



HOCKEY CALGARY

INFORMATION BULLETIN

Date: October 27, 2015
To: Association Presidents
From: Kevin Kobelka – Executive Director
CC: HC Governors, Ian Corkin, Beth Long

#1509

SUBJECT: Mouth Guard Policy - Reminder

As we kick off the 2015-16 season there have been a number of questions regarding the 'Mouth Guard Policy' within Hockey Calgary. I will attempt to clarify it below.

In 2013, Hockey Alberta Officials Committee released a statement noting the following:

- Hockey Alberta does not have a rule or regulation that mandates the use of a mouth guard for any division or category of hockey
- Officials will only enforce 'Hockey Canada' playing rules
- They would not enforce any league, club or MHA mouth guard rules that are in addition to the Hockey Canada playing rules

Hockey Calgary has the ability to strengthen the rules as it pertains to player safety. The board of directors made a motion at the 2013 Fall AGM, (Oct. 22, 2013), to maintain (and revise slightly) the regulation as it pertains to the wearing of mouth guards. The motion was approved, and passed unanimously, and reads as follows:

11 Mouth Guards

All Streams:

(a) The use of mouth guard is mandatory for all players from Novice to Junior. The term mouth guard is defined as a device, commercially manufactured for the purpose of protecting a player's mouth and teeth. The mouth guard must be worn during all games and practices.

(b) Coaches are asked to monitor their player's for the use of mouth guards for the purpose of minimizing dental and mouth injuries.

(c) Teams from outside of Calgary who are not required to wear mouth guards in their home Association are exempt from wearing them while playing in games that have been sanctioned by Hockey Calgary.

As such there is '**no in game penalty for not wearing a mouth guard**', but we ask that all teams abide by this rule and that team officials reinforce the wearing of mouth guards. The league chairs and league governors are aware of this rule and will be monitoring and reminding teams of the importance of adhering to the rule to ensure player safety. **Please note that Goalies are exempt from this rule.**

If a team continues to disregard this rule additional sanctions may be put in place for that team.