

## **Risk Manager Report September 25, 2019**

It has been an enjoyable season so far. I have not received any complaints or incidents to investigate up to this point.

However....an incident which occurred to one of the association's officials has caused me to look into the possibility of a before unrecognised liability risk.

When it comes to injured players, the association has a clear policy outlining their return to practices and/or games.

*INJURED PLAYER RETURN TO PLAY POLICY Coaches and association officials are well aware of the variety of injuries that occur to players and they know that despite all attempts to remove risk, injuries can happen.*

*Team Officials should not force a player to play after they are injured or play a player without a medical certificate following illness or injury.*

*When an injury that prevents a player from participating in regularly scheduled practices or games occurs, it is essential that a medical certificate from a physician authorizing the player's return to active participation be presented to a team or association official.*

*Team officials should not allow an injured player to be on the players' bench during a game or practice without Hockey Canada / BC Hockey required protective equipment.*

However, what does this association have in place for allowing team officials to return to their sometimes stressful duties if they have been absent from their position due to medical reasons. If they return to the position before being medically fit, are they putting their health and the welfare of the players at risk? I would recommend that this association have a conversation around the possibility of this liability.