



BULLETIN

Issue # 2018 -004-I

February 16, 2018

TO: VIAHA Membership
FROM: Jim Humphrey, VIAHA President
SUBJECT: Zero Tolerance Policy

A recent alcohol fueled altercation in a hotel accommodating VIAHA teams during an Island League Tournament on Vancouver Island has brought discredit upon Minor Hockey.

All Minor Hockey Association members are reminded to read VIAHA Policy 1.20 (available on-line) which states that VIAHA shall follow BC Hockey's Zero Tolerance Policy regarding Controlled Drugs and Substances/Alcohol. Policy 1.20 (b) further states consumption in and around the arena or while away from home with a team is not acceptable. This applies to all members on a road trip.

Adult alcohol guidelines are found in VIAHA Policy Manual Section 9.12 stating that "in addition to the zero tolerance policy regarding Minors, BC Hockey acknowledges there are certain situations when the responsible use of alcohol by adults is acceptable, assuming the implementation of "responsible parameters". This would mean a licensed venue such as a restaurant, but not in an unlicensed venue such as a hotel accommodation.

Alcohol is not appropriate:

- In dressing rooms or in public, non-licensed areas
- In team settings with minors in attendance
- In situations where minors are left unsupervised while adults attend "hospitality" type settings or where alcohol is not controlled by a server
- Consumption in buses or cars when travelling to and from an event
- By adults of a minor team when parents are not present
- Consumed by anyone at minor team parties hosted by other players, parents or team officials
- If forced on another person
- If used for "chugging" contests or as a form of hazing or initiation for rookies

To summarize consumption of alcohol should be limited to licensed premises when team players are not present. Supervision and conduct of the players are the responsibility of the team officials who should never consume alcohol on road trips.

Yours sincerely,

Jim Humphrey
VIAHA President