

**Date:** Oct. 10, 2013 #1309  
**To:** Association President's & Administrator's  
**From:** Kevin Kobelka – Executive Director  
**CC:** HC Board of Directors

**SUBJECT: Game & Conduct – Rule 9.2 Discriminatory Comments**

Over the past few years a disturbing trend has emerged regarding discriminatory slurs being overheard more frequently by officials.

This particular infraction 9.2(f) accounted for a large portion of the disciplinary hearings heard by the Special Committee last year. Please be advised that this issue should be addressed at the team level, by the coaches, at the beginning of each season to ensure players understand the repercussions of the action.

*Rule 9.2*

*(f) Any player or team official who engages in verbal taunts, insults or intimidation based on discriminatory grounds (race, ethnicity, religion, gender, sexual orientation, language) shall be assessed a Gross Misconduct penalty and the Referee shall report full details of the incident to the President.*

This infraction is deemed an indefinite suspension which will first require a disciplinary hearing at Hockey Calgary offices, and then a recommendation sent on to Hockey Alberta. Coaches and Players should be aware that this is a significant suspension and the average length of suspension handed down by Hockey Alberta can range from 4 - 12 games depending on the outcome. Coaches need to educate their teams, but participants have to take responsibility and stop this discriminatory behavior, or be prepared to face the consequences.

If you have any further questions please contact Jill Cameron – Director Game & Conduct and she will be able to clarify.

Regards,



Kevin Kobelka  
Executive Director