



DVHL Zero Tolerance Policy

As a result of the COVID-19 Pandemic there will be a greater emphasis on misbehavior AFTER THE WHISTLE. It is necessary that the DVHL restate and enforce USA Hockey's Zero Tolerance policy as it applies to Players, Coaches, Officials and Spectators. We do not believe anyone can argue that incidents such as these degrade our great game and must be stopped, especially during these difficult times.

We want to be clear on the purpose of addressing Zero Tolerance. It is our intent to stop the verbal & physical activity after the whistle. All other game activity will be handled by the official in the same manner.

Many of the problems that we have been experiencing in youth hockey are related to verbal and physical confrontations after the whistle. One official described this as misbehavior that 'elevates the temperature' of the game. Again this season, the official will instruct players who are involved in a verbal confrontation to stop immediately. ANY further verbal dispute will be penalized in accordance with the playing rules. Prior to the game the officials will remind both benches of the DVHL Zero Tolerance policy, and any further incidences of verbal behavior will be penalized.

Physical confrontations after the whistle of any kind will be dealt with immediately. There will be a very strict ZERO TOLERANCE of **physical** contact after the whistle. The aggressor of such behavior will be penalized for their actions.