



## MISSISSAUGA HOCKEY LEAGUE

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### MHL Memorandum

To: Area Association Presidents  
From: Brad Norris  
Date: Tuesday, March 18, 2008  
Re: Cyber-Bulling  
cc: MHL Board of Directors

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The issue of Cyber-Bullying was recently reviewed in the Greater Toronto Hockey League (GTHL) resulting in development of a new policy and sanctions for any individuals identified as violating the policy. This same issue of Cyber-Bullying has also increased in prevalence in the MHL over the duration of the 2007-08 season. Many on-line forums, including Facebook have produced a positive environment for discussion and are deemed to be in good taste; however there are many identified sites that are not being utilized with this same decorum.

The GTHL has already taken action against several players because of discriminatory language and threats that were posted utilizing Facebook. The Mississauga Hockey League will be following the lead of the GTHL in regards to these indiscretions.

#### MHL CYBER-BULLYING POLICY

Please distribute this bulletin to ALL teams advising players AND parents that:

- 1) The MHL is aware of indiscretions of certain players and team officials on this site and will be taking appropriate action against players.
- 2) The league expects that, by April 1, 2008, any MHL player or team official who has posted comments that could be considered discriminatory or threatening in nature shall remove those comments.
- 3) If, after April 1, 2008, the MHL becomes aware of any threatening or discriminatory posting on Facebook or any similar site, the player, team official or other person posting them will be subject to immediate suspension or other appropriate discipline, regardless of when the posting was made. This is an extremely sensitive and important issue.

It is likely that parents of players involved are not aware of these situations and should review them with their children.

Please be sure that this information is provided to each player and parent in your Association, so that they can take any necessary action to remove postings that are inappropriate and thus do not incur suspensions or other discipline.

