



# BC HOCKEY RISK MGT BULLETIN

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**TO:** Membership  
**FROM:** Lochie Bell, BC Hockey Risk Manager  
**SUBJECT:** Injured Player Return to Play Policy

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Please note the following BC Hockey Policy with respect to injured participants returning to play:

## **1.22 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.

Further to the above, we also encourage Members to review Hockey Canada's special web platform that provides numerous resources for minor hockey associations, participants, parents and volunteers to assist with the implementation of the new head contact rule. Resources posted at [www.HockeyCanada.ca/HeadContactRule](http://www.HockeyCanada.ca/HeadContactRule) include:

- Hockey Canada's Head Contact Rule 6.5
- Hockey Canada videos, including:
  - Examples of acceptable and unacceptable contact under the new rule
  - An equipment fitting demonstration
- Printable resources, such as:
  - A head contact rules poster
- A head contact awareness handout
- The Hockey Canada approved concussion card
- The Hockey Canada Rule Book
- The Think First SMART HOCKEY video

Should you have any questions, please contact your Safety and Risk Management Committee Member, District or Divisional Director.