

PAHL TEAM MANAGER UPDATE

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STOP PATCH PROGRAM



What is that STOP sign for on the back of every player's jersey ?

The **STOP** Program, or **Safety Towards Other Players Program**, is a safety awareness program. The red STOP sign on the back of the jersey reminds players of their commitment to fair play and it is a visual reminder to avoid the dangerous activity of checking from behind, a significant cause of spinal cord injury and paralysis. This is another tool for coaches to use to promote safe game play in our sport.

HISTORY

One night in 1995, Mr. Kevin Stubbington, an intermediate level coach with the Windsor Minor Hockey Association, came home from a hockey game concerned after seeing a player receive a check from behind from an opponent. To prevent it from happening again, Mr Stubbington developed a program to raise awareness of the dangers of checking from behind.

For the 1995-1996 season, Mr. Stubbington designed a 3 inch "STOP" patch that was applied to the back of players' jerseys. Worn directly above the number, the "STOP" patch raised awareness that checking from behind was a dangerous and unacceptable practice in the game of hockey. The acronym "Safety Towards Other Players" was then adopted as the "STOP" patch evolved to embody a comprehensive fair play program. The STOP patch program first used in the Ontario Minor Hockey Association, is now being utilized not only throughout Canada, but also in many states throughout the US, in many youth hockey programs, as a tool to make our game safer.

PLACEMENT ON JERSEY



The sign should be put between the numbers and the name plate. This is between the shoulder blades. This puts the STOP patch in the line of vision of the other players.