



Memorandum/ PSO

To: National League and Swiss League General Managers and Coaches

From: Department of Player Safety

Date: December 27, 2018

Subject: Plays along the boards

With the goal of educating, through communication, the idea is to provide a safe environment for the players. The Department of Player Safety will write the occasional memorandum throughout the course of the season. The communication is meant to help provide the opportunity for each of you to know the PSO thought process of past situations and work to provide the elimination of potential dangerous or reckless situations in the future.

At the same time last season, we sent out a memorandum addressing plays along the boards. Halfway through the season, we believe that we need to revisit this topic.

A big part of the game occurs along the boards. Boarding and checking from behind are often judged, by the participants, on the result more than the action.

Protection along the boards :

When judging a play along the boards, we need to ask ourselves could the contact been avoided or did the opponent put himself in a vulnerable position immediately prior or simultaneously to the check.

Here are some examples of plays where the puck carrier is aware and has to make a better effort to protect himself.

[Video Plays along the boards](#)

When you want to demonstrate something to players, the use of video is the best tool available. For players to change their behaviour, they need to see the images. The video we send with the memorandums are also meant for the players. Please share this link with your players.

Best regards,

Ryan Gardner / Stéphane Auger
Player Safety Officers National League & Swiss League