

To: All Division Managers, Referee in Chief, SDMHA Executive, Head Coaches, Team Managers

FM: Harold Grabowski - Risk Manager – SDMHA

Subject: Risk Management Initiatives -- Yellow Card and Player/Parent Contracts

The South Delta Minor Hockey Association has adopted portions of the “Team First” program as laid out by Hockey Canada and the British Columbia Hockey Association. The purpose of the Player /Parent Contract initiative is to create awareness, among all participants, for the need to properly conduct themselves at all times, on and off the ice, when involved in a SDMHA sanctioned event. Discussion of the content of these contracts offers an excellent opportunity for the team (with parents) to focus on the goals of fair play and respect. The protection of our children and fostering their enjoyment of the great game of hockey is paramount.

It should be noted that all bench staff, players, and on ice officials will be asked to sign their contracts. Team Managers (and the RIC) will be responsible to collect and retain the signed Player /Parent contracts. Your support with this worthwhile initiative is appreciated.

The SDMHA executive believes that responsible behavior at the rink is generally the norm. However, exceptions do occur. It is for those exemptions, that we are introducing “Yellow Cards”. The intent of these Yellow Cards is to minimize, whenever possible, the negative behavior that takes away from the enjoyment of the hockey game for both the participants and spectators. Team Managers will receive 3 Yellow cards (more are available if required).

How it Works?

- 1) Every team will receive player, parent contracts and team official contracts for review and signature. The contracts will go out with the Referee monies. Team Official contracts should be returned to your divisional for their retention (and review as required).
- 2) Each Team Manager will be responsible for collecting and retaining the Player /Parent contracts to year-end. These contracts can be reviewed as required throughout the year.
- 3) PDF file copies will be in the SDMHA Policies and Procedures manual as well as under the “What’s New” on the SDMHA Website.
- 4) Yellow cards can discreetly be handed out, by team personnel or on ice official, to any unruly fan.

Please feel free to contact me via e-mail at: haroldgrabowski@yahoo.com if you have any questions.