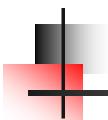


Hockey Canada



Discussion on: Body Checking

Paul Carson

VP Hockey Development



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 nonbody 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

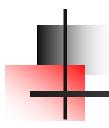




Hockey Canada's 6 Priorities . . .

- 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

Paul Carson, VP Hockey Development

Hockey Canada

pcarson@hockeycanada.ca

