



I'm writing to express concern about how officials are being treated within the District 4. Recently, officials—many of them youth and wearing a green armband — have faced disrespectful behaviour from spectators, coaches, players and team staff.

With playoffs approaching, it's especially important that officials feel supported and safe. The intensity of playoff games often increases tensions, and without clear expectations and strong backing from the Association, officials may face even more pressure and mistreatment. Ensuring a respectful environment now will help the playoffs run smoothly and maintain a positive experience for all participants.

Officials are essential to a safe and positive hockey environment. When they are mistreated, it discourages them from continuing and affects the overall experience for players and families. Without officials minor hockey cannot happen.

I encourage the Association to reinforce conduct expectations, provide clearer support for officials, and take stronger action when behaviour crosses the line.

HEO Policy 6.44 - [644-spectator-zero-tolerance-abuse-policy.pdf](#) should be followed. If there is anyone who crosses the line, they should receive a cold arena suspension for a period of time in which your association feels is appropriate.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. I hope we can work toward a more respectful and supportive environment for all.

Sincerely,

Amanda Waterfield
District Chair
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