*To ensure consistency, fairness, and due process, the Yuma Youth Hockey League (YYHL) has adopted a progressive discipline policy that allows the Board to consider the severity of the conduct, prior history, and whether the behavior was intentional or repeated.*

# YYHL Discipline Guidelines

## Level I Violations (Minor Misconduct)

Examples:

- First occurrence of inappropriate language
- Unsportsmanlike conduct
- Disrespectful behavior toward players, parents, coaches, or officials
- Failure to set a positive example on rink property (Rule 3)
- Minor social media violations

**Possible Penalties**

| Offense | Recommended Discipline |
|---|---|
| First Offense | Verbal warning documented by Board |
| Second Offense | Written warning |
| Third Offense | 1-game suspension |
| Fourth Offense | Board review for further discipline |

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## Level II Violations (Serious Misconduct)

Examples:

- Profane or abusive language toward another person (Rules 4 & 5)
- Harassment or intimidation
- Repeated violations after warning
- Failure of a coach to control team behavior (Rules 6 & 8)
- Public social media attacks on players, parents, coaches, officials, or YYHL

*Adopted 8/2026*
*Revised 8/2026*

**Possible Penalties**

| Offense | Recommended Discipline |
|---|---|
| First Offense | Written reprimand and 1–3 game suspension |
| Second Offense | Suspension for remainder of current season |
| Third Offense | One-year suspension from YYHL |

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## Level III Violations (Major Misconduct)

Examples:

- Threatening physical violence
- Challenging another individual to fight
- Physical intimidation
- Fighting (Rule 10)
- Aggressive conduct requiring intervention
- Refusal to comply with Board-imposed discipline
- Retaliation against complainants or witnesses

**Possible Penalties**

| Offense | Recommended Discipline |
|---|---|
| First Offense | Immediate suspension pending Board review |
| Confirmed Violation | 3–12 month suspension |
| Aggravated Circumstances | Permanent expulsion from YYHL |

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## Level IV Violations (Zero-Tolerance Conduct)

Examples:

- Physical assault
- Striking, pushing, grabbing, or unwanted physical contact
- Assault of a referee, player, parent, coach, volunteer, or spectator

*Adopted 8/2026*
*Revised 8/2026*

- Threats of serious bodily harm
- Criminal conduct occurring at a YYHL event

**Possible Penalties**

| Offense | Recommended Discipline |
|---|---|
| First Offense | Immediate suspension pending investigation |
| Confirmed Violation | Minimum one-year suspension |
| Severe Cases | Permanent ban from all YYHL activities |

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# Coaches

Because coaches are leaders and role models, discipline may be enhanced beyond the minimum penalties above.

Additional coaching penalties may include:

- Mandatory conduct training
- Probationary status
- Removal from coaching duties
- Suspension from bench privileges
- Permanent revocation of coaching privileges

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# Parents/Spectators

Possible penalties include:

- Removal from facility
- Suspension from attending games/practices
- No-contact orders regarding players, coaches, or officials
- Seasonal suspension
- Permanent ban from YYHL events

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*Adopted 8/2026*
*Revised 8/2026*

# Due Process

Before any suspension exceeding one game or one week:

1. Written notice of allegations shall be provided.
2. The accused shall have an opportunity to submit a written response.
3. The Board may conduct an Executive Session review.
4. Any Board member with a conflict of interest shall recuse themselves.
5. Discipline shall be determined by majority vote of disinterested Board members.
6. The Board may impose lesser or greater discipline based on aggravating or mitigating circumstances.

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## Aggravating Factors

The Board may increase discipline when:

- The conduct occurred in front of players.
- The individual is a coach or board member.
- The conduct involved threats or physical contact.
- The individual has prior disciplinary history.
- The conduct damaged the reputation of YYHL.

This structure gives the Board flexibility while also ensuring similar violations are treated consistently from season to season.

*Adopted 8/2026*
*Revised 8/2026*