

# **Thunder Bay Women's Hockey**

## **Rep Division**

### **Tobacco Free Policy**

#### **Rationale**

The Rep Division of the Thunder Bay Women's Hockey Association recognizes the serious health risks associated with tobacco use and that tobacco use is the single most preventable cause of death in Canada. It also recognizes the significant health risks associated with second hand smoke. Further it acknowledges that young people who do not start using tobacco by the age of 18 will most likely never start.

The Rep Division also acknowledges its leadership role in the sport of women's hockey and aims to be a positive role model for young women involved in the game of hockey. Further, it recognizes that the player members of the Rep Division teams are role models for younger girls in the community, and as such can be a powerful influence on the lifestyle choices of those girls.

The Rep Division believes that becoming a tobacco free organization is conducive to its goals of creating a healthy, family friendly environment for young hockey players, and of creating a positive image of women's hockey in the community.

#### **Definition**

For the purposes of this policy, tobacco is defined to include any lit or unlit form of cigarette, cigar, or pipe, as well as spit tobacco, smokeless tobacco, snuff, dip, and chew. Tobacco use includes smoking, chewing, dipping, and any other use of tobacco products.

#### **Scope**

This policy applies to all TBWHA Rep Division players, coaches, managers, trainers, game officials, Board members, and all persons acting in any official capacity for a Rep Division team or the organization as a whole.

#### **Policy**

The use of tobacco products is prohibited by all affected personnel when involved in any Rep Division activity. This includes games, practices, dryland training, banquets, and any activity planned, organized or coordinated by the Rep Division and its member teams. This ban also includes related activities such as conferences and clinics, media interviews, fundraising, and all other activities while acting as a member of a Rep Division team. It also applies at all times in public when wearing any apparel identifying one as a member of the Rep Division or one of its teams.

In addition, The Rep Division strongly discourages the use of tobacco products at any time. Every effort will be made to provide education to prevent the initiation of tobacco use and to assist those requiring help to quit.

## **Procedures**

This policy will be communicated to all players, coaches, trainers, and managers and be posted on the Rep Division website. It will be included as part of the Rep Division Policies and Procedures Manual.

## **Compliance**

Compliance with this policy is the responsibility of every member of the organization, including but not limited to players, coaches, trainers, managers, parents, and Board members. Any person affected by this policy as defined under 'Scope' who is found to be using tobacco products when this policy is in effect should be politely reminded of the policy and asked to dispose of the tobacco product. Failure to comply must be reported to the Rep Division Director and will result in an appropriate penalty assessed by the Rep Division Board of Directors.

## **Contacts**

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