



**GLOUCESTER HOCKEY
ASSOCIATION**
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May 7, 2026

GHA AGM Discipline Chair's Report for season 2025-2026

Highlights/Lowlights:

- There were 24 GHA Discipline hearings compared to the 44 hearings last season (2024-2025). This is a decrease of 45%.
- 3 parental ejections compared to 3 parental ejections last season (2024-2025).
- 1 Parent suspension following egregious conduct towards an association executive.
- 9 team officials being suspended for a combined 62 games.
- Of the 24 discipline hearings, 9 of them were for team officials (37.5%).
- 18 fighting majors compared to only two (2) fighting majors last season (2024-2025)

My Role as Discipline Chair

Now that my seventh year as the GHA Discipline Chair has come to an end, I believe that those who know me well enough can understand and appreciate my approach to discipline and my philosophy in support of same. This in addition to my experience as the Discipline Chair for the Orleans Minor Hockey Association (5 years), VP of Discipline for the Cumberland Men's Hockey League (9 years) and as VP of Discipline for the Gloucester-Cumberland Ringette Association (6 years) I feel that I'm well equipped to navigate through the intricacies of the cases before me, especially when it comes to balancing fairness, sound judgement and empathy in dealing with players, team officials, parents and volunteers alike.

Although, I do not have the authority to overrule or reduce/rescind HEO imposed minimum suspensions, I truly believe in corrective action as opposed to punitive action where the opportunities present themselves. It is very important to me that we educate all association executives, team officials, players and parents in being able to display the kind of behaviour in support of the care and respect this great game deserves. Generally, there are no "Bad People", only good people who made "Bad Decisions" in the situations they were involved in.

I want to thank the VPs/Directors of Discipline from all of the associations within the GHA for the great collaborative work we have done together.

- Gloucester Rangers Christopher Shane
- Blackburn Stingers Denis McKinnon
- Eastend Storm Mark Kaluski
- Leitrim Hawks Sean O'Hagan
- Metcalfe Jets Roshan Abraham
- Russel Warriors Adam Olive
- Cumberland Dukes Carl Sessely/Steve Idone

Without all of you, we would not have been able to deal with discipline as smoothly as we did.

Great Partnership with the D9 Referees Association (D9RA)

The D9 Referee in Chief (RIC), Kevin Graham completed his sixth season as RIC. I for one can say that Kevin and I have an excellent working relationship. Our incredible partnership has allowed us to navigate our ability to provide ongoing support to both the Referees Association and the members of the Gloucester Hockey Association.

Our partnership has been about continuous improvement in being able to educate associations, team officials, players, parents and on ice officials alike. Kevin and I are constantly in contact with each other to confirm, validate and sometimes challenge some of the actions on the ice from players and on ice officials because for Kevin and I are.....

....."not about being right but about getting it right"

And if we're still not sure, we both work with the HEO to ultimately confirm the calls, rules, regs, policies and protocols.

This season Kevin and I dealt with 29 disputed on ice calls. Following our investigations, the results were as follows;

- 9 calls were rescinded (31%)
- 9 calls were downgraded (31%)
- 11 calls stood as called on the ice (38%)

GHA/HEO Video Review Policy:

This season, there were 21 cases where videos were sent in for review to either exonerate a player who was assessed a major infraction or confirm that a major infraction that was not called (non-call) should have been called.

The majority of the videos sent to us were stated to exonerate the player (21 videos). Following reviewing these videos, we concluded that;

- 6 videos in fact exonerated or minimized the infraction for the player (29%)
- 9 videos were inconclusive, therefore the call on the ice, "Stood" (43%)
- 5 videos were sent to HEO for review for non-calls or disputed calls (28%)

Another way Kevin and I have been partnering is in giving “Code of Conduct and Discipline” information sessions to associations’ coaches and managers. The GHA voted to make these sessions mandatory. This season, 5 of 6 associations participated in having these sessions. In fact, one association had also included all of their players from U14 to U18 teams be in attendance.

The following is a statistical report on this season’s data on discipline. Please note that for this season 2025-2026. The Increase/Decrease difference is compared to the 2024-2025 season.

	2025-2026	2024-2025	Difference
Number of major infractions	400	374	6.5% Increase
Number of major infractions players	372	353	5.0 % Increase
Number of major infractions Team Officials	28	21	25% Increase
Number of suspensions	322	291	10% Increase
Number of games suspension	769	708	8% increase
Number of hearings	24	44	45% Decrease
Misconducts for abusing/harassing officials 11.1 (d) – 11.2 (d) (0 games suspension)	96	76	21.0% Increase
Game Misconducts for abusing/harassing officials 11.1 (e) – 11.2 (e) (with games suspensions)	46	105	56% Decrease
Game Misconducts for abusing/harassing officials 11.1 (e) – 11.2 (e) (with games suspensions) By Players	9	53	84% Decrease
Game Misconducts for abusing/harassing officials 11.1 (e) – 11.2 (e) (with games suspensions) By Team Officials	37	52	29% Decrease

Match Penalties for threatening/making contact with an official (11.5 (c), 11.5 (d) and 11.5 (e))	0	2	100% Decrease
Gross Misconducts for obscene gesture and/or Travesty of Game (11.2 (f))	13	8	38.5% Increase
Gross Misconduct for Discriminatory Slur (Maltreatment Rule HC 11.4)	12	19	37% Decrease
Match Penalties for Attempt to Injure	9	35	74% Decrease
Fighting (HC 7.10)	23	2	1150% Increase

Carryover Suspensions:

- Generated and provided carryover suspensions reports to each association (**sent on April 19, 2026**)
- Associations had until **May 3, 2026** to reconcile the carryover reports to ensure accuracy and no discrepancies.
- All associations completed their reconciliation exercises by **May 3, 2026**.

Next Steps and Recommendations

- Continue to give the mandatory Code of Conduct and discipline info sessions to all associations.

I want to thank the six association presidents and their respective directors of discipline for all their support and collaborative spirit. Our working relationships have been one of care, respect and collaborative unity.

I especially want to thank our District Chair, Reg MacDonald and our VP of House League, Dominic Giglietta and VP of Competitive, Natasha McKenzie for their ongoing support and enabling me to perform my role as effectively and efficiently as possible. I appreciate them more than they will ever know.

Yours in Hockey,

Gilles Vanasse
Discipline Chair
GHA (District 9)