

RISK AND SAFETY MANAGEMENT

Risk and Safety Management continues to be an important area of responsibility for everyone in hockey. At various levels of the game, various committees and groups are studying topics such as arena air quality, concussion prevention and education, parents in the game, out-of-country medical insurance and Directors' and Officers' liability insurance, financial responsibility, job descriptions, privacy and many other topics.

- Dr. Mark Goldberg from the McGill University Health Centre submitted information regarding heart failure among adult hockey players. The presentation emphasized the reduction of this health risk and this information will be considered for inclusion in future information for adult recreational hockey. Copies of this study are available from the OWHA office.
- In response to arena air quality concerns that have surfaced this season, the Canadian Recreation Facilities Council (CRFC) and the Ontario Recreation Facilities Association (ORFA) are valuable resources for information. The ORFA web site is www.orfa.com. It is reported that there is a wealth of information across Canada with respect to air quality.
- With respect to female players playing the game while pregnant, the discussion of policy and guidelines is one of uncertainty. Currently Hockey Canada recommends that any player pregnant plays under the advice of a physician. Further research on this will be done.
- The Safety Requires Teamwork book will take on a new look for 2005-2006 as a new cover design is introduced. The Safety for All-Bullying, Harassment and Abuse Parent guide has also been revised. The insurance information and risk and safety management information will be revised by the committee for the 2006-2007 season.

CHEVROLET SAFE AND FUN PROGRAM

The Chevrolet Safe and Fun Program is a key component of the Parent Education Committee's ongoing planning and continues to deliver events, promotion and education to not only young players but also to their parents, emphasizing Respect and Responsibility. The Safe and Fun program continues to grow across Canada. Parent Seminar Kits are available free of charge through the Chevrolet Safe and Fun Program or by contacting the OWHA office.

SPEAK OUT!

The revision of the Speak Out promotional and educational materials, including the addition of bullying and clarification of harassment has been completed. These materials will be introduced in September 2005. The revision process has also included changes to the Speak Out video, specifically adding a scenario on bullying and a revised scenario on harassment to the program. The new information will be introduced to Speak Out Facilitators by conference call in June and to the Branches through the summer of 2005. Speak Out Facilitators trained or updated last summer will also be updated on the new material.

The next step in the revision process will be to adjust the modules in the Hockey Canada Safety Program and the Officials Program. The completion of these modules is targeted for September 2006.