



Hockey Canada

Discussion on: Body Checking

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Dr. Stephen Norris . . .

“ . . . body checking in minor hockey is an extremely complex issue and simple answers are not possible.”



Hockey Canada's 6 Priorities . . .

- ❖ *Hockey Canada Officers identified body checking to be one of 6 priorities.*
- ❖ *Every effort is being made to insure that parents and players have a choice to play in either a non-body checking or a body checking environment.*



Education . . .

- ❖ *Hockey is a collision sport and there will be contact, but competing in a non-body checking may reduce the incidence of injuries*
- ❖ *There are additional steps required to make the playing environment safer for all participants.*



Player Safety and Enjoyment . . .

- ❖ *Education*

- ❖ *Coaches*

- ❖ *Parents*

- ❖ *Officials*

- ❖ *Risk and Safety Programs*

- ❖ *Player Skill Development*

- ❖ *Game Management*

- ❖ *Coaches*

- ❖ *Officials*

- ❖ *Equipment*



Injuries and Risk Assessment

“We know there will be injuries in hockey (and sport in general). We need to ask two questions.”

- 1. What is acceptable risk?*
- 2. Are we adding unwarranted risk to youth in hockey?*



Position on Research

- ❖ *body checking remains a focal point for minor hockey in Canada*
- ❖ *all research on the subject is welcome and allows for a “broader” perspective of information to support the decision making process*
- ❖ *Hockey Canada and the member Branches strive to provide a safe and positive environment for all participants involved in hockey*

Position on Research

- ❖ *Players, coaches, officials, and parents all play a key role in ensuring the hockey environment is safe and enjoyable*
- ❖ *Hockey Canada continues to promote excellent resource material to support coaches, players, officials, and parents in understanding body checking*



Branch Inventory

- ❖ *Ontario Hockey Federation*
- ❖ *House League Hockey*
- ❖ *BC Hockey*
- ❖ *Pacific Coast Hockey Association*
- ❖ *Hockey Quebec*



Hockey Canada's 6 Priorities . . .

- ❖ *More and more it is about choice – the choice to play in either a non-body checking or a body checking environment.*
- ❖ *Larger centers can meet this goal*
- ❖ *Small rural centers may not have the registration volume to provide two streams*



Hockey Canada

Contact Information

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