

MEMBER PROTECTION OFFICER REPORT 2021

Firstly I need to advise that I am relocating to Victoria in 2022 so will be unable to continue in the role of the Member Protection Officer for GHA.

The 2021 hockey season was definately an interesting challenge, to take on this role as the MPO. At the start of the season I was unfortunately receiving complaints every week, which was disappointing. These complaints dealt with various issues of misconduct from spectators, coaches and players. It was positive to see a lot of clubs were able to handle many of these issues themselves.

Without prior procedures in place on ways to handle certain issues I have constructed an official GHA letter which can be sent to any member or spectator, to warn them that their behaviour is in breach of the code of conduct. This letter also explains what action may be taken if further complaints are received.

It was positive to see GHA support the NSW Office of Sport, Shoosh For Kids, awareness month in May, to promote positive behaviours and keep sport fun for kids. I encourage this to continue in future years.

I apologise for not being able to take part in the meeting tonight. I am happy to assist with any questions or advice for the newly elected MPO. I have collated information to hand over which may assist in the handling of certain issues that could arise in the future.