



At the USA Hockey Annual Meeting in June 2006 the Board of Directors passed the following policy;

All ice hockey coaches and instructors of registered USA Hockey youth/high school, disabled, girls/women's 19 & under and below programs must properly wear an approved ice hockey helmet during all on-ice sessions, including practices, controlled scrimmages and coaches and referee clinics (seminars). This is on page 134 of the 2006-2007 USA Hockey Annual Guide

The responsibility for the enforcement of USA Hockey policies falls with the Affiliate. The Affiliate may delegate its authority to a local association/league. In the case of the coach/instructor helmet requirement, we recommend that the Association ACE Coordinator/Coaching Director instruct all coaches/instructors on the policy, explaining the origin and purpose of the policy.

The P.A.H.L. has adopted the following guidelines for enforcement of the Helmet Policy as suggested by the Youth Council Helmet Policy Enforcement Sub-Committee. These guidelines are to be enforced by the Association Board members of the Associations within P.A.H.L.

First Offense: A verbal reminder of the policy and the penalty for non-compliance.

Second Offense: A written warning of the policy and sanctions that could occur if the policy is not followed.

Third Offense: A two game suspension. At the option of the local suspending authority (PAHL) the offending coach may be allowed to practice with the team during this suspension as long as he/she wears a helmet.

Fourth Offense: As per bylaw 10. (c) Annual Guide. Notification on Helmet Policy violations pending a hearing by the Affiliate or suspending authority- disciplinary hearing must be held within 7 days of notification of the violation. Suspensions should not be for less than 30 days.

This **must** be strictly enforced by the member associations within P.A.H.L. The Affiliate (Mid American District) may sanction the local association/league for not properly enforcing USA Hockey and Affiliate policies.