



Body-Checking Update

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2019 WAS NOT A RULES YEAR

**COMMITTED TO DOING THE RIGHT
THING**

CHANGING THE CULTURE OF THE GAME



**THERE CONTINUES TO BE A
STRONG PUSH FROM DOCTORS
AND LEGISLATORS
THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY
TO LEGISLATE THE AGE IN
WHICH CHILDREN CAN PLAY
CONTACT IN ALL SPORTS.**



AMERICAN ACADEMY OF PEDIATRICS 2019

- **THE AMERICAN ACADEMY OF PEDIATRICS CONTINUES ITS' RECOMMENDATION TO LIMIT CHECKING IN HOCKEY PLAYERS 15 YEARS OF AGE AND YOUNGER AS A MEANS TO REDUCE INJURIES**
- **BECAUSE OF ONGOING CONCERNS THAT A HIGH NUMBER AND PROPORTION OF BOYS' ICE HOCKEY INJURIES ARE ATTRIBUTABLE TO BODY CHECKING, THE AAP, IN THE CONTINUED INTEREST OF PROMOTING BOYS' YOUTH ICE HOCKEY AS A SAFE, LIFELONG RECREATIONAL PURSUIT, THE AAP RECOMMENDS THE EXPANSION OF NON-CHECKING PROGRAMS FOR BOYS AGED 15 YEARS AND OLDER.**
- **THE AAP ASKS THAT PEDIATRICIANS ADVOCATE FOR DEVELOPMENT OF THESE PROGRAMS IN THEIR COMMUNITIES AND ENCOURAGE THEIR PATIENTS TO PARTICIPATE IN THEM.**



MAYO CLINIC 2019

- Hockey researchers unveiled new recommendations to eliminate body checking in Bantam youth hockey games
- Expanding the Fair Play behavioral modification program to all youth hockey levels
- Enforcing ejection penalties for fighting in Junior 'A' and professional hockey leagues
- Establishing objective tests to diagnose concussion at the point of care
- Mandate baseline testing to improve concussion diagnosis



**THERE IS A
MAJOR EMPHASIS
AMONG YOUTH SPORT LEADERS
TO MAKE ALL
YOUTH SPORTS
MORE SAFE.**



USA HOCKEY JOINT ACTION & COMMUNICATION PLAN

**OFFICIATING
COACHING EDUCATION PROGRAM
HOCKEY DEPARTMENT
YOUTH COUNCIL
PLAYER DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT
MEMBERSHIP/REGISTRATION**



- **USA Hockey does not believe we should change the age in which full body checking is allowed in hockey.**
- **An age change was discussed as part of our due diligence within checking sub-committees prior to our January 2019 meetings.**
- **USA Hockey has not considered this a viable option since our January 2019 meeting.**



- **USA Hockey does believe we must take steps to make our game safer while still developing players for the highest levels of play.**
- **A legal body-check must be an attempt to win possession of the puck & is NOT an effort to punish or intimidate.**



➤ **USA Hockey,**
the administrators, coaches,
parents, players & officials
must be committed to creating a
culture where there are:

➤ **NO HITS TO THE HEAD**

➤ **NO HITS FROM BEHIND**

➤ **NO LATE HITS**



NOT ACCEPTABLE

- **HIT TO THE HEAD**
- **NO ATTEMPT TO PLAY THE PUCK**
- **VULNERABLE POSITION**

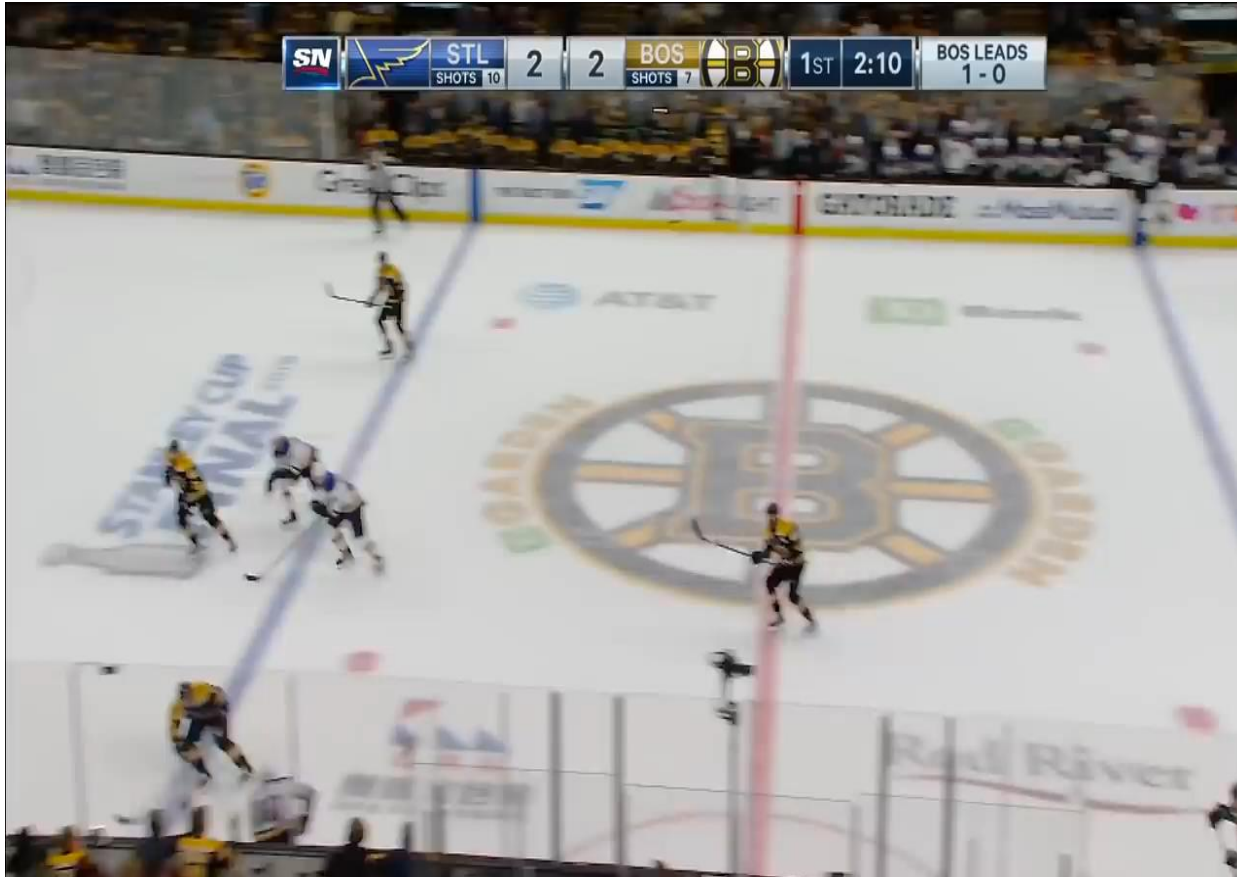
NOT ACCEPTABLE



NOT ACCEPTABLE

- **FINISHING YOUR CHECK**
- **NO ATTEMPT TO PLAY THE PUCK**
- **VULNERABLE POSITION**

NOT ACCEPTABLE



NOT ACCEPTABLE

- **LATE HIT**
- **NO ATTEMPT TO PLAY THE PUCK**
- **STICK IN THE AIR**

NOT ACCEPTABLE



ACCEPTABLE

NOT ACCEPTABLE

- **HIT TO HEAD**
 - **FINISHING YOUR CHECK**
 - **NO ATTEMPT TO PLAY THE PUCK**
 - **VULNERABLE PLAYER**
-
- **NOTE: FIRST CHECK LEADS WITH STICK**

NOT ACCEPTABLE



NOT ACCEPTABLE

- **CHECKING A PLAYER THAT IS ALREADY PHYSICALLY ENGAGED WITH ANOTHER PLAYER**
- **DEFENSELESS/VULNERABLE**
- **NO ATTEMPT TO PLAY THE PUCK**

NOT ACCEPTABLE



Hall of Fame Advice



THANK YOU

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