



TO: Managers, Coach's and Referee's

FROM: Doug. Petruk – Vice President- Discipline

TOPIC: **MOUTHGUARDS**

LEAGUE Policy(MOUTHGUARDS)

All players except Goaltenders must have mouth guards at all times, whether or not play is in progress. All mouth guards must be **COLOURED**.

As soon as a player steps onto the ice without a mouth guard, a 2 min. minor penalty plus a misconduct penalty (protective equipment) is to be assessed. Wearing a mouth guard improperly ex. sticking halfway out his mouth is to be called. **NO WARNINGS** are to be issued in this instance. The rule is cut and dry. **NO MOUTHGUARD = MINOR & MISCONDUCT PENALTY.**

NOTE: The only instance in which you wouldn't penalize is if the player is hit and the mouth guard falls out, then the same process should take place as it does for a lost helmet or chinstrap undone. Player either puts the mouth guard back in or leaves the ice.

This is **NOT** an appeal play, the referee must call it: however, the teams may bring it to there attention. Linesmen cannot make this call but should point it out to the referee.

The teams are all aware of this and are watching each other, so referees must **ENFORCE** this rule strongly and appropriately at **ALL TIMES** regardless of the score or situation. There is no game management with regards to this rule. It is a safety issue.

Manager, please pass a copy on to your Referee-In-Chief.

