

SAFETY COMMITTEE (SC) REPORT - AGM Oct 7, 2025

Committee Members: Chair, Chris Bright, Bart Chudleigh, Kevin Kobelka, Gary Makar, Karen Pirie

Staff Support: Kevin Kobelka

Subject Matter Expert – Children's Mental Health: Sue Makarchuck

2024-2025 saw the successful completion of a pilot with <u>Connect Sports</u> <u>https://connectsport.ca/</u> Three associations took part: NWW, Northstars, Glenlake.

The <u>on-line educational program</u> is designed for coaches to become better educated on mental health challenges players may be facing. The goal is to help coaches recognize when an athlete may be showing signs of mental health distress, and how to access help.

For the **2025-2026 season**, Hockey Calgary has implemented the program for 2 coaches per team to take this subject matter expert training.

Associations will also have the opportunity to offer it to parents at a cost. Connect Sports will be the administrative lead for the program and delivery for both coaches and parents.

National and Provincial News of Interest for HC and the Safety Committee

Future of Sport Commission Canada

The FSCC's ultimate mandate is to provide recommendations to the Government of Canada on ways to improve the sport system in Canada, with more funding and creating a safer sport sector.

Areas of interest for HC are,

- 1. Infrastructure opportunities for a city with aging arenas and a growing demand on ice-times.
- 2. Safe Sport alignment, federally, provincially and at the community sport organization level.

Alberta's Fairness and Safety in Sport Act (Bill 29)

https://www.alberta.ca/system/files/ts-fairness-and-safety-in-sport-fact-sheet.pdf

- In effect Sept 1, 2025 for "in-scope" entities (HC is included via Hockey Alberta membership)
- Currently monitoring developments/eligibility challenges for Girls HC, ages 12-18
 - Boards of in-scope entities are required to report challenges regarding eligibility to the Minister of Tourism and Sport within 3 business-days of receipt. Boards must also report the results of the challenge within 30 business days of a challenge being made. It is expected that challenges will be resolved within a 30 business-day period