca

ONTARIO HOCKEY FEDERATION

3 Concorde Gate, Suite 212 Toronto, Ontario M3C 3N7

T: 416 426.7249 F: 416 426.7347

www.ohf.on.ca

News Release (NR 11.07)
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Release Date: August 11, 2011

Minor Council Changes Head Checking Penalties

The OHF Minor Council endorsed changes to minimum suspensions for head contact penalties from those previously publicized in NR 11.06 for the Minor and Double Minor penalties.

- The penalty for accidental contact under rule 6.5 (a) will be a Minor Penalty with no additional suspension.
- The penalty for intentional contact under rule 6.5 (b) will be a Double Minor Penalty with no additional suspension.
- The Major Penalty will remain the same as indicated in NR 11.06 which is a GM72 (game misconduct: plus three (3) additional games for first offence; plus four (4) additional games for second offence; and an indefinite suspension for the third offence in the same season).
- The Match Penalty will remain the same as indicated in NR 11.06 which is a MP72 (game misconduct: plus four (4) additional games for the first offence; and an indefinite suspension for the second offence in the same season).

These adjustments were made based on the samples Hockey Canada provided on different types of head contact and the penalties that should be called with them. Hockey Canada also provided video footage of accidental and incidental head contact to provide further clarification. A stand was taken by the OHF to adjust these penalties so we can balance the importance of education on these infractions while maintaining the development of players in the game at all ages. The OHF will review the rules at the end of the 2011 – 2012 season and evaluate the outcome of these changes. For further resources, please visit hockeycanada.ca/headcontactrule.

The OHF is one of three Hockey Canada Branches operating in the Province of Ontario and is the largest of all thirteen across Canada. The OHF is comprised of seven Member Partners and has a membership base that represents over forty percent of Hockey Canada.

- 30 -

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Phil McKee
Executive Director
Ontario Hockey Federation
Phone: (416) 426-7413
Email: pmckee@ohf.on.ca

Lisa McInerney
Coordinator - Communications, Marketing & Events
Ontario Hockey Federation
Phone: (416) 426-7022
Email: lmcinerney@ohf.on.ca

ONTARIO HOCKEY FEDERATION

3 Concorde Gate, Suite 212 Toronto, Ontario M3C 3N7

T: 416 426.7249 **F:** 416 426.7347

www.ohf.on.ca

Body Checking in Tournaments within OHF Policy

The OHF Minor Council passed a motion in April that states "Body checking be removed from House League (and House League Select) hockey effective the 2011 – 2012 season." With regards to the discussion in June on how OHF House League and House League Select nonbody checking teams would participate in body checking tournaments as well as teams from USA Hockey and Hockey Quebec which introduce body checking at Minor Bantam, Minor council came to the conclusion that:

OHF teams hosting a tournament at PeeWee Hockey that accept non body checking teams, (with the exception of representative teams from USA Hockey entering representative tournaments) must make the division of the tournament those teams are participating in nonbody checking. The organizers have the option to accept or refuse a non-body checking team.

In the contrary, any non-body checking teams within the OHF shall not be allowed to participate in body checking tournaments. If a non-checking team does participate in a checking tournament they would be subject to disciplinary action by their Member Partner.