



Michael J. Trimboli
President

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November 1, 2023

Dear Affiliate Presidents,

The tragic passing of Adam Johnson on Saturday, who was playing for the Nottingham Panthers, has heightened conversations around neck laceration protectors.

USA Hockey continues to recommend a neck laceration protector for all players that covers as much of the neck as possible, along with cut-resistant socks, sleeves or undergarments.

As you likely know, our Safety and Protective Equipment Committee, guided by Dr. Mike Stuart from the Mayo Clinic, our chief medical and safety officer, has regularly studied neck laceration protectors and is continuing to work with equipment companies to affect the safest possible environment for all participants.

If you get media inquiries on the topic, you may feel free to provide them the information above or refer them to Dave Fischer (davef@usahockey.org/719.538.1171) at our national office.

You may also receive questions from other constituents, including players, parents and coaches, and please share with them our guidance above.

Our landing page on neck laceration protectors can be accessed [here](#) and please know our work on this topic and all matters related to safety are on-going.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael Trimboli".

Mike Trimboli
President



USA Hockey, the national governing body for the sport of ice hockey, is a member of the International Ice Hockey Federation and the United States Olympic & Paralympic Committee

