



TAMPERING DO's & DON'Ts

UPDATE

COACHES SELECTED **JANUARY 15TH.**
ANNOUNCEMENTS PERMITTED
FEBRUARY 15TH.
TAMPERING CONSEQUENCES
IN FULL EFFECT.

DO'S

FOR COACHES

FOCUS ON THE CURRENT SEASON

Keep attention on development and team culture through positive programming rather than recruitment.

DIRECT FAMILIES APPROPRIATELY

If a parent or player contacts you about next season:

- *Direct them to the Association's website.*
- *Encourage them to attend evaluations without making promises.*

RESPECT COMMUNICATION BOUNDARIES

Only speak with players from other associations when allowed and under OHF rules and timelines.

DON'TS

FOR COACHES

NO DIRECT RECRUITMENT

DO NOT contact players or parents from other teams or associations. DO NOT ask players whether they want to switch to your program. DO NOT engage families using text, email, social media, or convos.

NO INDIRECT CONTACT

DO NOT ask current parents to approach other players. DO NOT ask assistant coaches to feel out interest from other teams. DO NOT use volunteers as intermediaries.

RESPECT COMMUNICATION BOUNDARIES

Only speak with players from other associations when allowed and under OHF rules and timelines.

WHY IS IT IMPORTANT?

IT IS **CRUCIAL** COACHING SELECTIONS, DISCUSSIONS, AND ANNOUNCEMENTS REMAIN **NON-PUBLIC** UNTIL FEBRUARY 15TH.

THESE RULES ARE IN PLACE TO **PROTECT FAIRNESS, INTEGRITY,** AND THE OVERALL **EXPERIENCE** FOR PLAYERS, FAMILIES, AND ASSOCIATIONS.

SINCE DECEMBER 24TH, 2024, OVER **52+** TAMPERING ALLEGATIONS OCCURRED, **\$82.5K** WORTH OF FINES HAVE BEEN DEALT, AND **120+** GAME SUSPENSIONS HAVE OCCURRED.

DO'S

FOR ASSOCIATIONS

ANNOUNCE COACHING STAFF APPROPRIATELY

Associations may announce coaching staff for the following season starting February 15th, 2026.

FOLLOW ADVERTISING TIMELINES

Associations are permitted to:

- Advertise player evaluations starting February 15th, 2026.
- Open Registration for evaluations on April 1st, 2026.

AUTHORIZE AND STRUCTURE PREP SKATES

Preparation skates are allowed when:

- They are strictly for **players registered within the association.**
- They are **development-based** and not **disguised evaluations.**
- They are run by individuals not coaching that age group.

DON'TS

FOR ASSOCIATIONS

DON'T PERMIT "INVITATION-ONLY" SKATES

Associations **MUST NOT**:

- Host targeted or exclusive sessions for players from other associations.
- Organize pre-evaluation skates intended to assess out-of-association players.

DON'T ALLOW CASUAL RECRUITING CHANNELS

Associations **SHOULD PREVENT**:

- Coaches using parents or assistants to reach out to outside players.
- Off-ice volunteers acting as intermediaries.

DON'T SUPPORT EARLY/TARGETED MESSAGES

Associations **MUST AVOID**:

- Promoting evaluations before Feb. 15th
- Opening early registration before Apr. 1st
- Allowing coaches to discuss future team spots to players.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION ON TAMPERING,
PLAYER EVALUATIONS, & CONSEQUENCES,
REACH OUT TO YOUR DESIGNATED
MEMBER PARTNER:**

