

**DEVELOPMENT PILOT PROJECT
2025-2026 SEASON**

OFFICIAL PLAYING RULES

Updated: August 22, 2025



MHL PLAYING RULES (2025-2026) TABLE OF CONTENTS

SECTION 1 – PLAYING AREA		1
Rule 1	RINK (HC 1.1, 1.2 & 1.3)	2
Rule 2	GOAL POSTS AND NETS (HC 1.4 & 1.5)	2
Rule 3	FACE-OFF MARKINGS (HC 1.6, 1.7, 1.8 & 1.11)	3
Rule 4	BENCHES, FACILITY, SIGNAL AND TIMING DEVICES (HC 1.9, 1.10, 1.12, 1.13 & 1.14)	3
SECTION 2 - TEAMS		5
Rule 5	TEAMS	6
Rule 6	CAPTAIN AND ALTERNATE CAPTAINS	6
Rule 7	STARTING LINE-UP	7
Rule 8	INJURED PLAYERS	7
SECTION 3 - EQUIPMENT		9
Rule 9	MEASUREMENT OF EQUIPMENT (HC 3.1)	10
Rule 10	STICKS AND SKATES (HC 3.2, 3.3 & 3.4)	10
Rule 11	GOALKEEPER'S EQUIPMENT (HC 3.5)	11
Rule 12	PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT (HC 3.6)	12
Rule 13	DANGEROUS/ILLEGAL OR NON-STANDARD EQUIPMENT (HC 3.7)	14
Rule 14	PUCKS (HC 3.8)	14
SECTION 4 - TYPES OF PENALTIES		15
Rule 15	CALLING OF PENALTIES	16
Rule 16	MINOR PENALTIES	17
Rule 17	BENCH MINOR PENALTIES	17
Rule 18	DOUBLE-MINOR PENALTIES	17
Rule 19	COINCIDENTAL PENALTIES	18
Rule 20	MAJOR PENALTIES	19
Rule 21	MATCH PENALTIES	19
Rule 22	MISCONDUCT PENALTIES	20
Rule 23	GAME MISCONDUCT PENALTIES	20
Rule 24	GROSS MISCONDUCT PENALTY (Not in use)	21
Rule 25	PENALTY SHOT	21
Rule 26	AWARDED GOALS	23
Rule 27	DELAYED PENALTIES	23
Rule 28	GOALKEEPER'S PENALTIES	24
Rule 29	SUPPLEMENTARY DISCIPLINE	25
Rule 30	SIGNALS	25
SECTION 5 - OFFICIALS		26
Rule 31	APPOINTMENT OF OFFICIALS	27
Rule 32	REFEREES	27
Rule 33	LINESMEN	28
Rule 34	OFFICIAL SCORER	30
Rule 35	GAME TIMEKEEPER	30
Rule 36	PENALTY TIMEKEEPER	31
Rule 37	GOAL JUDGE	32
Rule 38	REAL TIME SCORERS (Not in use)	32
Rule 39	VIDEO GOAL JUDGE (Not in use)	32
Rule 40	ABUSE OF OFFICIALS (Refer to Section 11)	32
Rule 41	PHYSICAL ABUSE OF OFFICIALS (Refer to Section 11)	32

SECTION 6 - PHYSICAL FOULS		33
Rule 42	BOARDING	34
Rule 43	CHARGING	34
Rule 44	CHECKING FROM BEHIND	35
Rule 44B	CHECKING TO THE HEAD	35
Rule 44C	BLIND SIDE HIT	35
Rule 45	CLIPPING	36
Rule 46	ELBOWING	36
Rule 47	FIGHTING	37
Rule 48	HEAD-BUTTING	40
Rule 49	KICKING	40
Rule 50	KNEEING	40
Rule 51	ROUGHING	41
Rule 52	SLEW-FOOTING	41
Rule 53	THROWING EQUIPMENT	41
SECTION 7 - RESTRAINING FOULS		43
Rule 54	HOLDING	44
Rule 55	HOOKING	44
Rule 56	INTERFERENCE	44
Rule 57	TRIPPING	46
SECTION 8 - STICKS FOULS		48
Rule 58	BUTT-ENDING	49
Rule 59	CROSS-CHECKING	49
Rule 60	HIGH-STICKING	49
Rule 61	SLASHING	50
Rule 62	SPEARING	50
SECTION 9 - OTHER FOULS		51
Rule 63	DELAYING THE GAME	52
Rule 64	DIVING / EMBELLISHMENT	54
Rule 65	EQUIPMENT	54
Rule 66	FORFEIT OF GAME	54
Rule 67	HANDLING THE PUCK	55
Rule 68	ILLEGAL SUBSTITUTION	56
Rule 69	INTERFERENCE ON THE GOALKEEPER	57
Rule 70	LEAVING THE BENCH	58
Rule 71	PREMATURE SUBSTITUTION	60
Rule 72	REFUSING TO PLAY THE PUCK	60
Rule 73	REFUSING TO START PLAY	60
Rule 74	TOO MANY MEN ON THE ICE	61
Rule 75	UNSPORTSMANLIKE CONDUCT	62
SECTION 10 - GAME FLOW		64
Rule 76	FACE-OFFS	65
Rule 77	GAME AND INTERMISSION TIMING	68
Rule 78	GOALS	68
Rule 79	HAND PASS	70
Rule 80	HIGH-STICKING THE PUCK	70
Rule 81	ICING	71
Rule 82	LINE CHANGES	73
Rule 83	OFF-SIDE	74
Rule 84	OVERTIME	75
Rule 85	PUCK OUT OF BOUNDS	77
Rule 86	START OF GAME AND PERIODS	78
Rule 87	TIME-OUTS	79
SECTION 11 - MALTREATMENT		80
Rule 88	UNSPORTSMANLIKE CONDUCT (HC 11.1)	81
Rule 89	ABUSIVE BEHAVIOUR (HC 11.2)	82
Rule 90	DISCRIMINATION (HC 11.4)	83
Rule 91	PHYSICAL HARASSMENT OF OFFICIALS (HC 11.5)	83

APPENDICES

Appendix A	The Rink and Ice Markings
Appendix B	Goaltender's Stick, Player's Stick and Puck
Appendix C	Goaltender's Gloves and Pads
Appendix D	Reference Tables

Revision History

Date	Version #	Change
August 22, 2025	1.0	New – adoption of Rulebook



SECTION 1 PLAYING AREA

SECTION 1 PLAYING AREA

NOTE: Section 1 – Playing Area is substituted/modified to align with Hockey Canada Section 1 – Playing Area.

RULE 1. RINK

1.1. Rink – [Hockey Canada Rule 1.1] Ice hockey will be played on an area of ice called a Rink.

1.2. Rink Dimensions – [Hockey Canada Rule 1.2] The dimensions of the rink are as follows ([Appendix A](#)):

The dimensions of a new rink are recommended to be a maximum of 60.96m (200 ft.) long and 30.48m (100 ft.) wide or a minimum of 60.96m (200 ft) long and 25.91m (85 ft) wide. The corners will be rounded in the arc of a circle with a radius of 8.53 m (28 ft).

The rink will be enclosed by the boards, which may be constructed of wood, plastic or fiberglass. Measured from the surface of the ice, the boards will be no more than 1.22 m (4 ft.) and no less than 1.02 m (3 ft. 4 in.) in height. The surface of the boards facing the ice will be white and free from any obstruction or object that could cause injury to players. The base plate, of a maximum height of 30.48 cm (12 in.), will be light (recommended to be yellow) in colour.

It is recommended that glass, plexiglass or other similar material be mounted to the boards, flush to the playing surface, to assist in the prevention of pucks going into the spectator areas. Protection is also recommended in front of the off-ice officials' area. All equipment used to hold the glass or similar material in position will be mounted on the boards on the side away from the playing surface.

Logos must not disrupt or alter any official ice markings as described in this Section 1. It is recommended that no logos or advertising be allowed on the ice in the end zones.

1.3. Division of Ice Surface – [Hockey Canada Rule 1.3] The ice divisions are outlined as follows:

A red line, 5.08 cm (2 in.) wide, will be marked 3.35 m (11ft.) from each end of the rink, parallel to the end boards. This line will extend across the rink and be known as the Goal Line

On rinks 56.39 m (185 ft.) or more in length, blue lines, 30.48 cm (12 in.) wide, will be marked on the ice parallel to the goal lines at a point 19.5 m (64 ft.) from each goal line, while the neutral zone will take up the remaining space in the centre ice area. These lines will extend across the ice surface and vertically on each side board and will be known as the Blue-Lines.

On rinks less than 56.39 m (185 ft.) in length, the blue lines will be positioned so they divide the distance between the goal lines into three equal areas.

Midway between the goal lines, a red line, 30.48 cm (12 in.) wide, will be marked on the ice and extend vertically up the side boards, parallel to the goal lines. This line will be known as the Centre Red Line.

The portion of the ice surface in which the goal is situated will be called the DEFENDING ZONE of the team defending that goal; the central portion will be known as the NEUTRAL ZONE, and that portion furthest from the defended goal as the ATTACKING ZONE.

RULE 2. GOAL POSTS AND NETS

2.1 Goal Posts and Nets – [Hockey Canada Rule 1.4] The goal posts shall comply as follows ([Appendix A](#)):

In the centre of the goal lines between the side boards, regulation goal posts and nets of approved design and materials will be placed in such a manner as to remain stationary during the game. It is recommended that nets be restrained by magnetic, breakaway or similar types of fastening devices in Hockey Canada games.

The goal posts will be set 1.83 m (6 ft.) apart, measured from the inside of the posts. They will extend 1.22 m (4 ft.) vertically from the ice surface and a cross bar of the same material as the goal posts will be extended horizontally from the top of the other posts. The cross bar should be securely fastened to both goal posts. The outside measurement of both the goal posts and the cross bar will be 5.08 cm (2 in.) in diameter. The area enclosed by the goal posts and the cross bar will be known as the goal.

A net of approved design and material will be attached to the back of each goal.

The goal posts, cross bar and exterior surface of other supporting framework for the goal will be painted red. The surface of the base plate inside the goal and supports other than the goal post will be painted in a light colour.

2.2 Goal Crease – [Hockey Canada Rule 1.5] The goal crease shall comply as follows ([Appendix A](#)):

In front of each goal, a Goal Crease area will be marked by a red line 5.08 cm (2 in.) wide.

The goal crease will be laid out as follows: a semi-circle 1.82 m (6 ft.) in radius and 5.08 cm (2 in.) in width will be drawn using the midpoint of the goal line as the centre point. In addition, an L-shaped marking of 12.7 cm (5 in.) in length (both lines) at each front corner will be painted on the ice. The location of the L-shaped marking is measured by drawing an imaginary 1.22 m (4 ft.) line from the goal line to the edge of the semi-circle. At that point, the “L” may be drawn. The interior colouring of the crease will be light blue, light yellow or off-white.

The goal crease area will include the space outlined by the crease lines and will extend vertically to the level of the top of the goal frame.

RULE 3. FACE-OFF MARKINGS

3.1 Centre Ice Spot and Circle – [Hockey Canada Rule 1.6]

A circular blue spot, 30.48 cm (12 in.) in diameter, will be marked on the ice exactly in the centre of the rink. Using this spot as a centre, a circular blue line, 5.08 cm (2 in.) wide, with a radius of 4.57 m (15 ft.), will then be marked on the ice.

3.2 Face-off Spots in Neutral Zone & Referee’s Crease – [Hockey Canada Rules 1.7 and 1.11]

Two red spots, 60.96 cm (2 ft.) in diameter, will be marked on the ice in the Neutral Zone, 1.52 m (5 ft.) from each blue-line, and the same distance from the boards as the end zone face-off spots. Within each face-off spot, draw two parallel lines 7.62 cm (3 in.) from the top and bottom of the spot. The area within the two lines will be painted red; the remainder will be painted white.

A red line, 5.08 cm (2 in.) wide, in the shape of a semi-circle and with a 3.05 m (10 ft.) radius will be marked on the ice immediately in front of the Penalty Timekeeper’s seat. The area enclosed by this line will be known as the Referee’s crease.

3.3 End Zone Face-off Spots and Circles – [Hockey Canada Rule 1.8]

In both end zones and on both sides of each goal, red face-off spots and circles will be marked on the ice. The face-off spots will be 60.96 cm (2 ft.) in diameter and the circles will have a radius of 4.57 m (15 ft.) from the centre of the face-off spots. The lines of the circle will be 5.08 cm (2 in.) wide. As well, 5.64 m (18.5 ft.) and 6.55m (21.5 ft.) from the goal line and parallel to it, two red lines, 60.96 cm (2 ft.) in length and 5.08 cm (2 in.) wide, will be marked on the ice extending from the outer edge of both sides of each face-off circle. The face-off spots will be 60.96 cm (2 ft.) in diameter.

Within each face-off spot draw two parallel lines 7.62 cm (3 in.) from the top and bottom of the spot. The area within the two lines will be painted red, the remainder will be painted white. Two lines, 30.48 cm (1 ft.) away from the edge of the face-off spot, will be drawn parallel with the sideboards that will be 1.22 m (4 ft.) in length and 45.72 cm (18 in.) apart. Parallel to the end boards, commencing at the end of the line nearest to the face-off spot, a line will extend 86.36 cm (2 ft. 10 in.) in length. All lines will be 5.08 cm (2 in.) in width

The location of the face-off spot will be fixed in the following manner: Along a plane running 6.09 m (20 ft.) from, and parallel to, each goal line, mark a point 6.71 m (22 ft.) on both sides of the plane bisects the rink through the midpoint of each goal line. Each point will be the centre of the face-off spot and circle.

For rinks under 22.90 m (75 ft.) in width, the face-off circles will be reduced in circumference so that they do not overlap. A minimum area of 60.96 cm (2 ft.) from the adjacent side boards is to be maintained.

RULE 4. BENCHES, FACILITY, SIGNAL AND TIMING DEVICES

4.1 Players’ Bench – [Hockey Canada Rule 1.9]

Each rink will have seats or a bench for the use of each team, to be known as the Players’ Bench. Each Players’ Bench will accommodate at least 14 players and will be placed directly alongside the ice in the neutral zone, as near as possible to the centre of the rink and convenient to the dressing rooms. Whenever possible, a walking space of 91.44 cm (3 ft.) should be left open behind the Players’ Bench (new rinks).

The gates to the Players' Bench should be constructed to open away from the ice surface.

During a game, authorized team officials will be restricted to the use of the area of their Players' Bench. The penalty for a violation of this rule is a Bench Minor penalty under Rule 88 – Unsportsmanlike Conduct.

The Home Team will have the choice of ends to start the game and must take the Players' Bench that corresponds to their choice of ends. They must make this choice prior to the warm-up and then warm-up in that end. If the benches are on opposite sides of the rink, the home team may choose either bench.

Teams will alternate ends of the ice to start each period but neither team is permitted to change their Players' Bench.

4.2 Penalty Bench – [Hockey Canada Rule 1.10]

Each rink will have a Penalty Bench area with seats or a bench that can accommodate eight people. It is to be used for the seating of penalized players, the Penalty Timekeeper, Game Timekeeper and Official Scorer. The Penalty Bench should be located a substantial distance from the Players' Bench.

Note 1: The Penalty Bench will be located on the opposite side of the rink from the Players' Bench, or if this is not possible, at least 6.09 m (20 ft.) from either bench.

The gates of the Penalty Bench should be constructed to open away from the ice surface, and outside the area known as the Referee's crease. There will be two separate Penalty Benches, each having its own gate and designated respectively as Home and Visitor. Adequate arrangements will be made to physically separate members of the opposing teams.

Where the penalty gates are located at unequal distances from centre ice, the gate closest to the centre ice will be designated for the Visiting Team.

4.3 Signal and Timing Devices – [Hockey Canada Rule 1.12]

Each rink must have a suitable sound device to be used by the Game Timekeeper.

Each rink must have a clock in order for spectators, players and game officials to be accurately informed as to the time remaining in the game.

Note 1: Where clocks with four faces are in use, the face directly in front of the Game Timekeeper will govern the time

In a suitable location behind each goal, a red light will be provided for the use of each Goal Judge in signaling the scoring of a goal. Wherever possible, Hockey Canada recommends that an electric buzzer or bell and a green light be installed in the same location as the red light and that this buzzer or bell and green light be synchronized with the time clock, to provide the Referee with an audible and visual signal for the end of a playing period or game.

4.4 Dressing Rooms – [Hockey Canada Rule 1.13]

Each rink will provide a suitable dressing room equipped with a sanitary toilet and shower for the use of the Visiting Team.

A separate dressing room will be provided for the use of Referees and Linespersons. It will be equipped with a sanitary toilet and shower.

No team official, player or employee of any club may enter into any inappropriate discussion with any Referee during or after a game. Such behaviour may be penalized under *Rule 88 – Unsportsmanlike Conduct* or other rules, as appropriate.

No person, except a representative of the Member or league with jurisdiction over the game, will be allowed to enter the Officials' dressing room. Individuals who violate this rule will be penalized and the matter will be reported by the Referee to the appropriate Member or league for further action.

4.5 Rink Lighting – [Hockey Canada Rule 1.14]

All rinks will be lighted so that the players and spectators may clearly follow play.



**SECTION 2
TEAM**

SECTION 2 TEAM

RULE 5. TEAMS

5.1 Eligible Players

A team shall be composed of twenty (20) players (eighteen (18) skaters and two (2) goalkeepers) who shall be under contract to the Club they represent.

At the beginning of each game, the Manager or Coach of each team shall list the players and goalkeepers who shall be eligible to play in the game. Not more than eighteen (18) players and two (2) goalkeepers shall be permitted.

A list of names and numbers of all eligible players and goalkeepers must be handed to the Official Scorer before the game.

Note: A team shall have at least 15 players in uniform at the beginning of the game, two of them being goaltenders. No additional penalties are to be assessed but a report of the incident must be submitted to the Commissioner.

Prior to the game, if an official (on-ice or off-ice) notices that a player or goalkeeper is in uniform but has not been included on the Official Game Report, the Referee shall bring this to the attention of the offending team so that the necessary correction can be made to the Official Game Report with no penalty assessed.

5.2 Ineligible Player

No change in the list or addition to the list shall be permitted after the commencement of the game except:

1. Where a player is late and his name has been included on the Official Game Report prior to the game, he will be permitted to participate.
2. When a player has been inadvertently omitted from the Official Game Report, the Referee shall permit the name to be added to the Game Report before the game has ended; providing such player was in uniform and on the ice or on his players' bench at the start of the game.

5.3 Goalkeeper

Each team shall be allowed one goalkeeper on the ice at one time. The goalkeeper may be removed, and another player substituted. Such substitute shall not be permitted the privileges of the goalkeeper.

Each team shall have on its bench, or on a chair immediately beside the bench (or nearby), a substitute goalkeeper who shall, at all times, be fully equipped and ready to play.

In regular League and Playoff games, if both listed goalkeepers are incapacitated, that team shall be entitled to dress and play any goalkeeper who is eligible. If the two regular goalkeepers are injured or incapacitated in quick succession, the third goalkeeper shall be provided with a reasonable amount of time to get dressed, in addition to a two-minute warm-up (except when he enters the game to defend against a penalty shot). If however, the third goalkeeper is dressed and on the bench when the second goalkeeper becomes incapacitated, the third goalkeeper shall enter the game immediately and no warm-up is permitted.

5.4 Coaches and Team Personnel

Only players in uniform and a maximum of **SIX (6)** Team Officials will be allowed at the Players' Bench. These persons shall be included on the line-up sheet.

RULE 6. CAPTAIN AND ALTERNATE CAPTAINS

6.1 Captain

One (1) Captain shall be appointed by each team, and he alone shall have the privilege of discussing with the Referee any questions relating to interpretation of rules which may arise during the progress of a game. He shall wear the letter "C," approximately three (3) inches in height and in contrasting color, in a conspicuous position on the front of his sweater. No co-Captains are permitted. Either one Captain and no more than THREE Alternate Captains, or no Captain and no more than THREE Alternate Captains are permitted (see *Rule 6.2 - Alternate Captains*).

Only the Captain, when invited to do so by the Referee, shall have the privilege of discussing any point relating to the interpretation of rules. Any Captain, Alternate Captain or any player or goalkeeper who comes off the bench and makes any protest or intervention with the officials for any purpose shall be assessed a misconduct penalty in addition a minor penalty for unsportsmanlike conduct under *Rule 89 – Abuse of Officials*. Should this protest continue, a game misconduct penalty shall be assessed.

A complaint about a penalty is NOT a matter "relating to the interpretation of the rules" and a minor penalty shall be imposed against any Captain, Alternate Captain or any other player or goalkeeper making such a complaint.

The Referee and Official Scorer shall be advised, prior to the start of each game, the name of the Captain and the Alternate Captains of both teams.

No playing Coach or playing Manager or goalkeeper shall be permitted to act as Captain or Alternate Captain.

6.2 Alternate Captains

If the Captain is not on the ice, an Alternate Captain on the ice shall be accorded the privileges of the Captain. Alternate Captains shall wear the letter "A" approximately three (3) inches in height and in contrasting color, in a conspicuous position on the front of their sweaters.

A team may use one (1) captain and no more than 3 (THREE) alternate captains or no captain and no more than 3 (THREE) alternate captains

RULE 7. STARTING LINE-UP

7.1 Starting Line-up

Prior to the start of the game, at the request of the Referee, the Manager or Coach of the visiting team is required to name the starting line-up to the Referee or Official Scorer.

Prior to the start of the game, the Manager or Coach of the home team, having been advised by the Official Scorer the names of the starting line-up of the visiting team, shall name the starting line-up of the home team. This information shall be conveyed by the Official Scorer to the Coach of the visiting team.

No change in the starting line-up of either team as given to the Official Scorer, or in the playing line-up on the ice, unless reviewed and approved by the Referee prior to the start of the game.

Prior to the start of the game, all players may go onto the ice for a brief skate in their own end of the rink. For the playing of the anthem(s), only the starting line-up for each team may be on the ice.

For the start of the second and third periods, and overtime in playoffs, only the starting line-up for each team may be on the ice. If a team has to go across the ice to get to their bench, all players except for the starting line-up must skate directly to their bench.

7.2 Violation

For an infraction of this rule, a bench minor penalty shall be imposed upon the offending team. This is an appeal play and must be brought to the Referee's attention prior to the second face-off in the game. There is no penalty to the requesting team if their appeal is unsustainable. The determining factor is the player or goalkeeper's name, and not necessarily the player or goalkeeper's number, must be correctly listed by the team.

In the event a team scores on the first shift of the game, and it is brought to the attention of the Referee by the opposing team that the team that scored did not have the correct starting line-up on the ice, the goal shall be allowed, and a bench minor penalty assessed to the offending team for having an improper starting line-up. If the team that scores a goal on the first shift of the game challenges the starting line-up of the opposing team and the opposing team did not have the correct starting line-up, the scoring of the goal would nullify the bench minor penalty and no further penalties would be assessed.

RULE 8. INJURED PLAYERS

8.1 Injured Player

When a player is injured or compelled to leave the ice during a game, he may retire from the game and be replaced by a substitute, but play must continue without the teams leaving the ice.

During play, if an injured player wishes to retire from the ice and be replaced by a substitute, he must do so at the players' bench and not through any other exit leading from the rink. This is not a legal player change and therefore when a violation occurs, a bench minor penalty shall be imposed.

If a penalized player has been injured, he may proceed to the dressing room without taking a seat on the penalty bench. If the injured player receives a minor penalty, the penalized team shall immediately put a substitute player on the penalty bench, who shall serve the penalty until such time as the injured player is able to return to the game. He would replace his teammate on the penalty bench at the next stoppage of play. If the injured player receives a major penalty, the penalized team shall place a substitute player on the penalty bench before the penalty expires and no other replacement for the penalized player shall be permitted to enter the game except from the penalty bench. For violation of this rule, a bench minor penalty shall be imposed.

Should the injured penalized player who has been replaced on the penalty bench return to his players' bench prior to the expiration of his penalty, he shall not be eligible to play until his penalty has expired. This includes coincidental penalties when his substitute is still in the penalty box awaiting a stoppage in play. The injured player must wait until his substitute has been released from the penalty box before he is eligible to play. If, however, there is a stoppage of play prior to the expiration of his penalty, he must then replace his teammate on the penalty bench and is then eligible to return once his penalty has expired.

When a player is injured so that he cannot continue play or go to his bench, the play shall not be stopped until the injured player's team has secured possession of the puck. If the player's team is in possession of the puck at the time of injury, play shall be stopped immediately unless his team is in a scoring position.

In the case where it is obvious that a player has sustained a serious injury, the Referee and / or Linesman may stop the play immediately.

When play has been stopped by the Referee or Linesman due to an injured player, or whenever an injured player is attended to on the ice by the Trainer or medical personnel, such player must be substituted for immediately. This injured player cannot return to the ice until play has resumed.

When play is stopped for an injured player, the ensuing face-off shall be conducted at the face-off spot in the zone nearest the location of the puck when the play was stopped. When the injured player's team has possession of the puck in the attacking zone, the face-off shall be conducted at the nearest face-off spot in the neutral zone. When the injured player is in his defending zone and the attacking team is in possession of the puck in the attacking zone, the face-off shall be conducted at the nearest face-off spots in the defending team's zone.

8.2 Injured Goalkeeper

If a goalkeeper sustains an injury or becomes ill, he must be ready to resume play immediately or be replaced by a substitute goalkeeper and no additional time shall be allowed for the purpose of enabling the injured or ill goalkeeper to resume his position. The substitute goalkeeper shall be allowed a two (2) minute warm-up during all pre-season games. No warm-up shall be permitted for a substitute goalkeeper in all regular League or Playoff games.

The Referee shall report to the Commissioner for disciplinary action any delay in making a goalkeeper substitution.

The substitute goalkeeper shall be subject to the regular rules governing goalkeepers and shall be entitled to the same privileges.

When a substitution for the regular goalkeeper has been made, such regular goalkeeper shall not resume his position until the next stoppage of play. For a violation of the rule, a minor penalty for delay of game shall be assessed.

When play has been stopped by the Referee or Linesman due to an injured goalkeeper, such goalkeeper must be substituted for only if he has to proceed to the players' bench to receive medical attention. If the Trainer has come onto the ice to attend to the goalkeeper and there is no undue delay, the goalkeeper may remain in the game. However, no additional time shall be permitted by the Referee for the purpose of enabling the injured goalkeeper to resume his position (i.e. no warm-up).

8.3 Blood

A player or goalkeeper who is bleeding or who has visible blood on his equipment or body shall be ruled off the ice at the next stoppage of play. Such player or goalkeeper shall not be permitted to return to play until the bleeding has been stopped and the cut or abrasion covered (if necessary). It is required that any affected equipment and/or uniform be properly decontaminated or exchanged.



**SECTION 3
EQUIPMENT**

SECTION 3 EQUIPMENT

NOTE: Section 3 – Equipment is substituted/modified to align with Hockey Canada Section 3 – Equipment.

RULE 9. MEASUREMENT OF EQUIPMENT

9.1 [Hockey Canada Rule 3.1 (a)] The measurement of any equipment (players' and goaltenders' sticks, goaltenders' pads and gloves) will be carried out immediately, at the Referee's crease, when requested by a team at a stoppage of play, by a Captain or Alternate Captain.

No measurements of any kind will be carried out by the Referee unless a formal request has been made by a team, via the Captain or Alternate Captain.

9.2 [Hockey Canada Rule 3.1 (b)] If the complaint for any measurement of sticks of equipment is not sustained, the complaining team will be penalized under *Rule 9.7 – Minor Penalty "Measurement of Equipment"*.

9.3 [Hockey Canada Rule 3.1 (c)] Only one measurement of any kind will be allowed per stoppage of play.

9.4 [Hockey Canada Rule 3.1 (d)] Any illegal equipment will be removed, corrected or adjusted without any unnecessary delay.

9.5 [Hockey Canada Rule 3.1 (e)] Where a measurement of a stick is requested by a Captain or Alternate Captain, they must designate to the Referee which specific part of the stick is to be measured.

9.6 [Hockey Canada Rule 3.1 (f)] No goal will be disallowed as a result of any measurement.

9.7 Minor Penalty [Hockey Canada Rule 3.1 (g)] - Any violations resulting from a measurement will be penalized as a Minor 'Illegal Equipment' or Bench minor penalty in the case of an 'un-sustained measurement'.

RULE 10. STICKS & SKATES

10.1 [Hockey Canada Rule 3.2 (a)] A player whose stick has been broken must drop all pieces of the broken stick to the ice immediately. That player may continue to participate in the game without a stick.

Note 1: When a player discards any piece(s) of a broken stick by tossing them to the side of the playing surface (not over the boards) in such a way that they do not interfere with the play of opposing players, no penalty will be assessed.

10.2 [Hockey Canada Rule 3.2 (b)] A player who has lost or broken their stick may only receive another stick at their own Players' Bench or be handed one from a teammate on the ice. They may not receive a stick thrown on the ice from any part of the rink, nor can they receive a stick handed to them from the Penalty Bench.

10.3 [Hockey Canada Rule 3.2 (c)] A goaltender who breaks or loses their stick may use a player's stick that has been handed to them until the next stoppage of play. In this case the players' stick will not be considered illegal equipment. At the next stoppage of play, the goaltender must receive a regular goaltender's stick. A goaltender may not continue to play with a broken stick of any kind.

10.4 [Hockey Canada Rule 3.2 (c) Interpretation 1] A player may carry a new stick back to the goaltender, allowing the goaltender to receive a new stick without proceeding to the Players' Bench. However, after receiving a new goaltender's stick from the bench, the player may not throw or slide the stick along the ice but must carry the stick back to the goaltender and hand it to them. A player who slides or throws a stick to the goaltender will be assessed a Minor penalty under *Rule 53.1 – Throwing Stick or Object* or a Penalty shot may be awarded under this rule, if the player throws the stick at the puck or puck carrier in their defending zone (*Rule 53.6 & 53.7*).

10.5 [Hockey Canada Rule 3.3 (a)] All sticks (including goaltender sticks) may be made of wood, composite, or aluminum, and / or any other material approved by Hockey Canada. They must not have any projections, pockets, netting or other similar contrivance designed to give the player undue assistance in the playing of the game.

10.6 [Hockey Canada Rule 3.3 (a) Interpretation 1] Any special changes, deviations or innovations require review and approval by Hockey Canada. Please note that Hockey Canada has approved the use of the 'UB Offset' player stick, the Bauer "Sling" player stick and the "Curtis Curve" goaltender stick.

10.7 [Hockey Canada Rule 3.3 (b)] The stick will not exceed 1.60 m (63 in.) from the heel to the end of the shaft and 31.75

cm (12.5 in.) from the heel to the end of the blade. The blade of the stick will not be less than 5.08 cm (2 in.) within 1.27 cm (0.5 in.) of the end nor greater than 7.62 cm (3 in.) in width.

- 10.8 [Hockey Canada Rule 3.3 (c)]** The goaltender's stick will not exceed 1.4m (55 in.) from the heel to the end of the shaft. The blade of the goaltender's stick will not exceed 8.89 cm (3.5 in.) in width at any point nor be less than 7.62 cm (3 in.), except at the heel where it must not exceed 11.43 cm (4.5 in.) in width; the goaltender's stick will not exceed 39.37 cm (15.5 in.) in length from the heel to the end of the blade. The width portion of the goaltender's stick extending up the shaft from the blade will not exceed 66.04 cm (26 in.) in length, calculated from the heel, and will not exceed 8.89 cm (3.5 in.) nor be less than 7.62 cm (3 in.) in width.
- 10.9 [Hockey Canada Rule 3.3 (d)]** The end of the shaft of all stick must be covered to protect against injury. In the case of hollow-shaft sticks, the end of the shaft must have a protective cap as well as being covered to protect against injury.
- 10.10 [Hockey Canada Rule 3.3 (e)]** The stick may be wound with any colour tape.
- 10.11 [Hockey Canada Rule 3.3 (f)]** A player may only carry one stick while participating in the play.
- 10.12 [Hockey Canada Rule 3.4 (a)]** No player may participate in the game unless they are wearing skates.
- 10.13 [Hockey Canada Rule 3.4 (b)]** Hockey skates will be of a design approved by Hockey Canada. The use of speed skates, figure skates, or any skates that may cause injury are prohibited.
- 10.14 [Hockey Canada Rule 3.4 (c)]** No person, other than a goaltender, may use goaltender's skates.
- 10.15 Minor Penalty [Hockey Canada Rule 3.2 (d), 3.3 (g) & 3.4 (d)]** - Any violation of *Rule 10*, not otherwise covered by another rule, shall be penalized as a Minor penalty under *Rule 10*.

RULE 11. GOALKEEPER'S EQUIPMENT

- 11.1 [Hockey Canada Rule 3.5 (a)]** With the exception of skates and stick, all equipment worn by the goaltender must be constructed solely for the purpose of protection of the head or body, and must not include any garment or contrivance which would give the goaltender undue assistance in keeping goal. Abdominal aprons extending down the thighs on the outside of the pants are prohibited.
- 11.2 [Hockey Canada Rule 3.5 (b)]** Goaltender's pads will not exceed 27.94 cm (11 in.) in width and 96.52 cm (38 in.) in length as measured on the goaltender and will not be altered in any way. The minimum length of the boot of the pad is to be no less than 17.78 cm (7 in.). The boot is the bottom of the pad that sits over the top of the skate. The boot channel of the goaltender's pad must be flat or concave in appearance.

Note 1: Puck foil (a plastic piece attached to the bottom of goaltender's pads designed to stop the puck) is considered to be illegal equipment.

- 11.3 [Hockey Canada Rule 3.5 (b) – Interpretation 1]** If a measurement of the goaltender's pads is required during the course of the game, this measurement should be carried out by the Referee in the Referee's crease. Both pads are to be measured. The measurement may take place anywhere across the width of the pads. The measurement is made with the pads on the goaltender and they are allowed four (4) hits on each pad to bring them into alignment. The measurement is to be taken with the goaltender in the standing position and the pads not contacting any fixed object. This measurement is taken by extending a tape measure at right angles from the outer edge of each pad at its widest point. The measurement may be taken anywhere throughout the length of the goaltender's pads.
- 11.4 [Hockey Canada Rule 3.5 (c)]** Protective padding attached to the back of, or forming part of, the goaltender's blocker glove will not exceed 20.3 cm (8 in.) in width nor 38.1 cm (15 in.) in length. Any measurement exceeding 20.3 cm (8 in.) measured anywhere across the full length of the wrist area, or more than 38.1 cm (15 in.) anywhere on the length constitutes an illegal blocker glove.

The base of the goaltender's catching glove will be restricted to a maximum of 20.32 cm (8 in.) in width, which is to include any attachments added to that glove. The distance from the heel of the glove along the pocket and following the contour of the glove of the top of the 'T' trap must not exceed 46 cm (18 in.). The heel is considered to be the point at which the straight vertical line of the cuff meets the glove. Any measurement exceeding 20.32 cm (8 in.) measured anywhere across the full length of the wrist area. The maximum circumference of the legal goaltender's catch glove cannot exceed 114.3 (45 in.) (see [Appendix C](#) for diagram). The lacing or webbing of other material joining the thumb and index finger of a goaltender's glove, or any cage, pocket or pouch created by this material, must not exceed the minimum amount of material necessary to fill the gap between the thumb and index finger when they are fully extended and spread. Any other pocket, pouch or contrivance added to the glove by a manufacturer or otherwise is not acceptable and makes the glove illegal.

Note 1: The binding and/or stitching at the edges of both goaltender's gloves will not be included in the measurement of either the length or width.

Note 2: When request for a measurement of a goaltender's glove has been made the team will state the part of the glove that is to be measured and whether it is to be the length or width of the glove.
[Hockey Canada Rule 3.5 (c) – Interpretation 2]

With reference to measurements of the goaltender's blocker or catching glove:

The measurement of the goaltender's blocker or catching glove will be carried out by the Referee at the Referee's crease. The binding and/or sticking at the edges will not be included in the measurement of width nor length. The measurement to be made must be specified, whether it is the width or the length to be measured. Keep in mind, only one measurement per stoppage.

The blocker is measured with it being removed and it will include the distance of the curvature. The measurement will be a direct line from one edge, measured at right angles to the opposite edge. This measurement may be anywhere between the two edges and should include the widest point, following any curvature of the blocker.

The catching glove is measured with it being removed. The glove is allowed to retain the shape that it has developed when being worn by the goaltender and will not be flattened. The length measurement will not include the depth within the webbing or pocket, it will be a direct line from the bottom edge, measured at right angles to the top edge, which is a line to the furthest point of the mitt from the base of the glove. The width measurement is made at right angles to the opposite edge across the cuff area only.

11.5 [Hockey Canada Rule 3.5 (d)] The goaltender's chest and arm pads must conform to the following rules:

- (i). No raised ridges are allowed on the front edges or sides of the chest pad, the inside or outside of the arms, or across the shoulders.
- (ii). Layering at the elbow is permitted to add protection but not to add stopping area. This layering, both across the front and down the sides to protect the point of the elbow, will not exceed 17.78 cm (7 in.)
- (iii). Shoulder cap protectors must follow the contour of the shoulder cap without becoming a projection/extension beyond or above the shoulder or shoulder cap. This contoured padding must not be more than 2.54 cm (1 in.) in thickness beyond the top ridge of the shoulder and shoulder cap.
- (iv). On each side, the shoulder clavicle protectors are not to exceed 17.78 cm (7 in.) in width. Their maximum thickness is to be 2.54 cm (1 in.). This protection is not to extend or project above or beyond the shoulder or shoulder cap nor extend beyond the armpit. No insert is allowed between the shoulder clavicle protector and the chest pad that would elevate the shoulder clavicle protector.
- (v). If when the goaltender assumes the normal crouch position, the shoulder and/or shoulder cap protection is pushed above the contour of the shoulder, the chest pad will be considered illegal.

11.6 Minor Penalty [Hockey Canada Rule 3.5 (e)] - Any violation of this rule will be penalized as per Rule 11 'Illegal Equipment.'

RULE 12. PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT

12.1 [Hockey Canada Rule 3.6 (a)] All protective equipment except gloves, head gear or goaltender's leg pads, must be worn entirely under the uniform.

12.2 [Hockey Canada Rule 3.6 (a) - Interpretation 1] With regard to gloves: This rule is intended to prohibit the use of gloves where the palm has been intentionally removed or cut out to permit the use of bare hands.

Where the palms have small holes, as the result of normal wear and tear, such glove are permissible. However, if the Referee's opinion is that the holes are such a size that the player can use the bare hands to hold an opponent or otherwise gain a competitive advantage, then the gloves will not be permitted.

12.3 [Hockey Canada Rule 3.6 (b)] While on the ice, including pre-game warm-ups, all players, including goaltenders, will wear a CSA-certified hockey helmet, to which a CSA-certified facial protector must be securely attached and not altered in any way. Any alteration to a CSA-certified helmet or facial protector automatically destroys certification.

The chin straps of the helmet be securely fastened under the chin. The straps of the facial protector, when designed to allow such straps, will also be securely fastened to the hockey helmet.

For violations during pre-game warm-ups, the Referee will report the infraction on the Official Game Report to the appropriate League.

Note: The MHL shall follow **IIHF Rule 202.1 - Facial Protection**. [2025-26 IIHF Rulebook](#)

12.4 [Hockey Canada Rule 3.6 (b) - Interpretation 3] It is acceptable for a player while on the Players' Bench to raise their mask to take a drink or to remove their helmet to clean the visor or for repairs. It must be replaced properly as soon as possible. Where rinks have a glassed-in Penalty Bench, it is acceptable for players to remove their helmets and/or masks.

12.5 Throat Protection [QMJHL Rule 9.10]

All players, including goaltenders, must wear a neck guard for any MHL practice, game or pre-game warm-up. The neck guard may not be altered in any fashion.

A player who enters the playing surface without wearing a neck guard will be immediately ordered off the playing surface. The following sanctions will be taken against teams whose player or players do not wear the throat protector as required during a game:

- *First infraction:* Any player receiving a verbal warning by the official before or after his on-ice appearance will be returned to the bench and be substituted. The official shall also advise the coach of the reason for the substitution.
- *Second infraction:* Should during the same game, the same player or any other violate this directive, the official will use the same procedure described above. In addition, the official shall report to the League all infractions to the directive and the League will apply the appropriate sanction.

If a neck guard should fall off during play, the player shall be allowed to continue to participate in the play until the next stoppage, at which time the neck guard must be immediately replaced or the player must leave the playing surface.

All neck guards must be worn in such a way that they are providing optimum protection to the throat area to the player. For example, the Velcro portion of the neck protector must be worn at the back of the neck, not at the front.

12.6 Minor Penalty [Hockey Canada Rule 3.6 (d)] - If the helmet or facial protector of a player comes off while play is in progress, the player will replace the piece of equipment (properly fastened, e.g. chin strap or both straps of a facial protector) or will proceed to the Players' Bench for substitution. If the player participates in play in any manner without that piece of equipment, play must be stopped immediately and the assessed a Minor Penalty for 'illegal Equipment'.

If a player is found to be wearing an uncertified piece of protective equipment, they shall be issued a warning to replace it with a certified piece of equipment. Any subsequent violation of wearing an uncertified piece of equipment will result in a Minor penalty under this rule for 'illegal equipment.'

When a goaltender loses their helmet, facial protector, blocker or trapper, play will be stopped immediately, unless there is an imminent scoring chance that does not pose a safety risk to the goaltender. If the goaltender deliberately removes their protective equipment to gain a stoppage of play, they will be penalized under *Rule 63 – Delay of Game*.

After a team warning, any subsequent violation of *Rules 12.1 or 12.2* by a player from the same team will result in the offending player receiving a minor penalty.

12.7 Misconduct Penalty [Hockey Canada Rule 3.6 (f)] - If a player is wearing a helmet, facial protector, chin strap, mouth guard or throat protector improperly, or wearing an uncertified piece of equipment, the Referee will issue a warning to the offending player's team. After one warning to the team, a Misconduct penalty will be assessed to any player of that same team who wears the aforementioned equipment improperly.

Note 1: The Referee is empowered to make the call without attention being drawn by an opposing player or team official.

12.8 [Hockey Canada Rule 3.6 (e)] It is mandatory that players follow these guidelines:

CATEGORY	DESCRIPTION	TYPE	CSA STICKER COLOUR
Full Facial Protector	Intended for use by a person of any age who is not a goaltender	B1 or 1	White
	Intended for use by a person 10 years old or younger who is not a goaltender	B2 or 2	Orange
	Head and Face protector intended for a goaltender of any age	D1 or 3	Blue
Eye Protectors (Visors)	A partial face protector (ie. Visor) that shields only the eyes, intended for use by a person 18 years old or older	C or 4	Yellow

Note 1: Types B1, B2, 2, D1, D2 and 3 differ from Types A, B and C only in the penetration requirements in Clause 4.3.3 of the CSA standard.

Note 2: The wearing of a CSA-certified full facial protector or visor for players registered with Senior (recommended but optional for male adult recreational hockey) and Major Junior hockey teams will be compulsory. In all other categories and divisions of hockey including female hockey, the wearing of a CSA certified full facial protector will be compulsory.

Note 3: Goaltenders in all divisions of hockey will be required to wear a CSA-certified hockey helmet to which a CSA certified facial protector has been securely attached and not altered in any way.

Note 4: All players while on the Players' Bench and/or Penalty Bench must wear their certified helmet and facial protector securely attached. Any goaltender on the bench, as a minimum, is required to properly wear the same protective head equipment as the players. For a violation of this section of the rule, a warning will be issued to the team. The second and subsequent violations by the same team will result in a Minor penalty being assessed against the offending team.

Note 5: Hockey Canada requires all players and goaltenders to wear helmets that are CSA-certified from the manufacturer. It is the responsibility for the equipment user to ensure that throughout the life of the helmet, the CSA certification is maintained. Hockey Canada advises that prior to applying anything to the helmet, including stickers, that they refer to the manufacturer's instructions and, if applicable, the manufacturer to confirm the type of adhesive they are applying will not jeopardize CSA certification and/or the manufacturer's warranty. It is the sole responsibility for the equipment user to ensure they are not applying adhesives or other materials that may affect the integrity of the helmet and ultimately void the CSA certification and/or manufacturer's warranty. Officials are NOT to make any decision with regards to the application of stickers on helmets and its effect on CSA certification.

Note 6: For divisions of hockey that allow the wearing of the half visor, the wearing of a mouth guard is compulsory. When a player fails to properly wear a mouth guard at any time on the ice during the game, their team shall receive one warning. Any player on that team who commits a subsequent infraction will receive a Misconduct penalty. Referees are encouraged to deliver this warning directly to the Coach.

12.9 [Hockey Canada Rule 3.6 (f) Interpretation 4] Where a Captain requests the Referee to check or certify the validity of a helmet, facial protector or throat protector worn by an opposing player and the equipment in question is found to be certified, no penalty will be assessed to the complaining team. The checking or verification of a helmet, facial protector or throat protector is not classified as a measurement.

12.10 [Hockey Canada Rule 3.6 (b)(c)(e)(f)(g) – Interpretation 2] All of the guidelines within this rule that apply to helmets, facial protectors and throat protectors will also apply to mouth guards, should a Member have made mouth guards mandatory at a specific division of play. Otherwise, mouth guards are currently mandatory under the rules for any player wearing a visor (*Rule 12.8 - Note 6*).

RULE 13. DANGEROUS/ILLEGAL OR NON-STANDARD EQUIPMENT

13.1 [Hockey Canada Rule 3.7 (a)] The use of pads, protectors or stick likely to cause injury to a player are prohibited.

13.2 [Hockey Canada Rule 3.7 (b)] No Player is permitted to use any piece of equipment that has been modified or altered to gain an advantage or compromise safety.

13.3 [Hockey Canada Rule 3.7 (c)] No player is permitted to use any piece of non-standard equipment that provides an undue advantage to the user in playing of the game or that poses a danger to the user or other participants in that game.

13.4 [Hockey Canada Rule 3.7 (d)] All elbow pads which do not have a soft protective covering of sponge, rubber or a similar material at least 1.27 cm (1/2 in.) thick will be considered dangerous equipment.

13.5 [Hockey Canada Rule 3.7 (e)] The use of supplemental oxygen is prohibited.

13.6 Minor Penalty [Hockey Canada Rule 3.7 (f)] - For a violation of this rule a warning will be issued to the team. Any subsequent violations by any player on the same team will result in a penalty to the offending player under 'Illegal Equipment.'

RULE 14. PUCKS

14.1 [Hockey Canada Rule 3.8 (a)] The puck will be made of vulcanized rubber or other approved material. It will be 2.54 cm (1 in.) thick and 7.62 cm (3 in.) in diameter and not weigh less than 156 g (5 ½ ounces) and not more than 170 g (6 ounces) and will be black in colour. For all games played under the jurisdiction of Hockey Canada, it is recommended that the official Hockey Canada puck be used.



SECTION 4 TYPES OF PENALTIES

SECTION 4 TYPES OF PENALTIES

RULE 15. CALLING OF PENALTIES

15.1 Calling a Penalty

Should an infraction of the rules which would call for a minor, major, misconduct, game misconduct or match penalty be committed by a player or goalkeeper of the side in possession of the puck, the Referee shall immediately blow his whistle and penalize the offending player or goalkeeper.

Should an infraction of the rules which would call for a minor, major, misconduct, game misconduct or match penalty be committed by a player or goalkeeper of the team not in possession of the puck, the Referee shall raise his arm to signal the delayed calling of a penalty. When the team to be penalized gains control of the puck, the Referee will blow his whistle to stop play and impose the penalty on the offending player or goalkeeper.

When a player, Trainer, Manager, Coach or non-player Club personnel is ejected from the game for a violation of the playing rules, that individual must vacate the players' bench area and may not, in any manner, further participate in the game. This includes directing the team from the spectator area or by radio communications. Any violations shall be reported to the Commissioner.

Refer to TABLE 1 – *Summary of Penalties to Coaches and Non-playing Club Personnel* for a list of infractions specific to those individuals.

15.2 Calling a Minor Penalty – Goal Scored

If the penalty to be imposed is a minor penalty and a goal is scored on the play by the non-offending side, the minor penalty shall not be imposed but major and match penalties shall be imposed in the normal manner regardless of whether or not a goal is scored.

If two or more minor penalties were to be imposed and a goal is scored on the play by the non-offending side, the Captain of the offending team shall designate to the Referee which minor penalty(ies) will be assessed and which minor penalty will be washed out as a result of the scoring of the goal.

15.3 Calling a Double-Minor Penalty – Goal Scored

When the penalty to be imposed is applicable under *Rule 42 Boarding* or *Rule 44 Checking from behind*, *Rule 48 Head-butting* or *Rule 58 Butt-ending*, *Rule 60 High-sticking* or *Rule 62 Spearing*, and a goal is scored, two minutes of the appropriate penalty will be assessed to the offending player or goalkeeper. (This will be announced as a double minor for the appropriate foul and the player will serve two (2) minutes only.)

15.4 Calling a Penalty – Short-Handed Team – Goal Scored

If when a team is "short-handed" by reason of one or more minor or bench minor penalties, and the Referee signals a further minor penalty or penalties against the "short-handed" team and a goal is scored by the non-offending side before the whistle is blown, and then the goal shall be allowed. The penalty or penalties signalled shall be assessed and the first of the minor penalties already being served shall automatically terminate under *Rule 16 – Minor Penalties*. Major and match penalties shall be imposed in the normal manner regardless of whether or not a goal is scored.

Should a minor or bench minor penalty be signalled against a team already short-handed by reason of a major (or match) penalty, but before the play can be stopped to assess the minor or bench minor penalty, and a goal is scored by the non-offending side, the signalled minor or bench minor penalty shall not be imposed due to the scoring of the goal.

Should a penalty be signalled against a team already short-handed by reason of one or more minor or bench minor penalties, and the signalled penalty would result in the awarding of a penalty shot, but before the Referee can stop play to award the penalty shot, the non-offending team scores a goal, then the signalled penalty (that would have resulted in a penalty shot) shall be assessed as a minor (double-minor, major or match) penalty and the first of the minor penalties already being served shall automatically terminate under *Rule 16 – Minor Penalties*.

15.5 Face-off Locations

When players are penalized at a stoppage of play so as to result in penalties being placed on the penalty time clock to one team, the ensuing face-off shall be conducted at one of the two face-off spots in the offending team's end zone. The offensive team will have the choice of which end zone dot the face-off will take place. There are only THREE (3) exceptions to this application:

- (i) When a penalty is assessed after the scoring of a goal (face-off at center ice)
- (ii) When a penalty is assessed at the end (or start) of a period – face-off at center ice
- (iii) When the defending team is about to be penalized and the attacking players enter the attacking zone beyond the outer edge of the end zone face-off circle – face-off in the neutral zone (see *Rule 76.2 – Face-Offs*).

RULE 16. MINOR PENALTIES

16.1 Minor Penalty

For a minor penalty, any player, other than a goalkeeper, shall be ruled off the ice for two (2) minutes during which time no substitute shall be permitted.

16.2 Short-Handed

“Short-handed” means that the team is below the numerical strength of its opponent on the ice at the time the goal is scored. The minor or bench minor penalty which terminates automatically is the one which was assessed first. Thus, coincident minor penalties to both Teams do not cause either side to be “short-handed” (see *Rule 19 - Coincidental Penalties*).

If while a team is “short-handed” by one or more minor or bench minor penalties, the opposing team scores a goal, the first of such penalties shall automatically terminate.

This rule shall also apply when a goal is awarded.

This rule does not apply when a goal is scored on a penalty shot (i.e. offending team’s penalized player(s) do not get released on the scoring of a goal on a penalty shot).

Minor penalty expiration criteria:

- (i) Is the team scored against short-handed?
- (ii) Is the team scored against serving a minor penalty on the clock?

If both criteria are satisfied, the minor penalty with the least amount of time on the clock shall terminate except when coincidental penalties are being served. Refer to *TABLE 13 – Goals Scored against a Short-handed Team*.

No penalty shall expire when a goal is scored against a team on a penalty shot.

When the minor penalties of two players of the same team terminate at the same time, the Captain of that team shall designate to the Referee which of such players will return to the ice first and the Referee will instruct the Penalty Timekeeper accordingly.

16.3 Infractions

Refer to *TABLE 2 – Summary of Minor Penalties* for a list of infractions that can result in a minor penalty being assessed (see specific rule numbers for complete descriptions).

RULE 17. BENCH MINOR PENALTIES

17.1 Bench Minor Penalty

A bench minor penalty involves the removal from the ice of one player of the team against which the penalty is assessed for a period of two (2) minutes. Any player except a goalkeeper of the team may be designated to serve the penalty by the Coach through the playing Captain and such player shall take his place on the penalty bench promptly and serve the penalty as if it was a minor penalty imposed upon him.

17.2 Short-Handed

See *Rule 16.2 - Short-Handed*.

17.3 Infractions

Refer to *TABLE 3 – Summary of Bench Minor Penalties* for a list of infractions that can result in a bench minor penalty being assessed (see specific rule numbers for complete descriptions).

RULE 18. DOUBLE MINOR PENALTIES

18.1 Double-Minor Penalty

For a double-minor penalty, any player, other than a goalkeeper, shall be ruled off the ice for four (4) minutes during which time no substitute shall be permitted.

18.2 Short-Handed – See Rule 16.2 - Short-Handed

When a double-minor penalty has been signalled by the Referee and the non-offending team scores during the delay, one of the minor penalties shall be washed out and the penalized player will serve the remaining two minutes of the

double-minor penalty. The penalty will be announced as a double-minor penalty but only two minutes would be shown on the penalty time clock.

18.3 Infractions

Refer to *TABLE 4 – Summary of Double-minor Penalties* for a list of infractions that can result in a double-minor penalty being assessed (see specific rule numbers for complete descriptions).

RULE 19. COINCIDENTAL PENALTIES

19.1 Coincidental Minor Penalties

When coincidental minor penalties or coincident minor penalties of equal duration are imposed against players of both teams, the penalized players shall all take their places on the penalty benches and such penalized players shall not leave the penalty bench until the first stoppage of play following the expiry of their respective penalties. Where goalkeepers are involved, (*Refer to Rule 28.1 - Minor penalty to Goalkeeper*). Immediate substitution shall be made for an equal number of minor penalties or coincidental minor penalties of equal duration to each team so penalized and the penalties of the players for which substitutions have been made shall not be taken into account for the purpose of the delayed penalty rule (*Refer to Rule 27 - Delayed Penalties*). This rule only applies when at least one team is already serving a time penalty in the penalty box that causes them to be short-handed.

When one minor penalty is assessed to one player or goalkeeper of each team at the same stoppage in play, these penalties will be served without substitution provided there are no other penalties in effect and visible on the penalty clocks. Both teams will therefore play four (4) skaters against four (4) skaters for the duration of the minor penalties.

Should one or both of these players also incur a misconduct penalty in addition to their one minor penalty, this rule shall apply and the teams would still play four (4) skaters against four (4) skaters (the player incurring the misconduct penalty would have to serve the entire 12 minutes – minor plus misconduct – and his team would have to place an additional player on the penalty bench to serve the minor penalty and be able to return to the ice when the minor penalty expires).

When multiple penalties are assessed to both teams, equal numbers of minor and major penalties shall be eliminated using the coincidental penalty rule and any differential in time penalties shall be served in the normal manner and displayed on the penalty time clock accordingly (*see Rule 19.5 - Applying the Coincidental Penalty Rule*). If there is no differential in time penalties, all players will serve their allotted penalty time, but will not be released until the first stoppage of play following the expiration of their respective penalties.

For coincidental penalties that carry over into, or are assessed during regular-season overtime, (*Refer to 84.3 Overtime – Regular season – Penalties*), to *TABLE 16 – Penalties in Effect Prior to the Start of Overtime – Regular-season*, and *TABLE 17 – Penalties Assessed in Overtime – Regular-season*.

Following a SCRUM situation, when one minor penalty is assessed to one player on each team at the same stoppage in play, Rule 19.1 - COINCIDENTAL MINOR PENALTIES (2nd & 3rd paragraphs) WILL NOT APPLY. IMMEDIATE SUBSTITUTIONS will be made and both teams will therefore play with five (5) skaters against five (5) skaters for the duration of the minor penalties.

19.2 Coincidental Major Penalties

When coincidental major penalties or coincidental penalties of equal duration, including a major and / or a match penalty, are imposed against players of both teams, immediate substitutions shall be made for an equal number of major penalties, or coincidental penalties of equal duration including a major penalty to each team so penalized, and the penalties of the players for which substitutions have been made shall not be taken into account for the purpose of the delayed penalty rule, (*See Rule 27 - Delayed Penalties*). In such situations, if one or both players have received a game misconduct in addition to their major penalties, no substitutes are required to take their places on the penalty benches.

19.3 Coincidental Match Penalties

When coincidental match penalties or coincidental penalties of equal duration, including a major and / or a match penalty, are imposed against players of both teams, the players with the match penalties shall be immediately removed from the game, immediate substitutions shall be made for an equal number of major and/or match penalties, or coincidental penalties of equal duration including a major or match penalty to each team so penalized, and the penalties of the players for which substitutions have been made shall not be taken into account for the purpose of the delayed penalty rule, (*Rule 27 – Delayed Penalties*).

19.4 Last five Minutes and Overtime

During the last five (5) minutes of regulation time, or at any time in overtime, when a minor penalty (or double-minor penalty) is assessed to one player or goalkeeper of Team A, and a major (or match) penalty is assessed to one player or goalkeeper of Team B at the same stoppage of play, the three-minute (or one-minute) differential shall be served immediately as a major penalty. This is also applicable when coincidental penalties are negated, leaving the aforementioned examples. In such instances, the team of the player or goalkeeper receiving the major penalty must place the replacement player in the penalty bench prior to expiration of the penalty. In the case of a match penalty, the

team must place the replacement player in the penalty bench immediately. The differential will be recorded on the penalty clock as a three (3) minute or a one (1) minute penalty (as applicable) and served in the same manner as a major penalty. This rule shall be applied regardless as to the on-ice strength of the two teams at the time the above outlined penalties are assessed.

19.5 Applying the Coincidental Penalty Rule

When multiple penalties are assessed to both teams at the same stoppage of play, the following rules are to be utilized by the Referees to determine the on-ice strength for both teams:

- (i) Cancel as many major and/or match penalties as possible.
- (ii) Cancel as many minors, bench minor and or double-minor penalties as possible.

Refer to *TABLE 14 – Coincidental Penalties*.

RULE 20. MAJOR PENALTIES

20.1 Major Penalty

When one player or goalkeeper receives a major penalty and a minor penalty at the same time, the major penalty shall be served first by the penalized player (or substitute for the goalkeeper), except under *Rule 19.2 - Coincidental Major Penalties* where coincidental major penalties are in effect, in which case the minor penalty will be recorded and served first.

20.2 Short-Handed

Although a major penalty does cause a team to be short-handed, the penalized player serving the major penalty does not leave the penalty bench when the opposing team scores. The player must wait for the entire major penalty to expire before he is permitted to exit the penalty bench.

20.3 Substitution

When a player has been assessed a major penalty and has been removed from the game (*Game Misconduct*), the offending team does not have to place a substitute player on the penalty bench immediately but must do so at a stoppage of play prior to the expiration of the major penalty. He may then legally exit the penalty bench when the major penalty has expired.

Failure to place a player on the penalty bench prior to the expiration of the major penalty will result in that team having to continue playing one player short (but not officially considered short-handed) until the next stoppage of play. Any replacement player who enters the game other than from the penalty bench shall constitute an illegal substitution under *Rule 68 – Illegal Substitution* calling for a bench minor penalty.

Furthermore, if the team fails to place a player on the penalty bench to return to the ice at the end of the major penalty, they continued to play short-handed but are not permitted to ice the puck as they are no longer short-handed by reason of a penalty.

20.4 Automatic Game Misconduct

An automatic game misconduct shall be applied whenever a major penalty is assessed.

When a major and game misconduct are assessed, the player shall be ruled off the ice for the balance of the game, but a substitute shall be permitted to replace the player so suspended after five (5) minutes have elapsed.

20.5 Infractions

Refer to *TABLE 6 - Summary of Major Penalties* that automatically a game misconduct penalty (see *specific rule numbers for complete descriptions*).

20.6 On-Ice Video Review of Major Penalties (NOT IN USE)

RULE 21. MATCH PENALTIES

21.1 Match Penalty

A match penalty involves the suspension of a player or goalkeeper for the balance of the game and the offender shall be ordered to the dressing room immediately.

A match penalty shall be imposed on any player who deliberately attempts to injure or who deliberately injures an opponent in any manner.

21.2 Short-Handed

A substitute player is permitted to replace the penalized player after five (5) minutes playing time has elapsed.

The match penalty, plus any additional penalties, shall be served by a player to be designated by the Manager or Coach of the offending team through the playing Captain, such player to take his place in the penalty box immediately.

For all match penalties, regardless of when imposed, or prescribed additional penalties, a total of ten (10) minutes shall be charged in the records against the offending player or goalkeeper.

In addition to the match penalty, the player or goalkeeper shall be automatically suspended from further competition until the Commissioner has ruled on the issue. (See also *Rule 29 – Supplementary Discipline*).

21.3 Reports

The Referee is required to report all match penalties and the surrounding circumstances to the Commissioner of the League immediately following the game in which they occur.

21.4 Infractions

Refer to *TABLE 7 – Summary of Match Penalties* for a list of the infractions that can result in a match penalty being assessed (see specific rule numbers for complete descriptions).

21.5 On-Ice Video Review of Match Penalties (NOT IN USE)

RULE 22. MISCONDUCT PENALTIES

22.1 Misconduct Penalty

In the event of misconduct penalties to any players except the goalkeeper, the players shall be ruled off the ice for a period of ten (10) minutes each. A substitute player is permitted to immediately replace a player serving a misconduct penalty. A player whose misconduct penalty has expired shall remain in the penalty box until the next stoppage of play.

22.2 Misconduct Penalty - Goalkeeper

Should a goalkeeper on the ice incur a misconduct penalty, this penalty shall be served by another member of his team who was on the ice when the offense was committed. This player is to be designated by the Coach of the offending team through the Captain.

22.3 Short-Handed

A player receiving a misconduct penalty does not cause his team to play short-handed unless he also receives a minor, major or match penalty in addition to the misconduct penalty.

When a player receives a minor penalty and a misconduct penalty at the same time, the penalized team shall immediately put a substitute player on the penalty bench, and he shall serve the minor penalty without change. Should the opposing team score during the time the minor penalty is being served, the minor penalty shall terminate unless, *Rule 15.4 - Calling a Penalty – Short-Handed Team – Goal Scored* is applicable and the misconduct to the originally penalized player shall start immediately.

When a player receives a major penalty and a misconduct penalty at the same time, the penalized team shall place a substitute player on the penalty bench before the major penalty expires and no replacement for the penalized player shall be permitted to enter the game except from the penalty bench.

22.4 Reporting

All misconduct penalties assessed for abuse of officials must be reported in detail to the League office.

22.5 Infractions

Refer to *TABLE 8 – Summary of Misconduct Penalties* for a list of the infractions that can result in a misconduct penalty being assessed (see specific rule numbers for complete descriptions).

RULE 23. GAME MISCONDUCT PENALTIES

23.1 Game Misconduct Penalty

A game misconduct penalty involves the suspension of a player or goalkeeper for the balance of the game but a substitute is permitted to replace the player removed. Ten minutes are applied in the League records to the player incurring a game misconduct penalty.

23.2 Suspensions

The Commissioner who shall have full power to impose such further penalties by way of suspension on the penalized player, goalkeeper or any other player involved in the altercation.

Any game misconduct penalty for which a player or goalkeeper has been assessed an automatic suspension or supplementary discipline in the form of game suspension(s) by the Commissioner shall not be taken into account.

For a list of infractions involving game misconducts that are included in the “General Category”, please refer to *TABLE 9 – Summary of Game Misconduct Fouls Included in the “General Category”*. See specific rule numbers for complete descriptions.

23.3 Automatic Game Misconduct

See *Rule 20.4 - Automatic Game Misconduct* and *Rule 21.3 - Reports*

23.4 Other Infractions that Could Result in a Game Misconduct

Refer to *TABLE 9 – Summary of Game Misconduct Penalties* for a list of infractions that can result in a game misconduct penalty being assessed (see specific rule numbers for complete descriptions).

In addition, the following list of infractions can also result in a game misconduct penalty being assessed:

- (i) Interfering with or striking a spectator.
- (ii) Discriminatory words or gestures (Refer to the Section 11 - Maltreatment)
- (iii) Spitting on or at an opponent or spectator.

Any player, goalkeeper or non-playing Club personnel who physically interferes with the spectators, becomes involved in an altercation with a spectator, or throws any object at a spectator, shall automatically incur a game misconduct penalty and the Referee shall report all such infractions to the Commissioner who shall have full power to impose such further penalty as he shall deem appropriate.

RULE 24. GROSS MISCONDUCT (NOT IN USE)

NOTE: Gross misconduct penalties have been re-classified as game misconduct penalties (see *Rule 23 Game Misconduct Penalties*). The term “gross misconduct penalty” is no longer in use

RULE 25. PENALTY SHOT

25.1 Penalty Shot

A penalty shot is designed to restore a scoring opportunity which was lost as a result of a foul being committed by the offending team, based on the parameters set out in these rules.

25.2 Procedure

The Referee shall have announced over the public address system the player designated by him or selected by the team entitled to take the shot (as appropriate). He shall then place the puck on the center face-off spot and the player taking the shot will, on the instruction of the Referee (by blowing his whistle), play the puck from there and shall attempt to score on the goalkeeper. The puck must be kept in motion towards the opponent’s goal line and once it is shot, the play shall be considered complete. No goal can be scored on a rebound of any kind (an exception being the puck off the goal post or crossbar, then the goalkeeper and then directly into the goal), and any time the puck crosses the goal line or comes to a complete stop, the shot shall be considered complete.

The ‘Lacrosse-like move’ whereby the puck is picked up on the blade of the stick and “whipped” into the net shall be permitted provided the puck is not raised above the height of the shoulders at any time and when released, is not carried higher than the crossbar. (See also *Rule 80.1 - High-sticking the puck*).

The ‘spin-o-rama’ type move where the player completes a (360°) turn as he approaches the goal, shall not be permitted. Should a player perform such a move during the shot, the shot shall be stopped by the Referee and no goal will be the result.

Only a player designated as a goalkeeper or alternate goalkeeper may defend against a penalty shot.

The goalkeeper must remain in his crease until the player taking a penalty shot has touched the puck.

If at the time a penalty shot is awarded, the goalkeeper of the penalized team has been removed from the ice to substitute another player, the goalkeeper shall be permitted to return to the ice before the shot is taken.

The team against whom the penalty shot has been assessed may replace their goalkeeper to defend against the penalty shot, however, the substitute goalkeeper is required to remain in the game until the next stoppage of play.

While the penalty shot is being taken, players on both sides shall withdraw to the sides of the rink and in front of their own player’s bench.

25.3 Designated Player

In cases where a penalty shot has been awarded to a player specifically fouled, that player shall be designated by the

Referee to take the shot.

In all other cases where a penalty shot has been awarded, the shot shall be taken by a player selected by the Captain of the non-offending team from the players on the ice at the time when the foul was committed. Such selection shall be reported to the Referee and cannot be changed.

If by reason of injury, the player designated by the Referee to take a game misconduct or match penalty in which case the shot shall be taken by a player a penalty shot is unable to do so within a reasonable time, the shot may be taken by a player selected by the Captain of the non-offending team from the players on the ice when the foul was committed. Such selection shall be reported to the Referee and cannot be changed.

Should the player in respect to whom a penalty shot has been awarded commit a foul in connection with the same play or circumstances, either before or after the shot has been awarded, he shall first be permitted to do so before being sent to the penalty bench to serve the penalty. Except when such penalty is for selected by the captain of the non-offending team from the players on the ice at the time when the foul was committed.

25.4 Violations During the Shot

Should the goalkeeper leave his crease prior to the player taking the penalty shot touches the puck, or commits any foul, the Referee shall allow the shot to be taken. If the shot fails, he shall permit the shot to be taken over again. When an infraction worthy of a minor penalty is committed by the goalkeeper during the shot causing it to fail, no penalty is assessed but the Referee shall permit the shot to be taken over again. Should a goalkeeper commit a second violation, and the shot fails, he shall be assessed a misconduct penalty and the Referee shall permit the shot to be taken over again. A third such violation shall result in the goalkeeper being assessed a game misconduct penalty.

When a major or match penalty is committed by the goalkeeper that causes the shot to fail, the Referee shall permit the shot to be taken over again, and the appropriate penalties shall be assessed to the goalkeeper.

The goalkeeper may attempt to stop the shot in any manner except by throwing his stick or any object, or by deliberately dislodging the goal, in which case a goal shall be awarded.

During the shot, should the goalkeeper, in an attempt at making a save, dislodge the goal accidentally, the Referee shall make one of the following determinations:

- (i) Award a goal if he deems the player would have scored into the area normally occupied by the net had it not been dislodged.
- (ii) Allow the shot to be re-taken if he does not score or it could not be determined if the puck would have entered the area normally occupied by the net.
- (iii) If the goal becomes dislodged after the puck has crossed the goal line thus ending the shot, the above determinations do not apply, the shot is complete.

If, while a penalty shot is being taken, any player, goalkeeper, Coach or non-playing Club personnel of the opposing team interferes with or distracts the player taking the shot and, because of such action, the shot fails, a second attempt shall be permitted. The Referee shall impose a bench minor penalty to the offending team, and if a player on the bench is responsible, a misconduct penalty on the player responsible shall be assessed. When a Coach or non-playing Club personnel is guilty of such an act, he shall be automatically suspended from the game (Game misconduct), ordered to the dressing room and the matter will be reported to the Commissioner for possible further disciplinary action.

If, while the penalty shot is being taken, a spectator throws any object onto the ice that in the judgment of the Referee, interferes with the player taking the shot or the goalkeeper defending the shot, he shall permit the shot be taken again. If, after a player's stick has been ruled illegal, he attempts to take a penalty shot with a second stick that is also ruled illegal prior to taking the shot, the opportunity to take the shot shall be disallowed. The player shall be assessed one minor penalty for the first illegal stick.

25.5 Face-off Location

If a goal is scored from a penalty shot, the puck shall be faced-off at center ice. If a goal is not scored, the puck shall be faced-off at either of the end face-off spots in the zone in which the penalty shot was tried attempted. (*see Rule 76.2 - Face-off location*).

25.6 Results

Should a goal be scored from a penalty shot, a further penalty to the offending player or goalkeeper shall not be applied unless the offense for which the penalty shot was awarded is a major, match or misconduct penalty, in which case the appropriate penalty shall be imposed.

If the offense for which the penalty shot was awarded was to incur a minor penalty, then regardless of the outcome of the shot, no further minor penalty shall be served.

If the offense for which the penalty shot was awarded was to incur a double-minor penalty, or where the offending team is assessed an additional minor penalty on the same play in the first minor penalty is not assessed since the penalty

shot was awarded to restore the lost scoring opportunity. The second minor penalty would be assessed and served regardless of whether the penalty shot results in a goal. This will be announced as a double-minor penalty for the appropriate foul and the player will serve two (2) minutes only.

No penalty shall expire when a goal is scored against a team on a penalty shot.

Should two penalty shots be awarded to the same team at the same stoppage of play (two separate fouls), only one goal can be scored or awarded at a single stoppage of play. Should the first penalty shot result in a goal, the second shot would not be taken but the appropriate penalty would be assessed and served as normal.

25.7 Timing

If the foul upon which the penalty shot is based occurs during actual playing time, the penalty shot shall be awarded and taken immediately in the usual manner notwithstanding any delay occasioned by a slow whistle by the Referee to allow play to continue until the attacking side has lost possession of the puck to the defending side, which delay results in the expiry of the regular playing time in any period.

The time required for the taking of a penalty shot shall not be included in the regular playing time or overtime.

25.8 Infractions

Refer to *TABLE 10 – Summary of Penalty Shots* for a list of the infractions that shall result in a penalty shot being awarded (see specific rule numbers for complete descriptions).

There are four (4) specific conditions that must be met in order for the Referee to award a penalty shot for a player being fouled from behind. They are:

- (i) The infraction must have taken place in the neutral zone or attacking zone, (i.e. over the puck carrier's own blue line);
- (ii) The infraction must have been committed from behind.
- (iii) The player in possession and control (or, in the judgment of the Referee, clearly would have obtained possession and control of the puck) must have been denied a reasonable chance to score (the fact that he got a shot off does not automatically eliminate this play from the penalty shot consideration criteria. If the foul was from behind and he was denied a "more" reasonable scoring opportunity due to the foul, then the penalty shot should be awarded);
- (iv) The player in possession and control (or, in the judgment of the Referee, clearly would have obtained possession and control of the puck) must have had no opposing player between himself and the goalkeeper.

RULE 26. AWARDED GOALS

26.1 Awarded Goal

A goal will be awarded to the attacking team when the opposing team has taken their goalkeeper off the ice and an attacking player has possession and control of the puck (or would have gained possession and control) in the neutral or attacking zone, without a defending player between himself and the opposing goal, and he is prevented from scoring as a result of an infraction committed by the defending team (see *Rule 26.3 - Infractions - When Goalkeeper is Off the Ice*).

26.2 Infractions – When Goalkeeper is ON the Ice

A goal will be awarded when an attacking player, in the act of shooting the puck into the goal (between the normal position of the posts and completely across the goal line), is prevented from scoring as a result of a defending player or goalkeeper displacing the goal post, either deliberately or accidentally.

26.3 Infractions – When Goalkeeper is OFF the Ice

Refer to *TABLE 11 – Summary of Awarded Goals (When Goalkeeper has been removed for an Extra Attacker)* for a list of the infractions that shall result in an awarded goal when the goalkeeper has been removed for an extra attacker (see specific rule numbers for complete descriptions).

26.4 Infractions – During the Course of a Penalty Shot

A goal will be awarded when a goalkeeper attempts to stop a penalty shot by throwing his stick or any other object at the player taking the shot or by dislodging the goal (either deliberately or accidentally) (see *Rule 63.7 - Awarded Goal*)

RULE 27. DELAYED PENALTIES

27.1 Delayed penalty

If a third player of any team is penalized while two players of the same team are serving penalties, the penalty time of the third player shall not commence until the penalty time of one of the two players already penalized has elapsed. The third penalized player must proceed at once to the penalty bench. He may be substituted for on ice to keep the on-ice

strength at no less than three players for his team.

27.2 Penalty Expiration

When any team has three players serving penalties at the same time and because of the delayed penalty rule, a substitute for the third offender is on the ice, none of the three penalized players on the penalty bench may return to the ice until play has stopped. When play has been stopped, the player whose penalty has fully expired may return to the ice.

During the play, the Penalty Timekeeper shall permit the penalized players to return to the ice, in the order of expiration of their penalties, but only when the penalized team is entitled to have more than four players on the ice. Otherwise, these players must wait until the first stoppage of play after the expiration of their penalties in order to be released from the penalty bench.

When the penalties of two players of the same team will expire at the same time, the Captain of that team will designate to the Referee which player will return to the ice first and the Referee will instruct the Penalty Timekeeper accordingly, this is done to expedite the release of a player from the penalty bench when the opposing team scores on the power-play.

27.3 Major and Minor Penalty

When a major and a minor penalty are imposed at the same time on players of the same team, the Penalty Timekeeper shall record the minor as being the first penalty.

RULE 28. GOALKEEPER'S PENALTIES

28.1 Minor Penalty to Goalkeeper

A goalkeeper shall not be sent to the penalty bench for an offense which incurs a minor penalty, but instead, the minor penalty shall be served by another member of his team who was on the ice when the offense was committed. This player is to be designated by the Coach of the offending team through the playing Captain and such substitute shall not be changed.

A penalized player may not serve a goalkeeper's penalty.

If the goalkeeper is involved in coincidental penalties being assessed and as a result, his team is required to play shorthanded due to additional penalties assessed to the goalkeeper, the player designated to serve the additional time penalties assessed to the goalkeeper may be any player as designated by the Manager or Coach of the offending team through the playing Captain.

28.2 Major Penalty to Goalkeeper

When a goalkeeper is assessed a major penalty plus a game misconduct, which is coincidental with a major or match penalty to the opposing team, no player is required to serve the goalkeeper's penalties in the penalty box, since he has been ejected from the game.

28.3 Misconduct Penalty to Goalkeeper

Should a goalkeeper on the ice incur a misconduct penalty, this penalty shall be served by another member of his team who was on the ice when the offense was committed. This player is to be designated by the Manager or Coach of the offending team through the Captain.

28.4 Game Misconduct Penalty to Goalkeeper

Should a goalkeeper incur a game misconduct penalty, his place will then be taken by a member of his own Club or by a regular substitute goalkeeper who is available, and such player will be allowed the goalkeeper's full equipment.

28.5 Match Penalty to Goalkeeper

Should a goalkeeper incur a match penalty, his place will then be taken by a member of his own Club or by a substitute goalkeeper who is available, and such player will be allowed the goalkeeper's full equipment.

The match penalty and any additional penalties assessed to the goalkeeper, shall be served immediately by a member of the team on the ice when the offenses were committed. This player shall be designated by the Coach of the offending team through the Captain. However, when the match penalty is coincidental with a match or major penalty to the opposing team, no player is required to proceed to the penalty bench to serve the goalkeeper's match penalty.

28.6 Leaving Goal Crease

A minor penalty shall be imposed on a goalkeeper who leaves the immediate vicinity of his crease during an altercation. In addition, this incident shall be reported to the Commissioner for further disciplinary action as may be required. However, should the altercation occur in or near the goalkeeper's crease, the Referee should direct the goalkeeper to a neutral location and not assess a penalty for leaving the immediate vicinity of the goal crease. Equally, if the goalkeeper is legitimately outside the immediate vicinity of the goal crease for the purpose of proceeding to the players' bench to be substituted for an extra attacker, and he subsequently becomes involved in an altercation, the minor penalty for leaving

the crease would not be assessed.

In addition, during stoppages of play in the game, he must not proceed to his players' bench for the purpose of receiving a replacement stick or equipment or repairs thereto, or due to an injury, or to receive instructions, without first obtaining permission to do so from the Referee. Otherwise, he must be replaced by the substitute goalkeeper immediately (without any delay) or be assessed a bench minor penalty for delay of game.

28.7 Participating in the Play Over the Center Red Line

If a goalkeeper participates in the play in any manner (intentionally plays the puck or checks an opponent) when he is beyond the center red line, a minor penalty shall be imposed upon him. The position of the puck is the determining factor for the application of this rule.

28.8 Restricted Area (NOT IN USE)

28.9 Infractions – Unique to Goalkeepers

Refer to *TABLE 12 – Summary of Goalkeeper Penalties* for a list of the infractions that shall result in a penalty to the goalkeeper (see specific rule numbers for complete descriptions).

RULE 29. SUPPLEMENTARY DISCIPLINE

29.1 Supplementary Discipline

In addition to the automatic fines and suspensions imposed under these rules, the Commissioner may, at his discretion, investigate any incident that occurs in connection with any Pre-season, Exhibition, League or Playoff game and may assess additional fines and/or suspensions for any offense committed before or during the course of a game or any aftermath thereof by a player, goalkeeper, Trainer, Manager, Coach or non-playing Club personnel or Club executive, whether or not such offense has been penalized by the Referee.

RULE 30. SIGNALS

Refer to Hockey Canada "Referee Signals"



SECTION 5 OFFICIALS

SECTION 5 OFFICIALS

RULE 31. APPOINTMENT OF OFFICIALS

31.1 Appointment of Officials

The Member Branches shall appoint the Referees and Linesmen for each game.

The Member Branches shall forward to the MHL a list of certified Referees and Linesmen, all of whom must always be treated with proper respect during the season by all players and Clubs officials and representatives.

RULE 32. REFEREES

32.1 Attire and Equipment

All Referees shall be dressed in black pants, officials' sweaters/jerseys, black helmet with visor and approved whistles.

32.2 Disputes

The Referees shall have general supervision of the game and shall have full control of all game officials and players during the game, including stoppages; and in case of any dispute, their decision shall be final.

As there is a human factor involved in blowing the whistle to stop play, the Referee may deem the play to be stopped slightly prior to the whistle actually being blown. The fact that the puck may come loose or cross the goal line prior to the sound of the whistle has no bearing if the Referee has ruled that the play had been stopped prior to this happening.

It shall be his duty to impose such penalties as are prescribed by the rules for infractions thereof and shall give the final decision in matters of disputed goals. The Referee may consult with other Referee and Linesmen before making his decision.

In the event of any dispute regarding time or the expiration of penalties, the matter shall be referred to the Referee for adjustment and his decision shall be final.

32.3 Face-Offs

One of the Referees shall face-off the puck to start each period. Linesmen are responsible for all other face-offs.

32.4 General Duties

It shall be the duty of the Referees to impose such penalties as are prescribed by the rules for infractions thereof and they shall give the final on-ice decision in matters of disputed goals. The Referees may consult with the other Referee and Linesmen before making their decision.

The Referees shall not halt the game for any infractions of the rules concerning off-side (Refer to *Rule 83 - Off-side*), or any violation for icing (Refer to *Rule 81 - Icing*). Determining infractions of these rules is the duty of the Linesmen unless, by virtue of some unforeseen issue, the Linesman is prevented from doing so in which case the duties of the Linesman shall be assumed by a Referee until play is stopped.

The officials shall use a "***Bottom Line - Right Call***" philosophy. Should an obvious mistake be made, it can be corrected through this philosophy.

32.5 Goals

The Referees shall have announced over the public address system information regarding the legality of an apparent goal. The Official Scorer, will confirm the goal scorer and any players deserving of an assist. (See also *Rule 78 - Goals*).

The Referees shall have announced over the public address system the reason for not allowing a goal every time the goal signal light is turned on in the course of play. This shall be done at the first stoppage of play regardless of any standard signal given by the Referees when the goal signal light was put on in error.

The Referees shall report to the Official Scorer the name or number of the goal scorer and assists.

The name of the scorer and any player or goalkeeper entitled to an assist will be announced over the public address system. In the event that the Referee disallows a goal for any violation of the rules, he shall report the reason for the disallowance to the Official Scorer who shall have announced the Referee's decision correctly over the public address system.

32.6 Off-Ice Officials

The Referees shall, before starting the game, see that the appointed off-ice officials, including the Game Timekeeper and the Goal Judges (where applicable) are in their respective places and ensure that the timing and signalling equipment are in order.

32.7 Penalties

The infraction of the rules for which each penalty has been imposed will be announced correctly, as reported by the Referee, over the public address system. Where players of both teams are penalized on the same play, the penalty to the visiting player will be announced first.

32.8 Players' Uniforms

It shall be the duty of the Referees to see to it that all players are properly dressed, and that the approved regulation equipment (including the approved on-ice branded exposure program) is in use at all times during the game.

32.9 Reports

The Referee shall report to the Commissioner promptly and in detail the circumstances surrounding the following:

(i) Any unusual occurrence that takes place on or off the ice, before, during or after the game.

32.10 Start and end of Game and Periods

The Referees shall order the teams on the ice at the appointed time for the beginning of a game and at the commencement of each period. If for any reason, there is more than a fifteen (15) minute delay in the commencement of the game or any undue delay in resuming play after the League approved intermission length between periods, the Referees shall state in their report to the Commissioner the cause of the delay and the Club or Clubs which were at fault.

The Referee(s) shall remain on the ice at the conclusion of each period until all players have proceeded to their dressing rooms.

The Referee(s) shall check club rosters and all players in uniform before signing the Official Report of Match form.

32.11 Unable to Continue

Should a Referee accidentally leave the ice or receive an injury which incapacitates him from discharging his duties while play is in progress, the game shall be automatically stopped. If the Referee is unable to continue, the game shall continue using the one Referee, two Linesmen system. (Decision made as to who will act as Referee made by Senior Linesman.)

If, owing to illness or accident, one of the Referees is unable to continue to officiate, the remaining Referee shall perform the duties of the ill or injured Referee during the balance of the game. In the event that a member of the League's Hockey Operations or Officiating departments is in attendance at a game where a spare official is present, he shall have the authority to substitute the injured Referee with the spare official.

If, through misadventure or sickness, the Referees and Linesmen appointed are prevented from appearing, the League will make every attempt to find suitable replacement officials, otherwise, the Managers or Coaches of the two Clubs shall agree on Referee(s) and Linesman (men). If they are unable to agree, they shall appoint a player from each side who shall act as Referee and Linesman; the player of the home Club acting as Referee and the player of the visiting Club as Linesman.

If the regularly appointed officials appear during the progress of the game, they shall at once replace the temporary officials.

RULE 33. LINESMEN

33.1 Attire and Equipment

All Linesmen shall be dressed in black pants, officials' sweaters/jerseys, black helmet with visor and approved whistles.

33.2 Face-Offs

The Linesman shall face-off the puck at all times except at the beginning of the three (3) regular Periods.

33.3 General Duties

The Linesmen are generally responsible for calling violations of off-side (*Rule 83 - Off-side*) and icing (*Rule 81 - Icing*). They may stop play for a variety of other situations as noted in Sections 33.4 and 33.5 below.

33.4 Reporting to Referee

The Linesman shall give to the Referees his interpretation of any incident that may have taken place during the game.

The Linesman may stop play and report what he witnessed to the Referee(s) when:

- | | | |
|-------|---|---------|
| (i) | There are too many men on the ice: | Rule 74 |
| (ii) | Articles are thrown on the ice from the players' bench or penalty bench; | Rule 75 |
| (iii) | When team personnel interfere with a game official: | Rule 88 |
| (iv) | When a player goalkeeper who has lost or broken his stick receives one illegally; | Rule 10 |
| (v) | When any identifiable player on the player's or penalty bench, by means of his stick or his body, interferes with the movements of the puck or an opponent. | Rule 56 |

The Linesman may stop play and / or must report upon completion of play, any circumstances pertaining to: and impose any major / match penalty when a serious incident has occurred.

The Linesman must report upon completion of play, any circumstances pertaining to:

- | | | |
|--------|------------------------------|---------|
| (vi) | Major penalty; | Rule 20 |
| (vii) | Match penalty; | Rule 21 |
| (viii) | Misconduct penalty; | Rule 22 |
| (ix) | Game misconduct penalties; | Rule 23 |
| (x) | Abuse of officials: | Rule 89 |
| (xi) | Physical abuse of officials: | Rule 91 |
| (xii) | Unsportsmanlike conduct; | Rule 75 |

Should a Linesman witness a foul (above) committed by an attacking player or goalkeeper (undetected by the Referees) prior to the attacking team scoring a goal, the Linesman shall report what he witnessed to the Referees, the goal shall be disallowed and the appropriate penalty assessed.

The Linesman must stop play immediately and report to the Referees when:

- | | | |
|--------|---|---------|
| (xiii) | When it is apparent that an injury has resulted from a high-stick or spearing undetected by the Referees and requires the assessment of a double-minor penalty. | Rule 60 |
|--------|---|---------|

33.5 Stopping Play

The Linesman shall stop play:

- | | | |
|--------|---|-------------------|
| (i) | When premature substitution of the goalkeeper has occurred; | Rule 71 |
| (ii) | When he deems that a player or goalkeeper has sustained a serious injury and this has gone undetected by either of the Referees; | Rule 8 |
| (iii) | For encroachment into the face-off area; | Rule 76 |
| (iv) | When the puck has been directed with a hand to a teammate in any zone other than the defending zone and this has gone undetected by either of the Referees; | Rule 79 |
| (v) | When the puck has been batted with the hand by either center in an attempt to win the face-off in any zone. | Rule 76 |
| (vi) | When the puck is struck by a stick above the normal height of the shoulders and this has gone undetected by either of the Referees; | Rule 80 |
| (vii) | When either team ices the puck; | Rule 81 |
| (viii) | When there has been interference by / with spectators; | Rule 23 |
| (ix) | For any infraction of the rules concerning off-side play at the blue line; | Rule 83 |
| (x) | When the puck is out of bounds or unplayable; | Rule 85 |
| (xi) | When a goal has been scored that has not been observed by the Referees; | Rule 78 |
| (xii) | When the puck is interfered with by an ineligible player / person; | Rules 5 / 74 / 78 |
| (xiii) | The calling of a penalty shot under. | Rule 53 |

33.6 Unable to Continue

Should a Linesman appointed be unable to act at the last minute or through sickness or accident be unable to finish the game, the Referees shall have the power to appoint another in his stead, if they deem it necessary, or if required to do so by the Manager or Coach of either of the competing teams. If no replacement Linesman is available, the two Referees will assist the remaining Linesman with his duties while still retaining their ability to assess penalties when deemed

appropriate.

RULE 34. OFFICIAL SCORER

34.1 General Duties

Before the start of the game, the Official Scorer shall obtain from the Manager or Coach of both teams a list of all eligible players and the starting line-up of each team, which information shall be made known to the opposing Manager or Coach before the start of play.

The Official Scorer shall secure the names of the Captain and Alternate Captains from the Manager or Coach at the time the line-ups are collected and will indicate those nominated by placing the letter "C" or "A" opposite their names on the Official Report of Match form.

The Official Scorer shall keep a record of the goals scored, the scorers, and players to whom assists have been credited and shall indicate those players on the lists who have actually taken part in the game.

The Official Scorer shall prepare the Official Game Report for signature by the Referees and forward it to the League office together with the Score Sheet and the Penalty Record forms.

34.2 Goals and Assists

All goals and assists shall be announced twice over the public address system and all changes in such awards shall also be announced in the same manner.

No requests for changes in any award of points shall be considered unless they are made at or before the conclusion of actual play in the game by the Team Captain, or immediately following the game by a Team representative to the Referees.

A goal is awarded to the last player on the scoring team to touch the puck prior to the puck entering the net. (A puck entering the net is considered to be between the posts, from in front of, and below the crossbar, and entirely across the goal line.)

An assist is awarded to the player or players (maximum two) who touches the puck prior to the goal scorer, provided no defender plays or possesses the puck in between.

When goals are scored in the final minute of a period where tenths of seconds are shown on the clock, the time of the goal shall be rounded up to the nearest second for the official records.

34.3 Line-ups

It is the policy of the League that the Coach of both teams must submit electronically a list of eligible players, his starting line-up and designated Captain and Alternates.

The Official Scorer must file a report to the League or his designate if either Coach fails to cooperate within these recommended guidelines.

34.4 Location

The Official Scorer should be located at the Penalty Bench.

34.5 Penalties

The Official Scorer must help the Penalty Timekeeper with the numbers of the players on the ice, in the event a goalkeeper is assessed a penalty or a player is ejected from a game. He must also keep an eye on the players' benches during an altercation and record the numbers of any players who leave their respective players' or penalty benches and in the order that they so leave.

34.6 Score Sheet

At the end of the game, the Official Scorer must complete the scoresheet that he or she prepared during the game. This copy must also be signed by the two referees on duty at the game.

RULE 35. GAME TIMEKEEPER

35.1 General Duties

The Game Timekeeper shall record the time of starting and finishing of each period in the game. During the game the Game Timekeeper will start the clock with the drop of the puck and stop the clock upon hearing the officials' whistle or the scoring of a goal.

The Game Timekeeper shall cause to be announced over the public address system at each period that there is one

minute remaining to be played in the period.

35.2 Intermissions

For the purpose of keeping the spectators informed as to the time remaining during intermissions, the Game Timekeeper will use the electronic clock to record the length of intermissions. The clock will start once the last official exits the ice surface upon the termination of the period.

Intermissions are fifteen (15) minutes in length, unless otherwise notified. If there are unusual delays for any reason, (e.g. building, ice, or ice resurfacing problems) it is important to use discretion in starting the clock.

35.3 Overtime

In the event of overtime in the regular season, the Game Timekeeper shall reset the clock to five (5) minutes in preparation for the overtime period. The overtime period will commence after a 2-minute break. If the overtime period does not declare a winner, teams will proceed to a shootout as per *Rule 84.4*.

During overtime in the play-offs, each intermission will be completed in a normal manner.

35.4 Signal Devices

If the arena is not equipped with an automatic signalling device or, if such device fails to function, the Game Timekeeper shall signal the end of each period by blowing a whistle.

35.5 Start of Periods

The Game Timekeeper shall signal the Referees and the competing teams for the start of the game and each succeeding period and the Referees shall start the play promptly in accordance with *Rule 77 – Game and Intermission Timing*.

To assist in ensuring the prompt return to the ice of the teams and the officials, the Game Timekeeper shall give preliminary warnings of five (5) minutes and two (2) minutes prior to the resumption of play in each period.

35.6 Television **(NOT IN USE)**

35.7 Verification of Time

Any loss of time on the game or penalty clocks due to a false face-off must be replaced as appropriate.

In the event of any dispute regarding time, the matter shall be referred to the Referees for adjudication and their decision shall be final. The Game Timekeeper shall assist to verify game time using an additional timing device (League-approved stopwatch).

In the event that clock fails to operate when play resumes, the on-ice officials may elect to stop play provided there is no imminent scoring opportunity or wait until the next legitimate stoppage of play. In cooperation with the Game Timekeeper, the clock is to be reset to the appropriate time.

RULE 36. PENALTY TIMEKEEPER

36.1 General Duties

The Penalty Timekeeper shall keep, on the Penalty Record form, a correct record of all penalties imposed by the Referees including the names of the players penalized, the penalties assessed, the duration of each penalty and the time at which each penalty was imposed.

The Penalty Timekeeper shall inform penalized players and the Penalty Box Attendants as to the correct expiration time of all penalties. In the event of a malfunction of the penalty time clock, the game clock shall be utilized to determine the expiration time of each penalty. Otherwise, the penalty time clocks shall be the official timing device for all penalties that require a team to play with less than five skaters. Players shall only be released from the penalty box when indicated by the penalty time clock or as otherwise cover in the playing rules.

The infraction of the rules for which each penalty has been imposed will be announced once over the public address system as reported by the Referee. Where players of both teams are penalized at the same time, the penalty to the visiting player will be announced first. In situations where multiple game misconducts have been assessed to any one player at the same stoppage of play, only one game misconduct should be announced.

Misconduct penalties and coincident major penalties should not be recorded on the timing device (penalty time clock) but such penalized players should be alerted and released at the first stoppage of play following the expiration of their penalties.

When a player is assessed a misconduct in addition to other penalties, the misconduct shall only commence after all other penalties have been served (or washed out by the scoring of a goal).

If a player leaves the penalty bench before the time has expired, the Penalty Timekeeper must note the time and notify the Referees at his first opportunity.

It is the responsibility of the Penalty Timekeeper to ensure that penalized players return to the penalty box before the puck is dropped for the start of a new period. In the event that a penalized player is not in the penalty box, the Penalty Timekeeper should notify the Referees and prevent the game from resuming until the player is there.

36.2 Equipment

The Penalty Timekeeper shall have an official stick-measuring gauge and tape measure available for the Referees use during the game.

36.3 Goalkeeper's Penalties

In the event that a goalkeeper is penalized, the penalty shall be served by another member of his team who was on the ice when the offense was committed.

36.4 Penalty Shot

He shall report on the Penalty Record form each penalty shot awarded, the name of the player taking the shot and the result of the shot.

36.5 Penalty Timekeeper

He shall be responsible for the correct posting of penalties on the scoreboard at all times and shall promptly call to the attention of the Referees any discrepancy between the time recorded on the clock and the official correct time and he shall be responsible for making any adjustments ordered by the Referees.

In the event that two players from one team and one player from the opposing team are penalized at the same time, the Penalty Timekeeper shall request through the Referee or the offending team's Captain, which penalty they prefer to have on the timing device.

When penalties are assessed in the final minute of a period where tenths of seconds are shown on the clock, the time of the penalty shall be rounded up to the nearest second for the official records.

36.6 Reports (NOT IN USE)

36.7 Verification of Time (NOT IN USE)

RULE 37. GOAL JUDGE (Optional at League direction)

37.1 General Duties

He shall signal, normally by means of red light, his decision as to whether the puck passed between the goal posts and entirely over the goal line. His only decision is whether the puck actually entered the net, not how or when it went in. The light must be illuminated for a period of five (5) seconds each time the puck enters the net regardless of circumstances. It is up to the Referees to decide if it is a goal.

37.2 Location

There shall be one Goal Judge situated behind each goal (or in an area designated and approved by the MHL) in properly protected areas, if possible, so that there can be no interference with their activities. They shall not change goals during the game.

RULE 38. REAL TIME SCORERS (NOT IN USE)

RULE 39. VIDEO GOAL JUDGE (NOT IN USE)

RULE 40. ABUSE OF OFFICIALS (REFER TO SECTION 11)

RULE 41. PHYSICAL ABUSE OF OFFICIALS (REFER TO SECTION 11)



SECTION 6 PHYSICAL FOULS

SECTION 6 PHYSICAL FOULS

RULE 42. BOARDING

42.1 Boarding

A boarding penalty shall be imposed on any player or goalkeeper who checks an opponent in such a manner that causes the opponent to be thrown violently in the boards. The severity of the penalty, based upon the degree of violence of the impact with the boards, shall be at the discretion of the Referee.

There is an enormous amount of judgment involved in the application of this rule by the Referees. The onus is on the player (or goalkeeper) applying the check to ensure his opponent is not in a vulnerable position and if so, he must avoid the contact. However, there is also a responsibility on the player with the puck to avoid placing himself in a dangerous and vulnerable position. This balance must be considered by the Referees when applying this rule.

Any unnecessary contact with the player playing the puck on an obvious “icing or “off-side” play which results in that player being knocked into the boards is “boarding” and must be penalized as such. In other instances where there is no contact with the boards, it should be considered “charging”.

42.2 Minor Penalty

The Referee, at his discretion, may assess a minor penalty, based on the degree of violence of the impact with the boards, to a player or goalkeeper guilty of boarding an opponent.

42.3 Double Minor Penalty

If a minor penalty for boarding is being assessed and on the play the opponent clearly turned at the last moment and as a result was injured from the check, a double minor penalty shall be assessed.

42.4 Major plus Game Misconduct Penalty

The Referee, at his discretion, may assess a major penalty plus a game misconduct, based on the degree of violence of the impact with the boards; to a player or goalkeeper guilty of boarding an opponent.

42.5 Match Penalty

The Referee, at his discretion, may assess a match penalty if, in his judgment, the player or goalkeeper attempted to or deliberately injured his opponent by boarding.

RULE 43. CHARGING

43.1 Charging

A minor or major penalty plus a game misconduct shall be imposed on a player who skates, jumps into or charges an opponent in any manner.

Charging shall mean the actions of a player or goalkeeper who, as a result of distance traveled, shall violently check an opponent in any manner. A “charge” may be the result of a check into the boards, into the goal frame or in open ice.

A minor or a major and a game misconduct shall be imposed on a player who charges a goalkeeper while the goalkeeper is within his goal crease.

A goalkeeper is not “fair game” just because he is outside the goal crease area. The appropriate penalty should be assessed in every case where an opposing player makes unnecessary contact with a goalkeeper.

However, incidental contact, at the discretion of the Referee, will be permitted when the goalkeeper is in the act of playing the puck outside his goal crease provided the attacking player has made a reasonable effort to avoid such contact.

43.2 Minor Penalty

The Referee, at his discretion, may assess a minor penalty, based on the degree of violence of the check, to a player or goalkeeper guilty of charging an opponent.

43.3 Major plus Game Misconduct Penalty

The Referee, at his discretion, may assess a major penalty plus a game misconduct, based on the degree of violence of the check to a player or goalkeeper guilty of charging an opponent.

43.4 Match Penalty

The Referee, at his discretion, may assess a match penalty if, in his judgment, the player or goalkeeper attempted to or

deliberately injured his opponent by charging.

RULE 44. CHECKING FROM BEHIND

44.1 Checking from Behind

A check from behind is a check delivered on a player who is not aware of the impending hit, therefore unable to protect or defend himself, and contact is made on the back part of the body.

44.2 Minor Penalty

There is a minor penalty for checking from behind.

44.3 Double Minor Penalty

If a minor penalty for checking from behind is being assessed and on the play the opponent clearly turned at the last moment and as a result was injured from the check, a double minor penalty shall be assessed.

44.4 Major plus Game Misconduct Penalty

Any player who cross-checks, pushed or charges an opponent from behind who is unable to protect or defend himself, shall be assessed a major penalty plus a game misconduct. This penalty applies anywhere on the playing surface. A major and a game misconduct penalty shall be assessed regardless of whether injury occurs if a player is knocked violently from behind into the boards or goal frame.

44.5 Match Penalty

The Referee, at his discretion, may assess a match penalty if, in his judgment, the player or goalkeeper attempted to or deliberately injured his opponent by checking from behind.

Note: If there is any turning action by the player receiving the check, or if the hit is not directly from behind, a match penalty for checking from behind cannot be assessed.

RULE 44B CHECKING TO THE HEAD

Definition: The MHL shall adopt a "Checking to the Head" penalty for open ice hits as follows:

A hit resulting in contact with an opponent's head where the head is targeted and the principal point of contact is not permitted. However, in determining whether such a hit should have been permitted, the circumstances of the hit, including whether the opponent put himself in a vulnerable position immediately prior to or simultaneously with the hit or the head contact on an otherwise legal body check was unavoidable, can be considered.

44B.1 Minor Penalty

If there is minimal contact with the opponent's head, a minor penalty for checking to the head shall be assessed.

44B.2 Major plus Game Misconduct Penalty

For a violation of this rule, an automatic major and game misconduct for checking to the head shall be assessed.

44B.3 Match Penalty

The referee, at his discretion, may assess a match penalty if, in his judgment, the player attempted to or deliberately injured his opponent with an illegal check to the head.

Note: A hit to the head with a shoulder shall be considered an illegal check and shall be penalized as checking to the head.

Title of Infraction to be called

- All minor penalties for elbowing, interference, charging etc. will continue to be called as previously.
- Should the referee be calling a major penalty for elbowing, interference, charging etc. for a hit of significant nature to the head area, even though it may not result in an injury, the major and game misconduct will be assessed for "checking to the head".

RULE 44C BLIND SIDE HIT

Definition: Checking in an unexpected manner an opponent BLIND SIDE ANGLE.

If a player checks an opponent in control of the puck or who is recovering a loose puck in an UNEXPECTED MANNER from the side or from behind, this action will be considered illegal.

44C.1 Minor Penalty

The referee, at his discretion, may assess a minor penalty if, in his judgment, the player checks an opponent in an unexpected manner from a BLIND SIDE angle.

44C.2 Major Penalty & Game Misconduct

The referee, at his discretion, and the degree of impact, may assess a major penalty and a game misconduct at any player who checks an opponent in an unexpected manner from a BLIND SIDE angle.

44C.3 Match Penalty

The referee, at his discretion, may assess a match penalty if, in his judgment, the player attempted to or deliberately injured his opponent in an unexpected manner from a BLIND SIDE angle.

Title of Infraction to be called

- All minor penalties for elbowing, interference, charging, etc., will continue to be called as previously.
- Should the referee be calling a major penalty for elbowing, interference, charging, BLIND SIDE HIT etc. for a hit of significant nature to the head area, even though it may not result in an injury, the major and game misconduct will be assessed for “**checking to the head**”.

RULE 45. CLIPPING

45.1 Clipping

Clipping is the act of throwing the body across or below the knees of an opponent from any direction.

A player or goalkeeper may not deliver a check in a “clipping” manner, nor lower his own body position to deliver a check on or below an opponent’s knees.

An illegal “low hit” is a check that is delivered by a player or goalkeeper who may or may not have both skates on the ice, with his sole intent to check the opponent in the area of his knees. A player or goalkeeper may not lower his body position to deliver a check to an opponent’s knees.

45.2 Minor Penalty

A player or goalkeeper who commits these fouls will be assessed a minor penalty for “clipping.”

45.3 Major plus Game Misconduct Penalty

If an injury occurs as a result of this “clipping” check, the player or goalkeeper must be assessed a major penalty plus a Game Misconduct. (*See Rule 45.4 - Match Penalty*).

45.4 Match Penalty

The Referee, at his discretion, may assess a match penalty if, in his judgment, the player or goalkeeper attempted to or deliberately injured his opponent by clipping.

RULE 46. ELBOWING

46.1 Elbowing

Elbowing shall mean the use of an extended elbow in a manner that may or may not cause injury.

46.2 Minor Penalty

The Referee, at his discretion, may assess a minor penalty, based on the degree of violence, to a player or goalkeeper guilty of elbowing an opponent.

46.3 Major plus Game Misconduct Penalty

A major penalty plus a game misconduct, at the discretion of the Referee, shall be imposed on any player or goalkeeper who uses his elbow to foul an opponent. A major penalty must be imposed under this rule for a foul resulting in an injury to the face or head of an opponent.

46.4 Match Penalty

The Referee, at his discretion, may assess a match penalty if, in his judgment, the player or goalkeeper attempted to or deliberately injured his opponent by elbowing.

RULE 47. FIGHTING

This rule deals with the banning of fights during MHL games. This ban governs the sanctions aiming to be constraining and act as a deterrent.

47.1 Fighting

A fight shall be deemed to have occurred when at least one player (or goalkeeper) gets involved in a fight by hitting and punching an opponent repeatedly.

The Referees are provided very wide latitude in the penalties with which they may impose under this rule. This is done intentionally to enable them to differentiate between the obvious degrees of responsibility of the participants for starting the fight, by engaging in a fight or continuing it. The discretion provided should be exercised realistically.

Referees are directed to employ every means provided by these Rules to stop "brawling" and should use *Rule 22 - Misconduct Penalty* and *Rule 23 - Game Misconduct Penalty* for this purpose.

47.2 Aggressor

The aggressor in a fight shall be the player (or goalkeeper) who continues to throw punches in an attempt to inflict punishment on his opponent who is in a defenceless position or who is an unwilling combatant.

A player must be deemed the aggressor when he has clearly won the fight but he continues throwing and landing punches in a further attempt to inflict punishment and/or injury on his opponent who is no longer in a position to defend himself.

A player or goalkeeper who is deemed to be the aggressor of a fight shall be assessed a major penalty for fighting and a game misconduct.

A player or goalkeeper who is deemed to be the aggressor of a fight will have this recorded as an aggressor of a fight for statistical and suspension purposes.

A player or goalkeeper who is deemed to be both the instigator and aggressor of a fight shall be assessed an instigating minor penalty, a major penalty for fighting, a ten-minute misconduct (*Instigator*) and a game misconduct penalty (*Aggressor*).

47.3 Altercation

An altercation is a situation involving two players (including goalkeepers), with at least one to be penalized, save and except for the Third Man in Rule whereby an altercation would be defined as an incident where a fighting major penalty or penalties are being assessed.

47.4 Clearing the Area of a Fight

When a fight occurs, all players not engaged shall go immediately to the area of their players' bench and in the event the altercation takes place at a players' bench, the players on the ice from that team shall go to their defending zone. Failure to comply can result in a misconduct penalty being assessed. Goalkeepers shall remain in their goal crease except in the event that the altercation takes place in the vicinity of the goal crease and shall obey the directions of the Referee. Failure to comply can result in a minor penalty and / or a misconduct penalty plus any other penalties he may endure. The referee will allow only one player from each team to pick up his teammate's equipment.

47.5 Continuing or Attempting to Continue a Fight

Any player or goalkeeper who persists in continuing or attempting to continue a fight or altercation after he has been ordered by the Referee to stop, or who resists a Linesman in the discharge of his duties shall, at the discretion of the Referee, incur a misconduct or game misconduct penalty in addition to any penalties imposed.

47.6 Fighting after the Original Altercation

A game misconduct penalty shall be imposed on any player or goalkeeper who is assessed a major penalty for fighting after the original fight has started.

Notwithstanding this rule, at the discretion of the Referee, the automatic game misconduct penalty may be waived for a player or goalkeeper in the fight if the opposing player was clearly the instigator of the fight and the other player doesn't engage in the fight. (*Refer to Rule 47.10.2*)

47.7 Fighting off the Playing Surface

A misconduct or a game misconduct penalty shall be imposed on any player or goalkeeper involved in fighting off the playing surface or with another player who is off the playing surface. These penalties are in addition to any other time penalties assessed, including the major penalty for fighting.

Whenever a Coach or other non-playing Club personnel becomes involved in an altercation with an opposing player or goalkeeper, Coach or other non-playing Club personnel on or off the ice, shall be automatically suspended from the game, ordered to the dressing room and the matter will be reported to the Commissioner for further disciplinary action.

47.8 Fighting other than During the Periods of the Game

Any players becoming involved in the pre-game warm-up will be reported to the MHL for disciplinary action. The only penalties that can be assessed are those resulting in a Match Penalty. Players involved in fighting other than during the periods of the game shall be assessed a major penalty and a game misconduct. Should one player be deemed the instigator of the fight, the game misconduct shall not be assessed to his opponent.

If the opposing player was clearly the instigator of the fight and the other player doesn't engage in the fight. (*Refer to the Rule 47.10.2*)

47.9 Fighting prior to the Drop of the Puck

Should a fight occur before or following any other face-off during a game, it will be considered a staged fight. Should a staged fight occur during an exhibition, regular season or playoff game, the players involved shall each receive an automatic game misconduct in addition to the major penalty.

When, in the opinion of the Referee that, specific personnel changes have been made by one or both teams late in a game and an altercation ensues, the appropriate penalties are to be assessed and the incident reported to the Commissioner immediately following the game for review and possible supplementary discipline under *Rule 29 – Supplementary Discipline*.

47.10 Instigator

47.10.1 Instigator – WILLING Opponent

An instigator of an altercation shall be a player or goalkeeper who by his actions or demeanour clearly pursues an opponent who is not a willing participant, attacks or jumps at his opponent and proceeds to throw punches. The player or goalkeeper may also demonstrate any / some of the following criteria: distance travelled; gloves off first; first punch thrown; menacing attitude or posture; verbal instigation or threats.

A player or goalkeeper deemed to be the instigator of a fight will be assessed a minor penalty (instigator), a major and game misconduct (Fighting).

A player or goalkeeper deemed to be the instigator of a fight and is an aggressor (at the end of the fight) will be assessed a minor penalty (instigator), a major and game misconduct (Fighting) and a game misconduct (Aggressor).

At the discretion of the Referee, when it is deemed that a player is engaged in the fight, he will be assessed a major and game misconduct penalties (Fighting).

47.10.2 Instigator – NOT WILLING Opponent

A player or goalkeeper deemed to be the instigator of a fight will be assessed a minor penalty (instigator), a major and game misconduct (Fighting).

At the discretion of the Referee, when it is determined that the opponent is not engaged in the fight, he will NOT be assessed the major and game misconduct penalties. Also, at the discretion of the Referee he may be assessed a minor or double-minor for roughing and/or any other penalty he may have incurred as per *Rule 47.5 – Continuing or Attempting to Continue a Fight*.

47.11 Last Five (5) minutes of play in the regular time with a spread of two (2) goals.

The Referee will assess a Major and a Game Misconduct penalty to any player who fights when there are five (5) minutes or less remaining in the regular time and the spread in the score is two (2) goals or more.

(In compliance with *Rules 47.10.1 and 47.10.2*)

47.12 Jerseys

A player or goalkeeper who deliberately removes his jersey prior to participating in an altercation or who is clearly wearing a jersey that has been modified and does not conform to *Rule 65.1 - Equipment*, shall be assessed a minor penalty for unsportsmanlike conduct and a game misconduct. This is in addition to other penalties to be assessed to the participants of an altercation. If the altercation never materializes, the player or goalkeeper would receive a minor penalty for unsportsmanlike conduct penalty and a misconduct penalty for deliberately removing his jersey.

A player who engages in a fight and whose jersey is removed (completely off his torso), other than through the actions of his opponent in the altercation or through the actions of the linesman, shall be assessed a game misconduct penalty.

Whether the sweater is tied down or not, a player or goalkeeper who engages in a fight and whose jersey, other than through the actions of his opponent or the actions of the Linesmen, comes up to shoulder height or higher during a fight, shall be assessed a misconduct penalty. If the tie down connection is torn, the misconduct penalty will not apply.

If a player's sweater is properly tied down but the player manages to shake one or both arms or removes one or both

elbow protectors from the sweater and continues or attempts to continue the fight, the misconduct shall be assessed. A player or goalkeeper who engages in a fight and whose jersey is not properly “tied-down” (jersey properly fastened to pants), and who loses his jersey (*completely off his torso*) in that altercation, shall receive a game misconduct penalty.

47.13 Helmets

No player may remove his helmet prior to engaging in a fight. If a player(s) removes his helmet prior to a fight, the Linespersons shall move in immediately and attempt to separate the players before they engage in the fight. The following shall apply with relation to the removal of a helmet:

- (i). A minor penalty for ‘unsportsmanlike conduct’ shall be assessed to a player who removes their helmet or the helmet of an opponent prior to a fight, even if the fight is prevented.
- (ii). A minor penalty for ‘unsportsmanlike conduct’ shall be assessed to any player who intentionally undoes their chin strap or the chin strap of an opponent prior to or during a fight but does not remove their helmet.

NOTE: Helmets that come off naturally during a fight will not result in a penalty to either player.

- (iii). A game misconduct shall be assessed to any player who intentionally tries to pull or pry off the helmet of an opponent with force, successfully or unsuccessfully, prior to or during or after a fight.

47.14 Removing Equipment

A game misconduct shall be assessed to any player who removes equipment (e.g. elbow pad) other than helmet or gloves prior to a fight, in addition to the major and game misconduct for fighting (*Rule 47.15 – Major Penalty*) and any other penalties incurred.

NOTE: this does not include a situation where a piece of equipment (e.g. elbow pad) may have moved during the normal act of fighting and the player removes it or shakes it away during the fight in order to avoid using it to contact their opponent.

47.15 Major Penalty

A major penalty and a GAME MISCONDUCT penalty shall be imposed on any player who fights.

47.16 Match Penalty

Any player or goalkeeper wearing tape or any other material on his hands (below the wrist) who cuts or injures an opponent during a fight will receive a match penalty in addition to any other penalties imposed including for fighting under this rule.

A match penalty shall be assessed to a player or goalkeeper who punches an unsuspecting opponent and causes an injury.

47.17 Third Man In

A game misconduct penalty, at the discretion of the Referee, shall be imposed on any player or goalkeeper who is the first to intervene (third man in) in a fight already in progress except when a match penalty is being imposed in the original altercation. This penalty is in addition to any other penalties incurred in the same incident.

This rule also applies to subsequent players or goalkeepers who elect to intervene in the same or other fight during the same stoppage of play.

Generally, this rule is applied when a fight occurs.

47.18 CANCELLED - Second Fighting Major

47.19 Second Fight During the Same Stoppage of Play

When the same player becomes involved in a second fight (*Rule 47.6 - Fighting after the Original Altercation*) in the same stoppage of play, the codes to be used for this infraction are 2.6 and 4.6 in addition to any other penalty he may incur.

Should the opposing player or goalkeeper be deemed the instigator of the second fight, the Game Misconduct penalty shall not be assessed. (Refer to *Rule 47.10.2*)

47.20 Fighting with a Goalkeeper

A Major penalty and a Game Misconduct penalty will be assessed any goalkeeper involved in a fight and / or any player involved in a fight with a goalkeeper.

Should the opposing player or goalkeeper be deemed the instigator of the second fight, the Game Misconduct penalty shall not be assessed. (Refer to *Rule 47.10.2*)

RULE 48. HEAD-BUTTING

48.1 Head-Butting

The act of head-butting involves a player or goalkeeper making intentional contact, or attempting to make contact, with an opponent by leading with his head and / or helmet.

48.2 Double-Minor Penalty

A double-minor penalty shall be imposed on a player or goalkeeper who attempts to head-butt an opponent.

48.3 Major plus Game Misconduct Penalty

A major penalty plus a game misconduct shall be imposed on a player or goalkeeper who head-butts an opponent.

48.4 Match Penalty

A match penalty shall be imposed on a player or goalkeeper who injures an opponent as a result of a head-butt.

RULE 49. KICKING

49.1 Kicking

The action of a player or goalkeeper deliberately using his skate(s) with a kicking motion to propel the puck or to contact an opponent.

49.2 Goals

Kicking the puck shall be permitted in all zones. A goal cannot be scored by an attacking player who uses a distinct kicking motion to propel the puck into the net. A goal cannot be scored by an attacking player who kicks a puck that deflects into the net off any player, goalkeeper or official.

A puck that deflects into the net off an attacking player's skate who does not use a distinct kicking motion is a legitimate goal. A puck that is directed into the net by an attacking player's skate shall be a legitimate goal as long as no distinct kicking motion is evident. The following should clarify deflections following a kicked puck that enters the goal:

- (i) A kicked puck that deflects off the body of any player of either team (including the goalkeeper) shall be ruled no goal.
- (ii) A kicked puck that deflects off the stick of any player (excluding the goalkeeper's stick) shall be ruled a good goal.
- (iii) A goal will be allowed when an attacking player kicks the puck and the puck deflects off his own stick and then into the net.
- (iv) A goal will be allowed when a puck enters the goal after deflecting off an attacking player's skate or deflects off his skate while he is in the process of stopping.

A goal cannot be scored by an attacking player who kicks any equipment (stick, glove, helmet etc.) at the puck, including kicking the blade of his own stick, causing the puck to cross the goal line.

49.3 Match Penalty

A match penalty shall be imposed on any player or goalkeeper who kicks or attempts to kick another player.

RULE 50. KNEEING

50.1 Kneeing

Kneeing is the act of a player or goalkeeper leading with his knee and in some cases extending his leg outwards to make contact with his opponent.

50.2 Minor Penalty

The Referee, at his discretion, may assess a minor penalty, based on the severity of the infraction, to a player or goalkeeper guilty of kneeing an opponent.

50.3 Major plus Game Misconduct Penalty

The Referee, at his discretion, may assess a major penalty plus a game misconduct, based on the severity of the infraction, to a player or goalkeeper guilty of kneeing an opponent.

50.4 Match Penalty

The Referee, at his discretion, may assess a match penalty if, in his judgment, the player or goalkeeper attempted to or deliberately injured his opponent by kneeing.

RULE 51. ROUGHING

51.1 Roughing

Roughing is a punching or slamming motion with or without the glove on the hand, normally directed at the head or face of an opponent, or if a player intentionally removes an opponent's helmet during play.

Roughing is a minor altercation that is not worthy of a major penalty to either participant. (An altercation is a situation involving two players, including goalkeepers, with at least one to be penalized).

51.2 Minor Penalty

A minor penalty shall be imposed on a player or goalkeeper who strikes an opponent with his hand or fist. or if a player intentionally removes an opponent's helmet during play.

51.3 Match Penalty

If, in the judgment of the Referee, a goalkeeper uses his blocking glove to punch an opponent in an attempt to or to deliberately injure an opponent, a match penalty may be assessed.

RULE 52. SLEW-FOOTING

52.1 Slew-footing

Slew-footing is the act of a player or goalkeeper using his leg or foot to knock or kick an opponent's feet from under him, or pushes an opponent's upper body backward with an arm or elbow, and at the same time with a forward motion of his leg, knocks or kicks the opponent's feet from under him, causing him to fall *violently* to the ice.

52.2 Match Penalty

Any player or goalkeeper who is guilty of slew-footing shall be assessed a match penalty.

RULE 53. THROWING EQUIPMENT

53.1 Throwing Equipment

A player, including the goalkeeper, shall not throw a stick or any other object in any zone.

A player who has lost or broken his stick may only receive a stick at his own players' bench or be handed on from a teammate on the ice (*see Rule 10.3 - Broken Stick*).

53.2 Minor Penalty

A minor penalty shall be imposed:

- (i) For throwing a stick or any player on the ice who throws his stick or any part thereof or any object in the direction of the puck or an opponent in any zone, except when such act has been penalized by the assessment of a penalty shot (*Rule 53.7 – Penalty Shot*) or the awarding of a goal (*Rule 53.8 – Awarded Goal*).
- (ii) For throwing a stick when a defending player shoots or throws a stick or any other object in the defending zone but not at the puck or puck carrier.
- (iii) For interference when a player moves a stick that is not broken, and it interferes with an opposing player (except where a penalty shot (*Rule 53.7 – Penalty Shot*) or awarded goal (*Rule 53.8 – Awarded Goal*) or when the player who lost said stick is prevented from retrieving it as a result.

NOTE 1: No penalty will be assessed if moving the non-broken stick if it does not interfere with the play or the opposing player is not attempting to retrieve it.

NOTE 2: When a player discards the broken portion of a stick or some other object by tossing it or shooting it to the side of the ice (and not over the board) in such a way as to not interfere with the play or opposing player(s), no penalty will be imposed for so doing.

- (iv) For unsportsmanlike conduct (plus a game misconduct – *Rule 53.5*) when a player throws his stick or any part thereof or any other object or place of equipment outside the playing area in protest of an official's decision.

53.3 Bench Minor Penalty

Should any player, goalkeeper, Coach, or non-playing person on the players' bench or penalty bench throw anything on the ice during the progress of the game or during a stoppage of play, a bench minor penalty for unsportsmanlike conduct shall be assessed. (*See Rule 75.3 - Bench Minor Penalty*).

53.4 Misconduct

A misconduct shall be imposed on a player who unintentionally / accidentally throws his stick or any part thereof or any

other object or piece of equipment outside the playing area.

53.5 Game Misconduct Penalty

A game misconduct penalty shall be imposed on a player who intentionally throws his stick or any part thereof or any other object or piece of equipment outside the playing area

If the offense is committed in protest of an official's decision, a minor penalty for unsportsmanlike conduct (53.2 iv) plus a game misconduct penalty shall be assessed to the offending player.

53.6 Match Penalty

If a player or goalkeeper attempts to or deliberately injures an opponent by throwing a stick or any other object or piece of equipment at an opposing player, Coach or non-playing club person, he shall be assessed a match penalty. If injury results from the thrown object, a match penalty must be assessed for deliberate injury of an opponent.

53.7 Penalty Shot

When any member of the defending team, including the Coach or any non-playing person, throws or shoots any part of a stick or any other object or piece of equipment at the puck or puck carrier in his defending zone, the Referee shall allow the play to be completed and if a goal is not scored, a penalty shot shall be awarded to the non-offending team. This shot shall be taken by the player designated by the Referee as the player fouled.

If the officials are unable to determine the person against whom the offense was made, the non-offending team, through the Captain, shall designate a player on the ice at the time the offense was committed to take the shot.

If a player on a breakaway in the neutral or attacking zone is interfered with by a stick or any other object or piece of equipment that is thrown by any member of the defending team, including the Coach or any non-playing club person, a penalty shot shall be awarded to the non-offending team. (See also Rule 57.3 – *Penalty Shot*) for fouls from behind to a player on a breakaway.

If a player on a breakaway in the neutral or attacking zone is interfered with by an object thrown on the ice by a spectator that causes him to lose possession of the puck or to fall, the Referee shall award a penalty shot to the player who was fouled.

53.8 Awarded goal

If, when the opposing goalkeeper has been removed, a member of the defending team, including the Coach or any non-playing person, throws or shoots any part of a stick or any other object or piece of equipment at the puck or puck carrier in the neutral or his own defending zone, thereby preventing the puck carrier from having a clear shot on an "open net", a goal shall be awarded to the attacking side.

For the purpose of this rule, an "open net" is defined as one from which a goalkeeper has been removed for an additional attacking player. The goalkeeper is considered off the ice once the replacement player has entered the playing surface.

53.9 Suspensions

There are no specific suspensions for throwing equipment, however, supplementary discipline can be applied by the Commissioner at his discretion (refer to Rule 29 – *Supplementary Discipline*).



SECTION 7 RESTRAINING FOULS

SECTION 7 RESTRAINING FOULS

RULE 54. HOLDING

54.1 Holding

Any action by a player or goalkeeper that restrains or impedes the progress of an opposing player whether or not he is in possession of the puck.

54.2 Minor Penalty

A minor penalty shall be imposed on a player or goalkeeper who holds an opponent by using his hands, arms or legs.

A player or goalkeeper is permitted to use his arm in a strength move, by blocking his opponent, provided he has body position and is not using his hands in a holding manner, when doing so.

A player or goalkeeper is not permitted to hold an opponent's stick. A minor penalty shall be assessed to a player or goalkeeper who holds an opponent's stick and announced as (*holding the stick*).

A player is permitted to protect himself by defending against an opponent's stick. He must immediately release the stick and allow the player to resume normal play.

54.3 Penalty Shot

Refer to *Rule 57.3 – Penalty Shot*.

54.4 Awarded Goal

Refer to *Rule 57.4 – Awarded goal*.

RULE 55. HOOKING

55.1 Hooking

Hooking is the act of using the stick in a manner that enables a player or goalkeeper to restrain an opponent.

When a player is checking another in such a way that there is only stick-to-stick contact, such action is not to be penalized as hooking.

55.2 Minor Penalty

A minor penalty shall be imposed on a player or goalkeeper who impedes the progress of an opponent by "hooking" with his stick. A minor penalty for hooking shall be assessed to any player or goalkeeper who uses the shaft of the stick above the upper hand to hold or hook an opponent.

55.3 Major plus Game Misconduct Penalty

A major plus a game misconduct penalty shall be imposed on any player or goalkeeper who injures an opponent by "hooking".

55.4 Penalty Shot

Refer to *Rule 57.3 – Penalty shot*.

55.5 Awarded goal

Refer to *Rule 57.4 – Awarded goal*.

If deemed appropriate, supplementary discipline can be applied by the Commissioner at his discretion (*Refer to Rule 29 - Supplementary Discipline*).

RULE 56. INTERFERENCE

56.1 Interference

A strict standard on acts of interference must be adhered to in all areas of the rink.

Body Position:

Body position shall be determined as the player skating in front of or beside his opponent, traveling in the same direction. A player who is behind an opponent, who does not have the puck, may not use his stick, body or free hand in order to restrain his opponent, but must skate in order to gain or re-establish his proper position in order to make a check. A player is allowed the ice he is standing on (body position) and is not required to move in order to let an opponent proceed. A player may "block" the path of an opponent provided

he is in front of his opponent and moving in the same direction. Moving laterally and without establishing body position, then making contact with the non-puck carrier is not permitted and will be penalized as interference. A player is always entitled to use his body position to lengthen an opponent's path to the puck, provided his stick is not utilized (to make himself "bigger" and therefore considerably lengthening the distance his opponent must travel to get where he is going); his free hand is not used and he does not take advantage of his body position to deliver an otherwise illegal check.

Possession of the Puck: The last player to touch the puck, other than the goalkeeper, shall be considered the player in possession. The player deemed in possession of the puck may be checked legally, provided the check is rendered immediately following his loss of possession.

Restrain: The actions of a player or goalkeeper who does not have body position, but instead uses illegal means (e.g. hook with stick; hold with hands, trip with the stick or in any manner) to impede an opponent who is not in possession of the puck. Illegal means are acts which allow a player or goalkeeper to establish, maintain or restore body position other than by skating.

Pick: A "pick" is the action of a player or goalkeeper who checks an opponent who is not in possession of the puck and is unaware of the impending check/hit. A player who is aware of an impending hit, not deemed to be a legal "battle for the puck," may not be interfered with by a player or goalkeeper delivering a "pick." A player or goalkeeper delivering a "pick" is one who moves into an opponent's path without initially having body position, thereby taking him out of the play. When this is done, an interference penalty shall be assessed.

Free Hand: When a free hand is used to hold, pull, tug, grab or physically restrain an opponent from moving freely, this must be penalized as holding. The free hand may be used by a player to "fend off" an opponent or his stick but may not be used to hold an opponent's stick or body.

Stick: A player or goalkeeper who does not have body position on his opponent, who uses his stick (either the blade or the shaft, including the butt-end of the shaft) to impede or prevent his opponent from moving freely on the ice shall be assessed a hooking penalty.

56.2 Minor Penalty

A minor penalty for interference shall be imposed:

- (i) On a player who interferes with or impedes the progress of an opponent who is not in possession of the puck:
- (ii) On a player who restrains an opponent who is attempting to 'forecheck':
- (iii) On any player who deliberately checks an opponent, including the goalkeeper, who is not in possession of the puck:
- (iv) On a player who shall cause an opponent who is not in possession of the puck to be forced off-side, causing a stoppage of play. If this action causes a delayed off-side (and not necessarily a stoppage in play), then, the application of a penalty for interference is subject to the judgment of the Referee.
- (v) On a player who deliberately knocks the stick out of an opponent's hand or prevents a player who has dropped his stick or any piece of equipment from regaining possession of it. (See *Rule 53.2 iii*).
- (vi) On a player who knocks or shoots any abandoned or broken stick or illegal puck or other debris towards an opponent puck carrier in a manner that could cause him to be distracted. (See *Rule 53.2 iii*).
- (vii) On any identifiable player on the player's bench or penalty bench who, by means of his stick or his body, interferes with the movements of the puck or any opponent on the ice during the progress of the play.
- (viii) On any player about to come onto the ice who plays the puck while one or both skates are still on the player's or penalty bench.

56.3 Bench Minor Penalty

A bench minor penalty shall be imposed when an unidentifiable player on the players' bench or penalty bench or any Coach or non-playing Club personnel who, by means of his stick or his body, interferes with the movements of the puck or any opponent on the ice during the progress of the play.

56.4 Major plus Game Misconduct Penalty

The Referee, at his discretion, may assess a major penalty plus a game misconduct, based on the degree of violence,

to a player or goalkeeper guilty of interfering with an opponent.

56.5 Penalty Shot

When a player in control of the puck in the neutral or attacking zone and having no other opponent to pass than the goalkeeper is interfered with by a stick or any part thereof or any other object or piece of equipment thrown or shot by any member of the defending team including the Coach or non-playing Club personnel, a penalty shot shall be awarded to the non-offending team. When a Coach or non-playing Club personnel is guilty of such an act, he shall be automatically suspended from the game, ordered to the dressing room and the matter will be reported to the Commissioner for possible further disciplinary action.

56.6 Awarded Goal

If, when the goalkeeper has been removed from the ice, any member of his team (including the goalkeeper) not legally on the ice, including the Coach or non-playing Club personnel, interferes by means of his body, stick or any other object or piece of equipment with the movements of the puck or an opposing player in the neutral or attacking zone, the Referee shall immediately award a goal to the non-offending team. When a Coach or non-playing Club personnel is guilty of such an act, he shall be automatically suspended from the game, ordered to the dressing room and the matter will be reported to the Commissioner for possible further disciplinary action.

RULE 57. TRIPPING

57.1 Tripping

A player or goalkeeper shall not place the stick, knee, foot, arm, hand or elbow in such a manner that causes his opponent to trip or fall.

Accidental trips which occur simultaneously with a completed play will not be penalized. Accidental trips occurring simultaneously with or after a stoppage of play will not be penalized.

57.2 Minor Penalty

A minor penalty shall be imposed on any player or goalkeeper who shall place his stick or any portion of his body in such a manner that it shall cause his opponent to trip and fall.

57.3 Penalty Shot

When a player, in the neutral or attacking zone, in control of the puck (or who could have obtained possession and control of the puck) and having no other opponent to pass than the goalkeeper, is tripped or otherwise fouled from behind, thus preventing a reasonable scoring opportunity, a penalty shot shall be awarded to the non-offending team. Nevertheless, the Referee shall not stop play until the attacking team has lost possession of the puck to the defending team.

The intention of this rule is to restore a reasonable scoring opportunity which has been lost. If, however, the player fouled is able to recover and obtain a reasonable scoring opportunity (or a teammate is able to gain a reasonable scoring opportunity), no penalty shot should be awarded but the appropriate penalty should be signalled and assessed if a goal is not scored on the play.

“Control of the puck” means the act of propelling the puck with the stick, hand or feet.

In order for a penalty shot to be awarded for a player being fouled from behind, the following four (4) criteria must have been met:

- (i) The infraction must have taken place in the neutral or attacking zone (i.e. over the puck carrier’s own blue line);
- (ii) The infraction must have been committed from behind.
- (iii) The player in possession and control (or, in the judgment of the Referee, the player clearly would have obtained possession and control of the puck) must have been denied a reasonable chance to score.

Note: The fact that the player got a shot off does not automatically eliminate this play from the penalty shot consideration criteria. If the foul was from behind and the player was denied a “more” reasonable scoring opportunity due to the foul, then the penalty shot should still be awarded.

- (iv) The player in possession and control (or, in the judgment of the Referee, the player clearly would have obtained possession and control) must have had no opposing player between himself and the goalkeeper.

If, in the opinion of the Referee, a player makes contact with the puck first and subsequently trips the opponent in so doing, no penalty shot will be awarded, but a minor penalty for tripping shall be assessed.

It should be noted that if the attacking player manages to get around the goalkeeper and has no defending

player between him and the open goal, and he is fouled from behind by the goalkeeper or another defending player, no goal can be awarded since the goalkeeper is still on the ice. A penalty shot would be awarded.

57.4 Awarded Goal

If, when the opposing goalkeeper has been removed from the ice, a player in control of the puck in the neutral or attacking zone is tripped or otherwise fouled with no opposition between him and the opposing goal, thus preventing a reasonable scoring opportunity, the Referee shall immediately stop play and award a goal to the attacking team.



SECTION 8 STICK FOULS

SECTION 8 STICK FOULS

RULE 58. BUTT-ENDING

58.1 Butt-ending

The action whereby a player or goalkeeper uses the shaft of the stick, above the upper hand, to check an opposing player in any manner or jabs or attempts to jab an opposing player with this part of the stick.

58.2 Double-minor Penalty

A double-minor penalty will be imposed on a player or goalkeeper who attempts to butt-end an opponent.

58.3 Major plus Game Misconduct Penalty

A major plus a game misconduct penalty shall be imposed on a player or goalkeeper who butt-ends an opponent.

58.4 Match Penalty

A match penalty shall be imposed on a player or goalkeeper who injures an opponent as a result of a butt-end.

RULE 59. CROSS-CHECKING

59.1 Cross-checking

The action of using the shaft of the stick between the two hands to forcefully check an opponent.

59.2 Minor Penalty

A minor penalty, at the discretion of the Referee based on the severity of the contact, shall be imposed on a player or goalkeeper who "cross checks" an opponent.

59.3 Major plus Game Misconduct Penalty

A major penalty plus a game misconduct at the discretion of the Referee based on the severity of the contact, shall be imposed on a player or goalkeeper who "cross checks" an opponent.

59.4 Match Penalty

The Referee, at his discretion, may assess a match penalty if, in his judgment, the player or goalkeeper attempted to or deliberately injured his opponent by cross-checking.

RULE 60. HIGH-STICKING

60.1 High-sticking – For 'high-sticking the puck', refer to Rule 80.

A "high stick" is one which is carried above the height of the opponent's shoulders. Players and goalkeepers must be in control and responsible for their stick. However, a player or goalkeeper is permitted accidental contact on an opponent and no penalty assessed if the act is committed as a normal windup or follow through of a shooting motion or accidental contact on the opposing center that is bent over during the course of a face-off. A wild swing at a bouncing puck would not be considered a normal windup or follow through and any contact to an opponent above the height of the shoulders shall be penalized accordingly.

60.2 Minor Penalty

Any contact made by a stick on an opponent above the shoulders is prohibited and a minor penalty shall be imposed.

60.3 Double-minor Penalty

When a player or goalkeeper carries or holds any part of his stick above the shoulders of the opponent so that injury results, the Referee shall assess a double-minor penalty for all contact that causes an injury, whether accidental or careless, in the opinion of the Referee.

60.4 Match Penalty

When, in the opinion of the Referee, a player or goalkeeper attempts to or deliberately injures an opponent while carrying or holding any part of his stick above the shoulders of the opponent, the Referee shall assess a match penalty to the offending player.

RULE 61. SLASHING

61.1 Slashing

Slashing is the act of a player or goalkeeper swinging his stick at an opponent, whether contact is made or not. Non-aggressive stick contact to the pant or front of the shin pads, should not be penalized as slashing. Any forceful or powerful chop with the stick on an opponent's body, the opponent's stick, or on or near the opponent's hands that, in the judgment of the Referee, is not an attempt to play the puck, shall be penalized as slashing.

61.2 Minor Penalty

A minor penalty, at the discretion of the Referee based on the severity of the contact, shall be imposed on a player or goalkeeper who slashes an opponent.

61.3 Major plus Game misconduct Penalty

A major penalty plus a game misconduct, at the discretion of the Referee based on the severity of the contact, shall be imposed on a player or goalkeeper who slashes an opponent. When injury occurs, a major penalty plus a game misconduct penalty must be assessed under this rule (see *Rule 61.4 - Match Penalty*).

61.4 Match Penalty

The Referee, at his discretion, may assess a match penalty if, in his judgment, the player or goalkeeper attempted to or deliberately injured his opponent by slashing.

61.5 Penalty Shot

Refer to Rule 57.3 – Penalty shot

61.6 Awarded Goal

Refer to Rule 57.4 – Awarded goal

RULE 62. SPEARING

62.1 Spearing

Spearing shall mean stabbing an opponent with the point of the stick blade, whether contact is made or not.

62.2 Double-minor Penalty

A double-minor penalty will be imposed on a player or goalkeeper who spears an opponent and does not make contact.

62.3 Major plus Game Misconduct Penalty

A major penalty plus a game misconduct shall be imposed on a player or goalkeeper who spears an opponent (see *Rule 62.4*).

62.4 Match Penalty

A match penalty shall be imposed on a player or goalkeeper who injures an opponent as a result of a spear.



SECTION 9 OTHER FOULS

SECTION 9 OTHER FOULS

RULE 63. DELAYING THE GAME

63.1 Delaying the Game

A player, goalkeeper or a team may be penalized when, in the opinion of the Referee, is delaying the game in any manner.

63.2 Minor Penalty

A minor penalty for delay of game shall be imposed:

- (i) On any player, including the goalkeeper, who holds, freezes or plays the puck with his stick, skates or body in such a manner as to deliberately cause a stoppage of play. With regard to the goalkeeper, this rule applies outside of his goal crease area:
- (ii) On any player who deliberately shoots or bats (using his hand or his stick) the puck outside the playing area (from anywhere of the ice surface) during the play or after a stoppage of play.
- (iii) On any player who shoots or bats (using his hand or his stick) the puck directly (non-deflected) out of the playing surface from his DEFENDING ZONE, except where there is no glass. The determining factor shall be the position of the puck when it was shot or batted by the offending player. If contact with the puck occurs while the puck is inside the defending zone, and subsequently goes out the play, the minor penalty shall be assessed. When the puck is shot over the glass 'behind' the player's bench, the penalty will be assessed:

NOTE: When the puck is shot into the player's bench, the penalty will not apply. When the puck goes out of the playing area directly off a face-off, no penalty shall be assessed.

- (iv) On any player who delays the game by deliberately displacing a goal post from its normal position. The Referee shall stop play immediately when the offending team gains control of the puck.

NOTE: If a player deliberately displaces a goal post from its normal position when an opponent has an imminent scoring opportunity on an open net, a goal may be awarded by the Referee (see *Rule 63.7 – Awarded Goal*).

- (v) On a player other than the goalkeeper who deliberately falls on or gathers the puck into his body.

NOTE: Any player who drops to his knees to block a shot should not be penalized if the puck is not under him or becomes lodged in his clothing or equipment but any use of the hands to kame the puck unplayable should be penalized promptly.

- (vi) On a goalkeeper who races out of his crease in an attempt to beat the attacking player to the puck and instead of playing the puck jumps on the puck causing a stoppage of play.

NOTE: If a goalkeeper comes out of his goal crease to 'cut down the angle' on a shot and after making the save covers the puck, this shall be legal.

- (vii) On a goalkeeper who, when he is in his own goal crease, deliberately falls on or gathers the puck into his body or who holds or places the puck against any part of the goal in such a manner as to cause a stoppage of play unless he is actually being checked by an opponent.

- (viii) On a goalkeeper who plays the puck outside of the designated area behind the net. The determining factor shall be the position of the puck.

NOTE: The minor penalty will not be assessed when a goalkeeper plays the puck while maintaining skate contact with his goal crease.

- (ix) For adjustments to clothing, equipment, skates or sticks.

NOTE: No penalty should be assessed when a water bottle is delivered to a goalkeeper, however, this should be conducted during time-outs and if, in the opinion of the Referee, it is being done to intentionally delay the game, a minor penalty may be assessed.

- (x) No delay shall be permitted for the repair or adjustment of goalkeeper's equipment. If adjustments are required, the goalkeeper shall leave the ice and his place shall be taken by the substitute goalkeeper immediately. For an infraction of this rule by a goalkeeper, a minor penalty shall be imposed.

63.3 Bench Minor Penalty

A bench minor penalty shall be imposed upon any Team which, after warning by the Referee to its Captain or Alternate Captain to place the correct number of players on the ice and commence play, fails to comply with the Referee's direction and thereby causes any delay by making additional substitutions (including, but not limited to, continually substituting goalkeepers for the purpose of stalling or delaying the game), by persisting in having its players off-side, or in any other manner.

63.4 Delay whistle

When the net is accidentally displaced by an attacking player, and the defending side is in control of the puck and moving out of their zone, play shall be permitted to continue until such time as the non-offending team loses control of the puck. The resulting face-off will take place at a face-off spot in the zone nearest the location where the play was stopped, unless it is in the non-offending team's defending zone, and as such ensuing face-off would be outside the blue line at one of the face-off spots in the neutral zone. It is possible for a goal to be scored at one end of the rink while the net at the other end has been dislodged, provided that the team being scored upon is the team responsible for dislodging the net at the other end of the rink.

63.5 Objects Thrown on the Ice

In the event that objects are thrown on the ice that interfere with the progress of the game, the Referee shall blow the whistle and stop the play and the puck shall be faced-off at a face-off spot in the zone nearest to the spot where play is stopped. When objects are thrown on the ice during a stoppage in play, including after the scoring of a goal, the Referee shall have announced over the public address system the MHL directive read prior to the start of the game. Articles thrown onto the ice following a special occasion (i.e. hat trick) will not result in a bench minor penalty being assessed. Refer also to *Rule 53.6 – Match Penalty* shot when spectator interference occurs during a breakaway.

63.6 Penalty Shot

If the goal post is deliberately displaced by a goalkeeper or player during the course of a "breakaway," a penalty shot will be awarded to the non-offending team, which shot shall be taken by the player last in possession of the puck.

If by reason of insufficient time in the regular playing time or by reason of penalties already imposed, the minor penalty assessed to a player or goalkeeper for deliberately displacing his own goal post cannot be served in its entirety within the regular playing time of the game or at any time in overtime, a penalty shot shall be awarded against the offending team.

No defending player, except the goalkeeper, will be permitted to fall on the puck, hold the puck, pick up the puck, or gather the puck into the body or hands when the puck is within the goal crease. For infringement of this rule, play shall immediately be stopped and a penalty shot shall be ordered against the offending team, but no other penalty shall be given. The rule shall be interpreted so that a penalty shot will be awarded only when the puck is in the crease at the instant the offense occurs. However, in cases where the puck is outside the crease, *Rule 63 Delaying the Game* may still apply and a minor penalty may be imposed, even though no penalty shot is awarded. The significant factor when determining whether or not a penalty shot is warranted is the location of the puck at the time it was held, grabbed or gathered into the body. If the puck is in the crease, penalty shot. If the puck is outside the crease and gathered into the body of a player (other than the goalkeeper) who is inside the crease, minor penalty. (*See also Rule 67 – Handling Puck*).

63.7 Awarded Goal

In the event that the goal post is displaced, either deliberately or accidentally, by a defending player or goalkeeper, prior to the puck crossing the goal line between the normal positions of the goalposts, the Referee may award a goal.

In order to award a goal in this situation, the goal post must have been displaced by the actions a defending player, the attacking player must have an imminent scoring opportunity prior to the goal post being displaced, and it must be determined that the puck would have entered the net between the normal position of the goal posts.

If the goal post is deliberately displaced by a goalkeeper during the course of a 'breakaway' a goal will be awarded to the non-offending team.

When the goal post has been displaced deliberately by the defending team when their goalkeeper has been removed for an extra attacker thereby preventing an impending goal by the attacking team, the Referee shall award a goal to the attacking team.

The goal frame is considered to be displaced if either or both goal pegs are no longer in their respective holes in the ice, or the net has come completely off one or both pegs, prior to or as the puck enters the goal.

63.8 Infractions

The following list of infractions shall result in a penalty (minor, bench minor, penalty shot or awarded goal) being imposed by the Referee for delaying the game:

- (i) Deliberately shooting the puck out of play;
- (ii) Deliberately throwing or batting the puck out of play;

- (iii) Shooting or batting the puck (with the hand or with the stick) over the glass from the defending zone;
- (iv) Deliberately displacing the goal from its normal position (or accidentally by a defending player or goalkeeper in relation to the awarding of a goal);
- (v) Refusing to place the correct number of players on the ice;
- (vi) Persisting in having players in an off-side position;
- (vii) Deliberately falling on the puck; and
- (viii) Adjustment of clothing or equipment.

63.9 No player change

In the event that the goal post is displaced accidentally by a defending skater causing a stoppage in play, the ensuing face-off shall be conducted at one of the end zone face-off spots in the defending zone. The offending team shall not be permitted to make any player substitutions prior to the faceoff. However, a team shall be permitted to make a player substitution to replace a goalkeeper who had been substituted for an extra attacker, to replace an injured player, or when a penalty has been assessed which affects the on-ice strength of either team.

In the event that the puck is shot into the end zone by the attacking team from their own side of the center red line, and the opposing goalkeeper freezes the puck resulting in a stoppage of play, the ensuing face-off shall be conducted at one of the end zone face-off spots in the goalkeeper's defending zone. The defending team shall not be permitted to make any player substitutions prior to the face-off. However, a team shall be permitted to make a player substitution to replace an injured player, or when a penalty has been assessed which affects the on-ice strength of either team. In addition, for both situations outlined in this section, for the ensuing face-off in the defending zone, the attacking team will have the choice of which end zone dot the face-off will take place.

RULE 64. DIVING / EMBELLISHMENT

64.1 Diving / Embellishment

Any player or goalkeeper who blatantly dives, embellishes a fall or a reaction, or who feigns an injury shall be penalized with a minor penalty under this rule.

A goalkeeper who deliberately initiates contact with an attacking player other than to establish position in the crease, or who otherwise acts to create the appearance of other than incidental contact with an attacking player, is subject to the assessment of a minor penalty for diving / embellishment.

64.2 Minor Penalty

A minor penalty shall be imposed on a player or goalkeeper who attempts to draw a penalty by his actions (diving / embellishment).

RULE 65. EQUIPMENT

65.1 Equipment

The onus is on the player and/or goalkeeper to maintain his equipment and uniform in playing condition as set forth in these rules.

65.2 Minor Penalty

All protective equipment, except gloves, headgear and goalkeepers' leg guards must be worn under the uniform. For violation of this rule, after warning by the Referee, a minor penalty shall be imposed. Players including the goalkeeper violating this rule shall not be permitted to participate in the game until such equipment has been corrected or removed.

Play shall not be stopped nor the game delayed by reasons of adjustments to clothing, equipment, skates or sticks. For an infringement of this rule, a minor penalty shall be given.

No delay shall be permitted for the repair or adjustment of goalkeeper's equipment. If adjustments are required, the goalkeeper shall leave the ice and his place shall be taken by the substitute goalkeeper immediately. For an infraction of this rule by a goalkeeper, a minor penalty shall be imposed.

RULE 66. FORFEIT OF GAME

66.1 Forfeit of Game

In the event of failure by a Club to comply with a provision of the League constitution, by-laws, resolutions, rules or regulations affecting the playing of a game, the Referee shall, if so directed by the Commissioner or his designee, refuse to permit the game to proceed until the offending Club comes into compliance with such provision.

Should the offending club persist in its refusal to come into compliance, the Referee shall, with the prior approval of the Commissioner or his designee, declare the game forfeited and the non-offending Club the winner. Should the Referee declare the game forfeited because both Clubs have refused to comply with such a provision, the visiting Club shall be declared the winner.

If the game is declared forfeited prior to its having commenced, the score shall be recorded as 1-0 and no player shall be credited with any personal statistics.

If the game was in progress at the time it is declared forfeited, the score shall be recorded as zero for the loser and 1, or such greater number of goals that had been scored by it, for the winner; however, the players on both Clubs shall be credited with all personal statistics earned up to the time the forfeit was declared.

RULE 67. HANDLING THE PUCK

67.1 Handling Puck

This rule outlines fouls that can result in a penalty when a player or goalkeeper illegally uses his hand on the puck. Refer to the *Rule 79 – Hand Pass* for all references related to passing the puck with the hand.

67.2 Minor Penalty – Player

A player shall be permitted to catch the puck out of the air but must immediately place it or knock it down to the ice. A player shall be assessed a minor penalty for ‘closing his hand on the puck’;

(i) If he catches it and skates with it, either to avoid a check or to gain a territorial advantage over his opponent.

(ii) If he places his hand over the puck while it is on the ice in order to conceal it from or prevent an opponent from playing the puck.

NOTE: When this is done in his team’s goal crease area, a penalty shot shall be assessed (*Rule 67.4 – Penalty Shot*) or a goal awarded (*Rule 67.5 – Awarded Goal*)

(iii) If he picks the puck up off the ice with his hand while play is in progress.

A minor penalty shall be assessed for ‘delay of game – face-off violation’ to a player taking the face-off who:

(i) Attempts to win the face-off by batting the puck with their hand.

NOTE: The two players involved in the actual face-off (the centers) are not permitted to play the puck with their hand without incurring a penalty under this rule until such time as a third player (from either team) has at least touched the puck. Once the face-off is deemed complete (and a winner of the face-off is clear) hand passes shall be enforced as per *Rule 79 - Hand Pass*.

67.3 Minor Penalty – Goalkeeper

The object of this entire rule is to keep the puck in play continuously and any action taken by the goalkeeper which causes an unnecessary stoppage must be penalized without warning.

A delay of game penalty shall be assessed to a goalkeeper who:

(i) Holds the puck with his hands for longer than three (3) seconds unless he is actually being checked by an opponent.

(ii) Deliberately holds the puck in any manner which, in the opinion of the Referee, causes an unnecessary stoppage of play:

(iii) Throws the puck forward towards the opponent’s net:

NOTE: In the case where the puck thrown forward by the goalkeeper being taken by an opponent, the Referee shall allow the resulting play to be completed, and if a goal is scored by the non-offending team, it shall be allowed and no penalty given; but if a goal is not scored, play shall be stopped and a minor penalty shall be imposed against the goalkeeper.

(iv) Drops the puck into his pads or onto the goal net.

(v) Deliberately piles up snow or obstacles at or near his net that, in the opinion of the Referee, would tend to prevent the scoring of a goal.

67.4 Penalty Shot

If a defending player, except a goalkeeper, while play is in progress, falls on the puck, holds the puck, picks up the puck, or gathers the puck into his body or hands from the ice in the goal crease area, the play shall be stopped immediately and a penalty shot shall be awarded to the non-offending team. (See also *Rule 63 – Delaying the Game*).

67.5 Awarded Goal

When a goalkeeper, prior to proceeding to his players' bench to be replaced by an extra attacker, intentionally leaves his stick or other piece of equipment, piles snow or other obstacles at or near his net that, in the opinion of the Referee, would tend to prevent the puck from entering the net, a goal shall be awarded. In order to award a goal in this situation, the goalkeeper must have been replaced for an extra attacker, otherwise a minor penalty shall be assessed.

If a player, when the goalkeeper has been replaced for an extra attacker, falls on the puck, holds the puck, picks up the puck, or gathers the puck into his body or hands from the ice in the goal crease area, the play shall be stopped immediately and goal awarded to the non-offending team.

67.6 Disallowed Goal

A goal cannot be scored by an attacking player who bats or directs the puck with his hand into the net. A goal cannot be scored by an attacking player who bats or directs the puck and it is deflected into the net off any player, goalkeeper or official. When the puck enters the net on a clear deflection off a glove, the goal shall be allowed.

RULE 68. ILLEGAL SUBSTITUTION

68.1 Illegal Substitution

An illegal substitution shall be deemed to have occurred when a player enters the game illegally from either the players' bench (teammate not within the five (5) foot limit, (refer to *Rule 74 – Too Many Men on the Ice*), from the penalty bench (penalty has not yet expired), when a major penalty is being served and the replacement player does not return to the ice from the penalty bench (see *Rule 68.2 – Bench Minor Penalty*), or when a player illegally enters the game for the sole purpose of preventing an opposing player from scoring on a breakaway (see *Rule 68.3 – Penalty Shot and Rule 68.4 – Awarded Goal*).

When an injured player is penalized and leaves the game, if he returns before the expiration of his penalty, he is not eligible to play. This includes coincidental penalties when his substitute is still in the penalty box awaiting a stoppage in play. The injured player must wait until his substitute has been released from the penalty box before he is eligible to play. (See *Rule 8.1 - Injured Player*).

68.2 Bench Minor Penalty

When a player receives a major penalty and a misconduct or game misconduct penalty at the same time, or when an injured player receives a major penalty and is unable to serve the penalty himself, the penalized team shall place a substitute player on the penalty bench before the major penalty expires and no replacement for the penalized player shall be permitted to enter the game except from the penalty bench. Any violation of this provision shall be treated as an illegal substitution under this rule calling for a bench minor penalty.

68.3 Penalty Shot

If a player of the attacking side in possession of the puck shall be in such a position as to have no opposition between him and the opposing goalkeeper, and while in such position he shall be interfered with by a player of the opposing side who shall have illegally entered the game, the Referee shall impose a penalty shot against the side to which the offending player belongs.

68.4 Awarded Goal

If, when the opposing goalkeeper has been removed from the ice, a player of the side attacking the unattended goal is interfered with in the neutral or attacking zone by a player who shall have entered the game illegally, the Referee shall immediately award a goal to the non-offending team.

68.5 Disallowed Goal

If a penalized player returns to the ice from the penalty bench before his penalty has expired by his own error or the error of the Penalty Timekeeper, any goal scored by his own team while he (or his substitute) is illegally on the ice shall be disallowed but all penalties imposed on either team shall be served as regular penalties. The penalized player must return to serve his unexpired time (and an additional minor penalty if he left the penalty bench on his own).

If a player shall illegally enter the game from his own players' bench or from any other location in the rink, any goal scored by his own team while he is illegally on the ice shall be disallowed but all penalties imposed on either team shall be served as regular penalties.

68.6 Deliberate Illegal Substitution

See *Rule 74 – Too Many Men on the Ice*

RULE 69. INTERFERENCE ON THE GOALKEEPER

69.1 Interference on the Goalkeeper

This rule is based on the premise that an attacking player's position, whether inside or outside the crease, should not, by itself, determine whether a goal should be allowed or disallowed. In other words, goals scored while attacking players are standing in the crease may, in appropriate circumstances be allowed. Goals should be disallowed only if: (1) an attacking player, either by his positioning or by contact, impairs the goalkeeper's ability to move freely within his crease or defend his goal; or (2) an attacking player initiates intentional or deliberate contact with a goalkeeper, inside or outside of his goal crease. Incidental contact with a goalkeeper will be permitted, and resulting goals allowed, when such contact is initiated outside of the goal crease, provided the attacking player has made a reasonable effort to avoid such contact.

For purposes of this rule, "contact," whether incidental or otherwise, shall mean any contact that is made between or among a goalkeeper and attacking player(s), whether by means of a stick or any part of the body.

The overriding rationale of this rule is that a goalkeeper should have the ability to move freely within his goal crease without being hindered by the actions of an attacking player. If an attacking player enters the goal crease and, by his actions, impairs the goalkeeper's ability to defend his goal, and a goal is scored, the goal will be disallowed.

If an attacking player has been pushed, shoved, or fouled by a defending player so as to cause him to come into contact with the goalkeeper, such contact will not be deemed contact initiated by the attacking player for purposes of this rule, provided the attacking player has made a reasonable effort to avoid such contact.

If a defending player has been pushed, shoved, or fouled by an attacking player so as to cause the defending player to come into contact with his own goalkeeper, such contact shall be deemed contact initiated by the attacking player for purposes of this rule, and if necessary, a penalty assessed to the attacking player and if a goal is scored it would be disallowed.

69.2 Penalty

In all cases in which an attacking player initiates intentional or deliberate contact with a goalkeeper, whether or not the goalkeeper is inside or outside the goal crease, and whether or not a goal is scored, the attacking player will receive a penalty (minor or major, as the Referee deems appropriate). In all cases where the infraction being imposed is to the attacking player for hindering the goalkeeper's ability to move freely in his goal crease, the penalty to be assessed is for goalkeeper interference.

In exercising his judgment, the Referee should give more significant consideration to the degree and nature of the contact with the goalkeeper than to the exact location of the goalkeeper at the time of the contact.

69.3 Contact inside the Goal Crease

If an attacking player initiates contact with a goalkeeper, incidental or otherwise, while the goalkeeper is in his goal crease, and a goal is scored, the goal will be disallowed.

If a goalkeeper, in the act of establishing his position within his goal crease, initiates contact with an attacking player who is in the goal crease, and this result in an impairment of the goalkeeper's ability to defend his goal, and a goal is scored, the goal will be disallowed.

If, after any contact by a goalkeeper who is attempting to establish position in his goal crease, the attacking player does not immediately vacate his current position in the goal crease (i.e. give ground to the goalkeeper), and a goal is scored, the goal will be disallowed. In all such cases, whether or not a goal is scored, the attacking player will receive a minor penalty for goalkeeper interference.

If an attacking player establishes a significant position within the goal crease, so as to obstruct the goalkeeper's vision and impair his ability to defend his goal, and a goal is scored, the goal will be disallowed.

For this purpose, a player "establishes a significant position within the crease" when, in the Referee's judgment, his body, or a substantial portion thereof, is within the goal crease for more than an instantaneous period of time.

Refer also to *TABLE 15 – Interference on the Goalkeeper Situations*

69.4 Contact Outside the Goal Crease

If an attacking player initiates any contact with a goalkeeper, other than incidental contact, while the goalkeeper is outside his goal crease, and a goal is scored, the goal will be disallowed.

A goalkeeper is not "fair game" just because he is outside the goal crease. The appropriate penalty should be assessed in every case where an attacking player makes unnecessary contact with the goalkeeper. However, incidental contact will be permitted when the goalkeeper is in the act of playing the puck outside his goal crease provided the attacking player has made a reasonable effort to avoid such unnecessary contact.

When a goalkeeper has played the puck outside of his crease and is then prevented from returning to his crease area due to the deliberate actions of an attacking player, such player may be penalized for goalkeeper interference. Similarly, the goalkeeper may be penalized, if by his actions outside of his crease he deliberately interferes with an attacking player who is attempting to play the puck or an opponent.

Refer also to *TABLE 15 – Interference on the Goalkeeper Situations*

69.5 Face-off Location

Whenever the Referee stops play to disallow a goal as a result of contact with the goalkeeper (incidental or otherwise), the resulting face-off shall take place at the nearest neutral zone face-off spot outside the attacking zone of the offending team.

69.6 Rebounds and Loose Pucks

In a rebound situation, or where a goalkeeper and attacking player(s) are simultaneously attempting to play a loose puck, whether inside or outside the crease, incidental contact with the goalkeeper will be permitted, and any goal that is scored as a result thereof will be allowed.

In the event that a goalkeeper has been pushed into the net together with the puck by an attacking player after making a stop, the goal will be disallowed. If applicable, appropriate penalties will be assessed. If, however, in the opinion of the Referee, the attacking player was pushed or otherwise fouled by a defending player causing the goalkeeper to be pushed into the net together with the puck, the goal can be permitted.

In the event that the puck is under a player in or around the crease area (deliberately or otherwise), a goal cannot be scored by pushing this player together with the puck into the goal. If applicable, the appropriate penalties will be assessed, including a penalty shot if deemed to be covered in the crease deliberately (see *Rule 63 – Delaying the Game*).

RULE 70. LEAVING THE BENCH

70.1 Leaving the Bench

No player or goalkeeper may leave the players' or penalty bench at any time during an altercation or for the purpose of starting an altercation.

70.2 Legal Line Change

A player who has entered the game while play is in progress from his own players' bench or legally from the penalty bench (penalty time has expired) who starts an altercation may be subject to discipline in accordance with *Rule 29 – Supplementary Discipline*.

A player or players who have entered the game on a legal line change during a stoppage of play, who line up in preparation for the ensuing face-off, and who participate in an altercation shall be penalized under the appropriate rule and will be subject to discipline in accordance with *Rule 29 – Supplementary Discipline* (a game misconduct is not automatic in this situation unless provided for as a result of his actions in the altercation).

70.3 Leaving the Players' Bench

Players shall not be permitted to come on the ice during a stoppage of play or at the end of the first and second periods for the purpose of warming-up. The Referee will report any violation of this rule to the Commissioner for disciplinary action.

Except at the end of each period or for entering the game legally, no player or goalkeeper may, at any time, leave the players' bench. If it is necessary to proceed to the dressing room during the course of the game (and when it is required to proceed by way of the ice to access the dressing room), the player or goalkeeper must wait for a stoppage of play and ensure there are not altercations in progress before proceeding.

The player or goalkeeper who was the first or second player to leave the players' (or penalty bench) during an altercation or for the purpose of starting an altercation, from either or both teams shall be assessed a game misconduct penalty.

70.4 Leaving the Penalty Bench

Except at the end of each period or on expiration of his penalty, no player may, at any time, leave the penalty bench.

A player serving a penalty on the penalty bench, who is to be changed after the penalty has been served, must proceed at once by way of the ice and be at his own players' bench before any change can be made. For any violation of this rule, a bench minor penalty shall be imposed for too many men on the ice (see *Rule 74 – Too Many Men on the Ice*).

A penalized player who leaves the penalty bench before his penalty has expired, whether play is in progress or not, shall incur an additional minor penalty after serving his unexpired penalty.

Any player who, having entered the penalty bench, leaves the penalty bench prior to the expiration of his penalty for the

purpose of challenging an official's ruling, shall be assessed a game misconduct penalty

Any penalized player leaving the penalty bench during a stoppage of play and during an altercation shall incur a minor penalty plus a game misconduct penalty. The minor penalty plus the unexpired time remaining in his original penalty must be served by a replacement player placed on the penalty bench by the Coach of the offending team.

If a player leaves the penalty bench before his penalty is fully served, the Penalty Timekeeper shall note the time and signal the officials who will stop play when the offending player's team obtains possession of the puck. An additional minor penalty must be served by this player in addition to the time remaining in his original penalty (this unexpired time is calculated from the time he left the penalty bench illegally).

In the case of a player returning to the ice before his time has expired through an error of the Penalty Timekeeper, he is not to serve an additional penalty, but must serve his unexpired time this unexpired time is calculated from the time he left the penalty bench through the error of the Penalty Timekeeper).

At a stoppage of play following the expiration of their penalties, if a player or players exiting the penalty bench get involved in an altercation, those coming from the penalty bench shall be assessed the penalties they incur in the altercation in addition to a game misconduct. Should a player coming from the penalty bench at a stoppage of play get involved with an opponent and the opponent is deemed to be the instigator of the altercation, then the player coming from the penalty bench would not be subject to the game misconduct.

70.5 Bench Minor Penalty

A bench minor penalty shall be imposed on a team whose player(s) leave the players' bench for any purpose other than a change of players and when no altercation is in progress.

If a Coach or non-playing Club personnel gets on the ice (unless directed to do so by an on-ice official, i.e. to attend to an injured player or goalkeeper) after the start of a period and before that period is ended, the Referee shall impose a bench minor penalty against the team and report the incident to the Commissioner for disciplinary action.

70.6 Game Misconduct Penalty

A game misconduct penalty shall be imposed on the player or goalkeeper who was the first or second player to leave the players' or penalty bench during an altercation for the purpose of starting an altercation, from either or both teams.

Any penalized player leaving the penalty bench during a stoppage of play and during an altercation shall incur a minor penalty plus a game misconduct penalty. The minor penalty plus the unexpired time remaining in his original penalty must be served by a replacement player placed on the penalty bench by the Coach of the offending team.

Any player or goalkeeper who has been ordered to the dressing room by the officials and returns to his bench or to the ice surface for any reason before the appropriate time shall be assessed a game misconduct.

Once a player enters the penalty bench, he must not leave until his penalty expires and his team is entitled to an additional player on the ice, or, at the end of a period to proceed to his dressing room, or, when he has received permission from an on-ice official. At any other time, he shall be assessed a game misconduct penalty under this rule.

70.7 Penalty Shot

If a player of the attacking side in possession of the puck shall be in such a position as to have no opposition between him and the opposing goalkeeper, and while in such position he shall be interfered with by a player of the opposing side who shall have illegally entered the game, the Referee shall impose a penalty shot against the side to which the offending player belongs.

70.8 Awarded Goal

If, when the opposing goalkeeper has been removed from the ice, a player of the side attacking the unattended goal is interfered with in the neutral or attacking zone by a player who shall have entered the game illegally, the Referee shall immediately award a goal to the non-offending team.

70.9 Disallowed Goal

If a penalized player returns to the ice from the penalty bench before his penalty has expired by his own error or the error of the Penalty Timekeeper, any goal scored by his own team while he is illegally on the ice shall be disallowed but all penalties imposed on either team shall be served as regular penalties.

If a player shall illegally enter the game from his own players' bench or from the penalty bench, any goal scored by his own team while he is illegally on the ice shall be disallowed but all penalties imposed on either team shall be served as regular penalties.

RULE 71. PREMATURE SUBSTITUTION

71.1 Premature Substitution

When a goalkeeper leaves his goal area and proceeds to his players' bench for the purpose of substituting another player, the skater cannot enter the playing surface before the goalkeeper is within five (5) feet of the bench. If the substitution is made prematurely, the official shall stop play immediately unless the non-offending team has possession of the puck - in which event the stoppage will be delayed until the puck changes possession.

There shall be no time penalty to the team making the premature substitution, but the resulting face-off will take place at the center ice face-off spot when play is stopped beyond the center red line. When play is stopped prior to the center red line, the resulting face-off shall be conducted at the nearest face-off spot in the zone where the play was stopped.

In all other situations not covered in the above, a minor penalty may result for "too many men on the ice" (see Rule 74 - *Too many men on the ice*).

71.2 Announcement

The Referee shall request that the public address announcer make the following announcement: "*Play has been stopped due to premature substitution for the goalkeeper.*"

RULE 72. REFUSING TO PLAY THE PUCK

72.1 Refusing or Abstaining from Playing the Puck

The purpose of this section is to enforce continuous action and both Referees and Linesmen should interpret and apply the rule to produce this result.

72.2 Hand Pass

When a hand pass has been initiated by one player to a teammate and the teammate elects not to play the puck to avoid the stoppage of play, and the opposing team also abstains from playing the puck (perhaps to allow time to expire on a penalty), the Referee shall stop the play and order the resulting face-off at the nearest face-off location to where the play was stopped for this violation.

72.3 High Stick

When a player or goalkeeper contacts the puck with his stick above the normal height of the shoulders and a teammate elects not to play the puck to avoid the stoppage of play, and the opposing team also abstains from playing the puck (perhaps to allow time to expire on a penalty), the Referee shall stop the play and order the resulting face-off at the nearest face-off location to where the play was stopped for this violation.

72.4 Icing

If, in the opinion of the Referee, the defending side intentionally abstains from pursuing the puck beyond the face-off spots on an icing promptly when they are in a position to do so, he shall stop the play and order the resulting face-off on the adjacent corner face-off spot nearest the goal of the team at fault.

72.5 Penalty

When the Referee signals the delayed calling of a penalty to one team and a player or goalkeeper of that team abstains from playing the puck in order to allow additional time to expire on the game or penalty clocks, the Referee shall stop play and order the resulting face-off at one of the face-off spots in the offending team's end zone. (See Rule 76.2 - *Face-off Locations*).

RULE 73. REFUSING TO START PLAY

73.1 Refusing to Start Play

This rule applies to teams who refuse to play while both teams are on the ice or who withdraws from the ice and refuses to play or who refuses to come onto the ice at the start of the game or at the beginning of any period of the game, when ordered to do so by the Referee.

73.2 Procedure – Team ON Ice

If, when both teams are on the ice, one team for any reason shall refuse to play when ordered to do so by the Referee, he shall warn the Captain and allow the team so refusing fifteen (15) seconds within which to begin the play or resume play. If at the end of that time, the team shall still refuse to play, the Referee shall impose a bench minor penalty for delay of game on a player of the offending team to be designated by the Coach of that team through the playing Captain. Should there be a repetition of the same incident, the offending Coach shall be removed from the players' bench and assessed a game misconduct penalty.

Should the offending team still refuse to play, the Referee shall have no alternative but to declare that the game is forfeited to the non-offending Club and the case shall be reported to the Commissioner for further action (see Rule 66 – *Forfeit of Game*).

FIRST VIOLATION

- (i) Warn the Captain of the offending team and allow 15 SECONDS within to resume play.
- (ii) If at the end of the 15 SECONDS the team STILL REFUSES to resume play, assess a bench-minor penalty to the offending team for delay of game.

SECOND VIOLATION

- (i) Warn the Captain of the offending team and allow 15 SECONDS within to resume play.
- (ii) If at the end of the 15 SECONDS the team STILL REFUSES to resume play, assess a bench-minor penalty to the offending team for delay of game.
- (iii) If the team STILL REFUSES to play, the Referee shall declare the game be forfeited to the non-offending club (see *Rule 66 – Forfeit of Game*).

73.3 Procedure – Team OFF Ice

If a team, when ordered to do so by the Referee through its Club Executive, Manager or Coach, fails to go on the ice and start play within five (5) minutes, the Club Executive, Manager or Coach shall the game shall be forfeited and the case shall be reported to the Commissioner for further action (see *Rule 66 – Forfeit of Game*).

- (i) Once it is apparent to the Referee that the team is refusing to come onto the ice and begin play, a bench minor penalty is to be assessed to the offending team for delay of game.
- (ii) FIVE (5) MINUTES will be provided for the offending team to return to the ice and begin play.
- (iii) After the five (5) minutes has elapsed and the offending team STILL HAS NOT RETURNED to the ice to resume play, the game shall be forfeited. The Commissioner of the League shall issue instructions pertaining to records, etc., of a forfeited game (see *Rule 66 – Forfeit of Game*).
- (iv) Once the Club Executive, Manager or Coach has been notified of the five (5) minute warning, and the team returns to the ice to resume play within that time frame, a bench minor penalty for delay of game must be assessed to the offending team.

RULE 74. TOO MANY MEN ON THE ICE

74.1 Too Many Men on the Ice

Players and goalkeepers may be changed at any time during the play from the players' bench provided that the player or players leaving the ice shall be within five (5) feet of his players' bench and out of the play before the change is made. Refer also to *Rule 71 – Premature Substitution*. At the discretion of the on-ice officials, should a substituting player come onto the ice before his teammate is within the five-foot (5') limit of the players' bench (and therefore clearly causing his team to have too many players on the ice), then a bench minor penalty may be assessed.

When a player or goalkeeper is retiring from the ice surface and is within the five-foot (5') limit of his players' bench, and his substitute is on the ice, then the retiring player or goalkeeper shall be considered off the ice for the purpose of *Rule 70 – Leaving Bench*.

If in the course of making a substitution, either the player entering the game or the player retiring plays the puck or who checks or makes any physical contact with an opposing player while on the ice, then the infraction of "too many men on the ice" will be called.

If in the course of a substitution either the player(s) entering the play or the player(s) retiring is struck by the puck accidentally, the play will not be stopped and no penalty will be called.

During the play, the player retiring from the ice must do so at the players' bench and not through any other exit leading from the rink. This is not a legal player change and therefore when a violation occurs, a bench minor penalty shall be imposed.

A player coming onto the ice as a substitute player is considered on the ice once both of his skates are on the ice. If he plays the puck or interferes with an opponent while still on the players' bench, he shall be penalized under *Rule 56 – Interference*.

74.2 Bench Minor Penalty

A bench minor penalty for too many men on the ice shall be assessed for a violation of this rule. This penalty can be assessed by the Referees or the Linesmen. Should a goal be scored by the offending team prior to the Referee or Linesman blowing his whistle to assess the bench minor penalty, the goal shall be disallowed and the penalty assessed for too many men on the ice.

74.3 Penalty Bench

A player serving a penalty on the penalty bench, who is to be changed after the penalty has been served, must proceed at once by way of the ice and be within five (5) feet of his own players' bench before any change can be made. For any violation of this rule, a bench minor penalty shall be imposed for too many men on the ice.

74.4 Deliberate Illegal Substitution

If by reason of insufficient playing time remaining, or by reason of penalties already imposed, a bench minor penalty is imposed for deliberate illegal substitution (too many men on the ice) which cannot be served in its entirety within the legal playing time, or at any time in overtime, a penalty shot shall be awarded against the offending team.

74.5 Goalkeeper in Regular Season Overtime

Once the goalkeeper has been removed for an extra attacker in overtime during the Regular season, he must wait for the next stoppage of play before returning to his position. Any attempt by the goalkeeper to return to his position prior to the next stoppage of play ("on the fly") shall be deemed to be an illegal substitution and a bench minor penalty shall be assessed for having an ineligible player.

RULE 75. UNSPORTSMANLIKE CONDUCT

75.1 Unsportsmanlike Conduct

Players, goalkeepers and non-playing Club personnel are responsible for their conduct at all times and must endeavour to prevent disorderly conduct before, during or after the game, on or off the ice and any place in the rink. The Referees may assess penalties to any of the above team personnel for failure to do so.

NOTE: When such conduct is directed at an official, *Rule 89 – Abusive Behavior* shall be applied.

75.2 Minor Penalty

A minor penalty for unsportsmanlike conduct shall be assessed under this rule for the following infractions:

- (i) Any identifiable player or goalkeeper who uses obscene, profane or abusive language or gestures directed at any person;
- (ii) Any player or goalkeeper who is guilty of unsportsmanlike conduct including, but not limited to hair-pulling, biting, grabbing hold of a face mask, etc. If warranted, and specifically when injury results, the referee may apply *Rule 21 – Match Penalties*.
- (iii) Any offensive player that engages in actions such as waving his arms or stick in front of the goaltender's face, for the sole purpose of improperly interfering with and / or distracting the goaltender as opposed to positioning himself to try to make a play;
- (iv) Any player or goalkeeper who throws any object onto the ice from the players or penalty box (or any other location);
- (v) When a player or players bang their sticks on the boards with their sticks or other instruments at any time, showing disrespect for an official's decision;
- (vi) A player who deliberately removes his jersey prior to participating in an altercation or who is clearly wearing a jersey that has been modified and does not conform to *Rule 65.1 - Equipment*, shall be assessed a minor penalty for unsportsmanlike conduct and a game misconduct. If the altercation never materializes, the player would receive a minor penalty for unsportsmanlike conduct and a ten-minute misconduct for deliberately removing his jersey.

If a penalized player is assessed an additional unsportsmanlike conduct penalty either before or after he begins serving his original penalty(ies), the additional minor penalty is added to his unexpired time and served consecutively.

75.3 Bench Minor Penalty

A bench minor penalty for unsportsmanlike conduct shall be assessed under this rule for the following infractions:

- (i) When a player, goalkeeper, Coach or non-playing Club personnel throws any object onto the ice from the players' or penalty bench (or from any other off-ice location) during the progress of the game or during a stoppage of play;
- (ii) Any unidentifiable player or goalkeeper, or any Coach or non-playing Club personnel uses obscene, profane or abusive language or gesture directed towards any person;
- (iii) Whenever Coaches and/or non-playing Club personnel uses obscene or profane language or gestures anywhere in the rink.

75.4 Misconduct Penalty

Misconduct penalties shall be assessed under this rule for the following infractions:

- (i) Any player or goalkeeper who persists in using obscene, profane or abusive language directed towards any person after being assessed a minor or bench minor penalty under this Rule;
- (ii) Any player or goalkeeper who deliberately throws any equipment out of the playing area. At the discretion of the Referee, a game misconduct may be imposed;
- (iii) Any player or goalkeeper who persists in any course of conduct (including threatening or abusive language or gestures or similar actions) designed to incite an opponent into incurring a penalty;
- (iv) When a penalized player challenges or disputes the ruling of an official after he has already entered the penalty bench and play has resumed.
- (v) In general, participants displaying this type of behaviour are assessed a minor, then a misconduct and then a game misconduct if they persist with this type of behaviour.

75.5 Game Misconduct Penalty

Game misconduct penalties shall be assessed under this rule for the following infractions:

- (i) If a player or goalkeeper persists in any course of conduct for which he was previously assessed a misconduct penalty;
- (ii) Any player or goalkeeper who uses obscene gestures on the ice or anywhere in the rink before, during or after the game. The Referee shall report the circumstances to the Commissioner of the League for further disciplinary action;
- (iii) Coaches and non-playing Club personnel who have previously been assessed a bench minor penalty for the use obscene or profane language or gestures anywhere in the rink. A confidential report to the Commissioner shall be completed and filed with the League for possible further disciplinary action;
- (iv) Any player or goalkeeper who attempts to or deliberately injures a Manager, Coach or other non-playing Club personnel in any manner. Details of such incident must be reported immediately to the Commissioner and may be subject to additional sanctions as per Rule 29 – Supplementary Discipline.
- (v) Any player, goalkeeper or a non-playing Club personnel who directs obscene, profane or abusive language or gestures to any person after the expiration of the game. This action may occur on or off the ice.
- (vi) In general, participants displaying this type of behaviour are assessed a minor, then a misconduct and then a game misconduct if they persist.

Any player, goalkeeper or non-playing Club personnel penalized under this section may be subject to supplemental discipline under *Rule 29*.

75.6 Reports

It is the responsibility of all game officials and all Club officials to send a confidential report to the Commissioner setting out the full details concerning the use of obscene gestures or language by any player, goalkeeper, Coach or other team official. The Commissioner shall take such further disciplinary action as he shall deem appropriate.



SECTION 10 GAME FLOW

SECTION 10 GAME FLOW

RULE 76. FACE-OFFS

76.1 Face-off

The action of the Referee or Linesman in dropping the puck between the sticks of two opposing players to start or resume play. A face-off begins when the official indicates the location of the face-off and the officials and players take their appropriate positions. The face-off ends when the puck has been legally dropped.

A goalkeeper may not participate in a face-off.

76.2 Face-off Locations

All face-offs must be conducted on one of the nine (9) face-off spots located on the rink.

If two rule violations are the reason for the stoppage of play (i.e. high-sticking the puck and intentional off-side), the ensuing face-off location shall be determined as the spot that provides the least amount of territorial advantage to the offending team.

When the play is stopped for any reason not specifically attributable to either team while the puck is in the neutral zone, the ensuing face-off shall be conducted at the nearest face-off spot outside the blue line whenever possible. When it is unclear as to which of the four face-off spots is the nearest, the spot that gives the home team the greatest territorial advantage in the neutral zone will be selected for the ensuing face-off.

When players are penalized at a stoppage of play so as to result in penalties being placed on the penalty time clock to one team, the ensuing face-off shall be conducted at one of the two face-off spots in the that offending team's end zone.

There are only THREE (3) exceptions to this application:

1. When a penalty is assessed after the scoring of a goal (face-off at center ice);
2. When a penalty is assessed at the end (or start) of a period – face-off at center ice;
3. When the defending team is penalized and the attacking players enter the attacking zone beyond the outer edge of the end zone face-off circle – face-off in the neutral zone (see paragraph 10 of this section);

The Team awarded the power-play will have the choice of which end zone dot the face-off will take place at the start the power-play.

When an infringement of a rule has been committed by players of both sides in the play resulting in the stoppage, the ensuing face-off will be made at the nearest face-off spot in that zone.

When stoppage occurs between the end face-off spots and near end of the rink, the puck shall be faced-off at the end face-off spot on the side where the stoppage occurs unless otherwise expressly provided by these rules.

No face-off shall be made within fifteen (15) feet of the goal or side boards nor anywhere other than at a face-off dot.

When a goal is illegally scored as a result of a puck being deflected directly off an official, the resulting face-off shall be made at the nearest end face-off spot in the zone where the puck deflected off the official.

When the game is stopped for any reason not specifically covered in the official rules, the puck must be faced-off at a face-off spot in the zone nearest to where it was last played.

Following a stoppage of play, should one or both defensemen who are the point players or any player coming from the bench of the attacking team, enter into the attacking zone beyond the outer edge of the end zone face-off circle during an altercation, gathering or "scrum," or violation (*by the team of greater numerical strength of its opponent*) the ensuing face-off shall take place in the neutral zone near the blue line of the defending team. This rule also applies when an icing, an intentional off-side has occurred. Should any of the non-offending players enter into the attacking zone beyond the outer edge of the end zone face-off circle during an altercation, gathering or "scrum," the ensuing face-off shall take place in the neutral zone near the blue line of the defending team.

For a violation of *Rule 71 – Premature Substitution*, the resulting face-off will take place at the center ice face-off spot when play is stopped beyond the center red line. When play is stopped prior to the center red line, the resulting face-off shall be conducted at the nearest face-off spot in the zone where the play was stopped.

When play is stopped for an injured player, the ensuing face-off shall be conducted at the face-off spot in the zone nearest the location of the puck when the play was stopped. When the injured player's team has possession of the puck in the attacking zone, the face-off shall be conducted at one of the face-off spots outside the blue line in the neutral zone. When the injured player is in his defending zone and the attacking team is in possession of the puck in the attacking zone, the face-off shall be conducted at one of the defending team's end-zone face-off spots.

76.3 Procedure

As soon as the line change procedure has been started by the Referee the visiting team shall have five (5) seconds to make its substitutions. After which he will raise his arm indicating to the visiting team that no further changes can be made and to the home team that they now have seven (7) seconds to make their change. After the line changes are completed and he lowers his hand to indicate no further changes, the Linesman conducting the face-off shall blow his whistle. This will signal to both teams that they have no more than five (5) seconds to line up for the ensuing face-off. At the end of the five (5) seconds (or sooner if both centers are ready), the linesman will conduct a proper face-off. If, however:

- (i) One or both centers are not positioned for the face-off;
- (ii) One or both centers refrain from placing their stick on the ice;
- (iii) Any player has encroached into the face-off circle;
- (iv) Any player makes physical contact with an opponent; or
- (v) Any player who lines up for the face-off in an off-side position;

The Linesman shall have the offending center(s) replaced immediately prior to dropping the puck.

In the last two (2) minutes of regulation time or any time in overtime, the linesman will still blow his whistle to initiate the face-off, but the five (5) second time limit will not be enforced. However, players must abide by the verbal directions given by the linesman in his attempt to conduct a fast and fair face-off.

76.4 Procedure – Centers

The puck shall be faced-off by the Referee or the Linesman dropping the puck on the ice between the sticks of the players facing-off. Players facing-off will stand squarely facing their opponent's end of the rink approximately one stick length apart with the blade of their sticks on the ice.

When the face-off takes place at any of the nine face-off spots, the players taking part shall take their position so that they will stand squarely facing their opponent's end of the rink, and clear of the ice markings (where applicable). The sticks of both players facing-off shall have the blade on the ice, within the designated white area. At the eight face-off spots (excluding center ice face-off spot), the defending player shall place his stick within the designated white area first followed immediately by the attacking player. When the face-off is conducted at the center ice face-off spot, the visiting player shall place his stick on the ice first.

NEW When an icing infraction occurs, the first face-off violation by either team will not result in the center being removed. The center will be warned by the Linesman that the team has committed their first face-off violation, and any subsequent violation by that team will result in a bench minor penalty for delay of game - face-off violation being assessed.

If a player facing off fails to take his proper position immediately when directed by the official, the official may order him replaced for that face-off by any teammate then on the ice.

If a center is not at the designated face-off area once the five (5) second time limit has elapsed, the Linesman will drop the puck immediately. If the center is back from the face-off dot, is "quarterbacking" or refuses to come into the face-off area when instructed to do so by the Linesman, or the center is simply slow getting to the face-off dot when the five (5) seconds has elapsed, the puck shall be dropped. If the center attempts to arrive at the face-off dot just as the five seconds elapses in an attempt to gain an advantage to win the face-off, he is to be removed from the face-off and replaced, resulting in a face-off violation. If the face-off is a result of an icing infraction and the center attempts to arrive at the face-off spot just as the five seconds elapse to gain an advantage to win the face-off shall not be removed from the face-off. The center will be warned by the linesman that he has committed a face-off violation, or the action actually is the second face-off violation, a bench minor penalty shall be assessed.

If a player is ejected from the face-off, his replacement must come into position quickly or risk having the puck dropped by the Linesman without the player being set or ejected from the face-off by the Linesman resulting in a bench minor penalty for delay of game for a second face-off violation during the same face-off.

When a team commits an icing infraction (*the Team cannot change of players*), any face-off violation will not result in the center being removed. The center will be warned by the Linesman that the team has committed their first face-off violation, and any subsequent violation will result in a bench minor penalty for delay of game - face-off violation being assessed.

Both players facing-off are prohibited from batting the puck with their hand in an attempt to win the face-off. Any attempt by either center to win the face-off by batting the puck with their hand shall result in a minor penalty. The penalty shall be announced as 'Minor Penalty for Delay of Game' – Face-off Violation'. The two players involved in the actual face-off (the centers) are not permitted to play the puck with their hand without incurring a penalty under this rule until such time as a third player (from either team) has at least touched the puck. Once the face-off is deemed complete (and a

winner of the face-off is clear) hand passes shall be enforced as per *Rule 79 - Hand-pass*.

NOTE: The Linesman may stop play when such a situation occurs, and the referee will assess the MINOR PENALTY.

76.5 Procedure – Other Players

No other player shall be allowed to enter the face-off circle or come within fifteen (15) feet of the players facing-off. All players must stand on-side on all face-offs.

During end-zone face-offs, all other players on the ice must position their bodies on their own side of the restraining lines marked on the outer edge of the face-off circles.

If a player other than the player taking the face-off moves into the face-off circle prior to the dropping of the puck, then the offending team's player taking the face-off shall be ejected from the face-off circle. This shall be considered a face-off violation.

Players on the attacking team (exclusive of the center) must establish their position first and then the defending team may counter and hold its position until the puck is dropped. A violation of this procedure shall be treated as face-off encroachment and the Linesman shall order the center of the offending team replaced.

Should an attacking player attempt to establish a new position prior to the face-off, and the defending center steps back from the face-off dot in order to reposition his teammates, the face-off violation shall be charged to the attacking team as they must establish their position first.

76.6 Violations

If a center should move prematurely prior to the face-off, or if the Referee or Linesman shall have dropped the puck unfairly, the face-off shall be considered a face-off violation and it must be conducted again.

When a least two face-off violations have been committed by the same team during the same face-off, this team shall be penalized with a bench minor penalty to the offending team. This penalty shall be announced as a "*Bench Minor Penalty – Face-off Violation*."

Face-off violations shall be summarized as follows (any of the four on-ice officials may identify a face-off violation):

- (i) Encroachment by any player other than the center into the face-off area prior to the puck being dropped. Players on the perimeter of the face-off circle must keep both skates outside the face-off circle (skate contact with the line is permitted). If a player's skate crosses the line into the face-off circle prior to the drop of the puck, this shall be deemed as a face-off violation. A player's stick may be inside the face-off circle provided there is no physical contact with his opponent or his opponent's stick;
- (ii) Encroachment by any player into the area between the hash marks on the outer edges of the face-off circle prior to the puck being dropped. Players must also ensure that both of their skates do not cross their respective hash marks. Contact with the line with their skate is permitted. If a player's skate crosses the line into the area between the hash marks prior to the drop of the puck, this shall be deemed as a face-off violation. A player's stick may be inside the area between the hash marks provided there is no physical contact with his opponent or his opponent's stick.
- (iii) Any physical contact with an opponent prior to the puck being dropped.
- (iv) Failure by either center taking the face-off to properly position himself behind the restraining lines or place his stick on the ice (See *Rule 76.4 - Procedure Centers*). "Properly position himself behind the restraining lines" shall mean that the center must place his feet on either side of the restraining lines that are parallel to the side boards (contact with the lines is permissible), and the toe of the blade of his skates must not cross over the restraining lines that are perpendicular to the side boards as he approaches the face-off spot.

The blade of the stick must then be placed on the ice (at least the toe of the blade of the stick) in the designated white area of the face-off spot and must remain there until the puck is dropped.

Failure to comply with this positioning and face-off procedure will result in a face-off violation.

Whenever a team has committed two (2) face-off violations during the same face-off, the Referee shall immediately assess the offending team a bench minor penalty for delay of game. This penalty shall be announced as a "Bench Minor Penalty for Delay of Game – Face-off Violation."

Players who are late to the face-off location and therefore in an off-side position for the ensuing face-off will be warned once in the game by the Referee. This warning will also be given to the offending team's Coach. In this situation, the offending team's center is not ejected from the face-off. Any subsequent violation shall result in a bench minor penalty for delay of game being assessed to the offending team. This penalty shall be announced as a "Bench Minor Penalty for Delay of Game – Slow Proceeding to Face-off Location."

In the conduct of any face-off at any of the nine (9) face-off spots on the playing surface, no player facing-off shall make any physical contact with his opponent's body by means of his own body or by his stick except in the course of playing the puck after the face-off has been completed.

For violation of this rule, the Referee may, at his discretion impose a minor penalty or penalties on the player(s) whose action(s) caused the physical contact. Nonetheless, this physical contact prior to the dropping of the puck shall be deemed as a face-off violation and the Linesman shall order the center of the offending team replaced.

Face-off encroachment may be applied during face-offs at any of the nine (9) face-off spots on the playing surface. However, since no such lines are painted on the ice at the four (4) face-off spots adjacent to the blue lines, Linesmen shall use their judgment as to whether or not a violation has occurred. All players, other than the centers, shall be uniformly back from the face-off location similar to being outside the face-off circle for face-offs in the end zones.

76.7 Line Changes

No substitution of players shall be permitted until the face-off has been completed and play has resumed except when a penalty is imposed which affects the on-ice strength of either team.

Should an on-ice official notice that the defending team has not placed enough players on the ice for the ensuing face-off, the Referee in the neutral zone shall be notified and he will instruct the offending team to place another player(s) on the ice. If, in the opinion of the Referee that this is being done as a stalling tactic, he will issue a warning to the offending team's Coach and any subsequent violations shall result in the assessment of a bench minor penalty for delay of game.

Should an on-ice official notice that the attacking team has not placed enough players on the ice for the ensuing face-off, the Linesman will proceed with conducting the face-off in the normal manner. The attacking team must ensure they put the appropriate number of players on the ice at all times.

76.8 Verification of Time

Any loss of time on the game or penalty clocks due to a false face-off or face-off violation must be replaced.

The whistle will not be blown by the official to start play. Playing time will commence from the instant the puck is faced-off and will stop when the whistle is blown or a goal is scored.

RULE 77. GAME AND INTERMISSION TIMING

77.1 Game Timing

The time allowed for a game shall be three (3) twenty-minute (20) periods of actual play with a rest intermission between periods.

77.2 Intermission Timing

Play shall be resumed promptly following each intermission upon the expiration of fifteen (15) minutes or a length of time designated by the League from the completion of play in the preceding period. Timing of the intermission commences once the last official exits the ice surface upon the termination of the period. (See *Rule 35 – Game Timekeeper*.)

For the purpose of keeping the spectators informed as to the time remaining during intermissions, the Game Timekeeper will use the electronic clock to record length of intermissions.

77.3 Delays

If any unusual delay occurs within five (5) minutes of the end of the first or second periods, the Referee may order the next regular intermission to be taken immediately. The balance of the period will be completed on the resumption of play with the teams defending the same goals after which the teams will change ends and resume play of the ensuing period without delay.

If a delay takes place with more than five (5) minutes remaining in the first or second period, the Referee will order the next regular intermission to be taken immediately only when requested to do so by the home Club.

RULE 78. GOALS

78.1 Goals and Assists

It is the responsibility of the Referees to award goals and assists, and their decision in this respect is final, notwithstanding the report of the Referee or any other game official.

In case of an obvious error in awarding a goal or an assist that has been announced, it should be corrected promptly, but changes should not be made in the official scoring summary after the Referee has signed the game report (except by the League's Hockey Operations Department).

The team scoring the greatest number of goals during the three (3) twenty-minute periods shall be the winner and shall be credited with two points in the League standings. In the event a winner during the regular season is determined in the overtime period or the shootout, the winning team shall be credited with two points in the League standings and the losing team will be credited with one point in the League standings.

78.2 Crediting Goals

A "goal" shall be credited in the scoring records to a player who shall have propelled the puck into the opponent's goal. Each "goal" shall count one point in the player's record. Only one point can be credited to any one player on a goal.

78.3 Crediting Assists

When a player scores a goal, an "assist" shall be credited to the player or players taking part in the play immediately preceding the goal, but no more than two assists can be given on any goal. Each "assist" shall count one point in the player's record. Only one point can be credited to any one player on a goal.

78.4 Scoring a Goal

A goal shall be scored when the puck shall have been put between the goal posts by the stick of a player of the attacking side, from in front and below the crossbar, and entirely across a red line the width of the diameter of the goal posts drawn on the ice from one goal post to the other with the goal frame in its proper position. The goal frame shall be considered in its proper position when at least a portion of the flexible peg(s) are still inside both the goal post and the hole in the ice. The flexible pegs could be bent, but as long as at least a portion of the flexible peg(s) are still in the hole in the ice and the goal post, the goal frame shall be deemed to be in its proper position. The goal frame could be raised somewhat on one post (or both), but as long as the flexible pegs are still in contact with the holes in the ice and the goal posts, the goal frame shall not be deemed to be displaced.

A goal shall be scored if the puck is put into the goal in any other manner by a player of the defending side. The player of the attacking side who last touched the puck shall be credited with the goal and assists may be awarded.

If an attacking player has the puck deflect into the net, off his skate or body, in any manner, the goal shall be allowed. The player who deflected the puck shall be credited with the goal.

Should a player legally propel a puck into the goal crease of the opponent Club and the puck should become loose and available to another player of the attacking side, a goal scored on the play shall be legal.

78.5 Disallowed Goals

Apparent goals shall be disallowed by the Referee and the appropriate announcement made by the Public Address Announcer for the following reasons:

- (i) When the puck has been directed, batted or thrown into the net by an attacking player other than with a stick. When this occurs, if it is deemed to be done DELIBERATELY, then the decision shall be NO GOAL. A goal cannot be scored when the puck has been DELIBERATELY batted with any part of the attacking player's body into the net.
- (ii) When the puck has been kicked using a distinct kicking motion.
- (iii) When the puck has deflected directly into the net off an official.
- (iv) When a goal has been scored and an ineligible player is on the ice.
- (v) When an attacking player has interfered with a goalkeeper in his goal crease.
- (vi) When the puck has entered the net after making contact with an attaching player's stick that is above the height of the crossbar. Where the puck makes contact with the stick is the determining factor.
- (vii) When a Linesman reports a double-minor penalty for high-sticking, a major penalty or a match penalty to the Referee following the scoring of a goal by the offending team, the goal must be disallowed and the appropriate penalty assessed.
- (viii) When a goalkeeper has been pushed into the net together with the puck after making a save. (See also *Rule 69.6 - Rebounds and Loose Pucks*).
- (ix) When the net becomes displaced accidentally. The goal frame is considered to be displaced if either or both goal pegs are no longer in their respective holes in the ice, or the net has come completely off one or both pegs, prior to or as the puck enters the goal.
- (x) During the delayed calling of a penalty, the offending team cannot score unless the non-offending team shoots

the puck into their own net. This shall mean that a deflection off an offending player or goalkeeper, or any physical action by an offending player that may cause the puck to enter the non-offending team's goal, shall not be considered a legal goal. Play shall be stopped before the puck enters the net (whenever possible) and the signalled penalty assessed to the offending team.

- (xi) When the Referee deems the play has been stopped, even if he had not physically had the opportunity to stop play by blowing his whistle.
- (xii) Any goal scored, other than as covered by the official rules, shall not be allowed.

78.6 Video Review (NOT IN USE)

RULE 79. HAND PASS

79.1 Hand Pass

A player shall be permitted to stop or “bat” a puck in the air with his open hand, or push it along the ice with his hand, and the play shall not be stopped unless, in the opinion of the on-ice officials, he has directed the puck to a teammate, or has allowed his team to gain an advantage, and subsequently possession and control of the puck is obtained by a player of the offending team, either directly or deflected off any player or official.

A player shall be permitted to catch the puck out of the air but must immediately place it or knock it down to the ice. If he catches it and skates with it, either to avoid a check or to gain a territorial advantage over his opponent, a minor penalty shall be assessed for “closing his hand on the puck” under *Rule 67 – Handling Puck*.

79.2 Defending Zone

Play will not be stopped for any hand pass by players in their own defending zone. A hand pass in the defending zone is considered to have occurred when both the player making the pass and the player receiving the pass have both of their skates inside their defending zone.

79.3 Face-off Location

When a hand pass violation has occurred, the ensuing face-off shall take place at the nearest face-off spot in the zone where the offense occurred, unless the offending team gains a territorial advantage, then the face-off shall be at the nearest face-off spot in the zone where the stoppage of play occurred, unless otherwise covered in the rules. When a hand pass violation occurs by a team in their attacking zone, the ensuing face-off shall be conducted at one of the face-off spots outside the defending team's blue line in the neutral zone.

RULE 80. HIGH-STICKING THE PUCK

80.1 High-sticking the Puck [For infraction involving high-stick, refer to Rule 60 – High-sticking]

Batting the puck above the normal height of the shoulders with a stick is prohibited. When a puck is struck with a high stick and subsequently comes into the possession and control of a player from the offending team (including the player who made contact with the puck), either directly or deflected off any player or official, there shall be a whistle.

When a puck has been contacted by a high stick, the play shall be permitted to continue, provided that:

- (i) The puck has been batted to an opponent (when a player bats the puck to an opponent, the Referee shall give the “washout” signal immediately. Otherwise, he will stop the play);
- (ii) A player of the defending side shall bat the puck into his own goal in which case the goal shall be allowed.

Cradling the puck on the blade of the stick (like lacrosse) above the normal height of the shoulders shall be prohibited and a stoppage of play shall result. If this is done by a player on a penalty shot or shootout attempt, the shot shall be stopped immediately and considered complete.

80.2 Face-off Location

When the play is stopped for the high-sticking the puck violation, the ensuing face-off must take place at the spot that provides the least amount of territorial advantage to the team striking the puck, either where the puck was contacted illegally, or where it was last played by the offending team. If the attacking team is at fault and the play is stopped while the puck is in the attacking zone, the ensuing face-off must be moved to the nearest face-off spot in the neutral zone.

80.3 Disallowed Goal

When an attacking player causes the puck to enter the opponent's goal by contacting the puck above the height of the crossbar, either directly or deflected off any player or official, the goal shall not be allowed. The determining factor is where the puck makes contact with the stick. If the puck makes contact with the stick below the level of the crossbar and enters the goal, this goal shall be allowed.

A goal scored as a result of a defending player or goalkeeper striking the puck with his stick carried above the height of the crossbar of the goal frame into his own goal shall be allowed.

RULE 81. ICING

81.1 Icing

For the purpose of this rule, the center red line will divide the ice into halves. Should any player or goalkeeper of a team, equal or superior in numerical strength (power-play) to the opposing team, shoot, bat or deflect the puck from his own half of the ice beyond the goal line of the opposing team, play shall be stopped. For the purpose of deflected pucks, this only applies when the puck was originally propelled down the ice by the offending team.

For the purpose of this rule, the point of last contact with the puck by the team in possession shall be used to determine whether icing has occurred or not. As such, the team in possession must "gain the line" in order for the icing to be nullified. "Gaining the line" shall mean that the puck, while on the player's stick (not the player's skate) must make contact with the center red line in order to nullify a potential icing.

For the purpose of interpretation of the rule, there are two judgments required for "icing the puck". The Linesman must first determine that the puck will cross the goal line. Once the Linesman determines that the puck will cross the goal line, icing is completed upon the determination as to which player (attacking or defending) would first touch the puck. This decision by the Linesman will be made by no later than the instant the first player reaches the end zone face-off dots with the player's skate being the determining factor. Should the puck be shot down the ice in such a manner that it travels around the boards and/or back towards the end zone face-off dots, the same procedure shall be in effect in that the Linesman shall determine within a similar distance as to who will have touched the puck first.

For clarification, the determining factor is which player would first touch the puck, not which player would first reach the end zone face-off dots.

If the race for the puck is too close to determine by the time the first player reaches the end zone face-off dots, icing shall be called.

The puck striking or deflecting off an official does not automatically nullify a potential icing.

81.2 Face-off Location

Following an icing, the attacking Team will have the choice of which end zone dot the face-off will take place. (This rule applies even after a time-out)

The resulting face-off following an icing call shall be at the end face-off spot of the offending team, unless on the play, the puck shall have entered the net of the opposing team, in which case the goal shall be allowed.

If during the period of a delayed whistle due to a foul by a player or goalkeeper of the side not in possession, the side in possession "ices" the puck, then the face-off following the stoppage of play shall take place in the neutral zone near the defending blue line of the team icing the puck.

If, in the opinion of the Referee, the defending side intentionally abstains from playing the puck promptly when they are in a position to do so, he shall stop the play and order the resulting face-off on the adjacent corner face-off spot nearest the goal of the team at fault.

If the Linesman shall have erred in calling an "icing the puck" infraction (regardless of whether either team is short-handed), the puck shall be faced-off on the center ice face-off spot.

81.3 Goalkeeper

If, in the opinion of the Linesman, the goalkeeper feigns playing the puck, attempts to play the puck, or skates in the direction of the puck on an icing at any time, the potential icing shall not be called and play shall continue. If a goalkeeper leaves his crease on a potential icing situation, the potential icing shall not be called and play shall continue.

If, however, a goalkeeper is legitimately out of the crease in an attempt to go to the players' bench to be substituted for an extra attacker and in no way makes an attempt to play the puck, the icing should not be nullified under this section.

If the goalkeeper is out of his crease prior to the shot being taken, and simply retreats to his crease making no attempt to play the puck or feign playing the puck, the potential icing shall remain in effect.

81.4 Line Change on Icing

A team that is in violation of this rule shall not be permitted to make any player substitutions prior to the ensuing face-off. However, a team shall be permitted to make a player substitution to replace a goalkeeper who had been substituted for an extra attacker, to replace an injured player, or when a penalty has been assessed which affects the on-ice strength

of either team. The determination of players on ice will be made when the puck leaves the offending player's stick.

GUIDELINES WHEN A TEAM ICES THE PUCK AND CANNOT SUBSTITUTE

1. Team may substitute for a goaltender that had been removed from the ice for an extra skater.
2. During a stoppage that normally does not allow a substitution, such substitution will be allowed for both teams if one or both teams are assessed penalties to players on the ice.
3. A player may be substituted if the Referee deems such player is injured.
4. During a stoppage that normally does not allow a substitution, a team may use its time-out and complete a substitution. This includes a stoppage for a Commercial Time-out (the team shall inform the Referee during the Commercial Time-out that it is using its time-out to make a substitution, but the length of the Commercial Time-out will not be extended by thirty (30) seconds).
NOTE 1 - A team MAY ask a Time-out at any time during the Commercial Time-out; however the Commercial Time-out will not be extended for another thirty (30) seconds.
NOTE 2 - A team may proceed with one or more substitutions, regardless of the team that requested a time out.
5. During a stoppage which normally does not allow for a substitution, a team CANNOT make any substitution whatsoever, including the goaltender. However, when a team has removed its goaltender for an additional skater and ices the puck, such team WILL BE ALLOWED to return the goaltender to his goal and remove a skater from the ice.

81.5 No Icing

When the puck is shot and rebounds from the body or stick of an opponent in his own half of the ice so as to cross the goal line of the player shooting, it shall not be considered "icing."

When a puck is shot by a team from their own half of the ice and is deflected several times before crossing the center red line, icing shall be nullified if at least one of these deflections was off an opposing player.

If the puck shall go beyond the goal line in the opposite half of the ice directly from either of the players while facing-off, it shall not be considered a violation of this rule.

If, in the opinion of the Linesman, any player (other than the goalkeeper) of the opposing team is able to play the puck before it passes his goal line, but has not done so, play shall continue and the icing violation shall not be called. This includes the situation whereby the opposing team, while in the process of making player substitutions during the play, is able to play the puck, but chooses not to do so to avoid being called for too many men on the ice, icing should not be called.

If the puck touches any part of a player of the opposing side, including his skates or his stick, or if it touches any part of the opposing team's goalkeeper, including his skates or his stick, at any time before or after crossing the goal line, it shall not be considered icing.

If a goalkeeper takes any action to dislodge the puck from the back of the net, icing shall not be called.

81.6 Numerical Strength

If the puck was shot by a player or goalkeeper of a side below the numerical strength of the opposing team, play shall continue, and the icing violation shall not be called.

When a team is "short-handed" as the result of a penalty and the penalty is about to expire, the decision as to whether there has been an "icing" shall be determined at the instant the penalty expires. The action of the penalized player remaining in the penalty box will not alter the ruling.

When a team is "short-handed" by reason of a major penalty, and they have neglected to ensure there is a player on the penalty bench to exit upon the expiry of the penalty, they will continue to play short-handed but are not permitted to ice the puck. Icing will be called. They may substitute for this penalized player at the next stoppage of play. (See *Rule 20.3 - Substitution*).

RULE 82. LINE CHANGES

82.1 Line Change

Following an icing, the attacking team will have the choice of which end zone dot the face-off will take place.

Following the stoppage of play, the visiting team shall promptly place a line-up on the ice ready for play and no substitution shall be made from that time until play has been resumed. The home team may then make any desired substitution, except in cases following an icing, which does not result in the delay of the game.

Placing a line-up on the ice shall mean that both teams shall place the full complement of players (and not exceed) to which they are entitled within the line change time frame.

During the play, if a player wishes to retire from the ice and be replaced by a substitute, he must do so at the player's bench and not through any other exit leading from the rink. This is not a legal player change and therefore when a violation occurs, a bench minor penalty shall be imposed.

If there is any undue delay by either team in changing players, the Referee shall order the offending team or teams to take their positions immediately and not permit any further player changes.

When a substitution has been made under the above rule, no additional substitution may be made until play commences.

Once the line change procedure has been completed (see *Rule 82.2 - Procedure*), no additional player substitutions shall be permitted until the face-off has been completed legally and play has resumed, except when a penalty or penalties are imposed that affect the on-ice strength of either or both teams. This may include penalties imposed following the completion of the line change and prior to the face-off, or due to a penalty assessed for a face-off violation.

A team that is in violation of *Rule 81 – Icing*, shall NOT be permitted to make any player substitutions prior to the ensuing face-off. Goalkeepers' substitution during a game will be conducted within the same time frame as a regular line change. No extra time will be allotted to the goalkeeper coming off the bench, except in the case where an injury to a goalkeeper occurs.

82.2 Procedure

Following a stoppage of play, the Referee will enforce the following line change procedure once he has determined that this procedure may begin:

- (i) The Referee shall give the visiting team up to five (5) seconds to make its line change;
- (ii) The Referee shall raise his hand to indicate no further changes by the visiting team and to commence the home team's line change;
- (iii) The Referee shall give the home team up to seven (7) seconds to make its line change;
- (iv) The Referee shall lower his hand to indicate no further changes by the home team.
- (v) Any attempt by the either team to make a change after the Referee's signal, attempt to place too many men on the ice for the subsequent line change, or attempt to make additional personnel changes, shall not be permitted and the Referee will send the players who have attempted to change back to their players' bench. The Referee will then issue a warning to the offending team (through the Coach) indicating that any subsequent violations during the rest of the game (including overtime), shall result in a bench minor penalty for delaying the game. This penalty shall be announced as a "Bench Minor Penalty for Delay of Game – Improper Line Change."
- (vi) The Linesman conducting the face-off will blow his whistle (once the Referee has lowered his hand for the line changes) to indicate that all players must be in position and on-side for the face-off within five (5) seconds. The face-off will then be conducted in accordance with *Rule 76 – Face-offs*.
- (vii) Players who are slow (after the five-second warning whistle given by the Linesman) getting to the face-off location or who are in an off-side position for the ensuing face-off will be warned once in the game by the Referee. This warning will also be given to the offending team's Coach. In this situation, the offending team' center is not ejected from the face-off. Any subsequent violation shall result in a bench minor penalty for delay of game being assessed to the offending team.
- (viii) In the last two (2) minutes of regulation time and any time in the overtime period(s), points (vi) and (vii) above are not applicable. The Linesman shall give the teams a reasonable amount of time to set up for the ensuing face-off after points (i) through (v) above has been enforced.

82.3 Bench Minor Penalty

Any attempt by the visiting team to make a change after the Referee's signal shall result in the assessment of a bench

minor penalty for delay of game.

Players must proceed directly to the location of the face-off to participate in the ensuing face-off. Any attempts to delay the game by stalling or otherwise unnecessary actions by either team shall result in the assessment of a bench minor penalty for delaying the game. This penalty shall be announced as a "Bench Minor Penalty for Delay of Game – Slow Proceeding to Face-off Location (or, Slow Proceeding to Players' Bench)."

During the play, if a player wishes to retire from the ice and be replaced by a substitute, he must do so at the players' bench and not through any other exit leading from the rink. This is not a legal player change and therefore when a violation occurs, a bench minor penalty shall be imposed.

RULE 83. OFF-SIDE

83.1 Off-side

Players of the attacking team must not precede the puck into the attacking zone.

The position of the player's skates and not that of his stick shall be the determining factor in all instances in deciding an off-side. A player is off-side when both skates are completely over the leading edge of the blue line involved in the play.

A player is on-side when either of his skates are ABOVE of the blue line, or on his own side of the line, at the instant the puck completely crosses the leading edge of the blue line regardless of the position of his stick. However, a player actually controlling the puck who shall cross the line ahead of the puck shall not be considered "off-side," provided he had possession and control of the puck prior to his skates crossing the blue line.

It should be noted that while the position of the player's skates is what determines whether a player is "off-side," nevertheless the question of an "off-side" never arises until the puck has completely crossed the leading edge of the blue line at which time the decision is to be made.

If a player legally carries, passes or plays the puck back into his own defending zone while a player of the opposing team is in such defending zone, the off-side shall be ignored and play permitted to continue.

83.2 Deflections / Rebounds

For the purpose of this section, it is stipulated that an attacking player has preceded the puck into the attacking zone.

When a defending player propels the puck out of his defending zone and the puck clearly rebounds off a defending player in the neutral zone back into the defending zone, all attacking players are eligible to play the puck. However, any action by an attacking player that causes a deflection / rebound off a defending player in the neutral zone back into the defending zone (i.e. stick check, body check, physical contact), a delayed off-side shall be signalled by the Linesman.

A puck that deflects back into the defending zone off an official who is in the neutral zone will be off-side (or delayed off-side, as appropriate).

A puck which deflects off an attacking player outside the blue line into the attacking zone, regardless of who originally propelled it or where it was propelled from, shall be ruled off-side or delayed off-side, as appropriate.

A puck which is propelled by the attacking team and deflects off any player shall be ruled off-side or delayed off-side, as appropriate.

83.3 Delayed Off-side

A situation where an attacking player or players have preceded the puck across the attacking blue line, but the defending team is in a position to bring the puck back out of its defending zone without any delay or contact with an attacking player, or, the attacking players are in the process of clearing the attacking zone.

If an off-side call is delayed, the Linesman shall drop his arm to nullify the off-side violation and allow play to continue if:

- (i) All players of the offending team clear the zone at the same instant (skate contact with the blue line) permitting the attacking players to re-enter the attacking zone, or
- (ii) The defending team passes or carries the puck into the neutral zone.

If, during the course of the delayed off-side, any member of the attacking team touches the puck, attempts to gain possession of a loose puck, forces the defending puck carrier further back into his own zone, or who is about to make physical contact with the defending puck carrier, the Linesman shall stop play for the off-side violation.

If, during a delayed off-side, an attacking player in the attacking zone elects to proceed to his players' bench (which extends into the attacking zone) to be replaced by a teammate, he shall be considered to have cleared the zone provided he is completely off the ice and his replacement comes onto the ice in the neutral zone. If his replacement comes onto the ice in the attacking zone, if the delayed off-side is still in effect, he too must clear the attacking zone. If the remaining

attacking players have cleared the attacking zone and the Linesman has lowered his arm for the delayed off-side, he shall be considered on-side.

83.4 Disallowed Goal

If the puck is shot on goal during a delayed off-side, the play shall be allowed to continue under the normal clearing-the-zone rules. Should the puck, as a result of this shot, enter the defending team's goal, either directly or off the goalkeeper, a player or an official on the ice, the goal shall be disallowed as the original shot was off-side.

The fact that the attacking team may have cleared the zone prior to the puck entering the goal has no bearing on this ruling. The face-off will be conducted at the face-off spot in the zone closest to the point of origin of the shot or at the nearest face-off spot in the neutral zone adjacent to the attacking zone of the offending team.

The only way an attacking team can score a goal on a delayed off-side situation is if the defending team shoots or puts the puck into their own net without action or contact by the offending team.

Other than in situations involving a delayed off-side and the puck being shot on goal, no goal can be disallowed after the fact for an off-side violation, except for the human factor involved in blowing the whistle.

83.5 Face-off Location

For violation of this rule, the play is stopped and the puck shall be faced-off in the neutral zone at the face-off spot nearest the attacking zone of the offending team when the violation occurs as a result of the attacking team carrying the puck over the attacking blue line, or from the face-off spot in the zone closest to the point of origin of the shot or pass (even if deflected off an attacking or defending player or an official).

For every delayed off-side situation, including an intentional off-side, the Linesman will raise his non-whistle arm. He will allow play to continue and, if a stoppage of play occurs, there will be three possible face-off locations:

- (i) If carried over the blue line – face-off outside the blue line;
- (ii) If shot into the zone (or errant pass) – nearest face-off spot from the origin of the pass/shot (even if deflected off an attacking or defending player or an official);
- (iii) If defending player pressured or is about to be checked – nearest face-off spot from the origin or the pass / shot (even if deflected off an attacking or defending player or an official);
- (iv) If deemed to be an intentional off-side - face-off spot in the offending Team's end zone.

When the Linesman signals a delayed off-side and a defending player or goalkeeper shoots the puck which goes over the glass and out of play, the ensuing face-off shall be conducted at one of the defending zone end zone face-off spots (and the defending player or goalkeeper would be assessed a minor penalty under *Rule 63 – Delaying the Game*).

When the Linesman signals a delayed off-side and the original shot deflects off a defending player and out of play, the ensuing face-off shall take place at the nearest face-off spot in the zone from where the puck was shot.

When the defending team is about to be penalized in the defending zone and the Linesman has a delayed off-side signalled against the attacking team on the same play, the ensuing face-off shall be conducted at one of the defending zone end zone face-off spots.

83.6 Intentional Off-side

An intentional off-side is one which is made for the purpose of securing a stoppage of play regardless of the reason, whether either team is short-handed.

If in the opinion of the Linesman, an intentional off-side play has been made, the puck shall be faced-off at the end face-off spot in the defending zone of the offending team.

If, while an off-side call is delayed, a player of the offending team deliberately touches the puck to create a stoppage of play, the Linesman will signal an intentional off-side.

If, in the judgement of the Linesman, the attacking player(s) are making an effort to exit the attacking zone and are in close proximity to the blue line at the time the puck is shot into the zone, the play will not be deemed to be an intentional off-side.

RULE 84. OVERTIME

84.1 Overtime – Regular Season

During regular-season games, if at the end of the three (3) regular twenty (20) minute periods, the score shall be tied, each team shall be awarded one point in the League standings.

The teams will then play an additional overtime period of not more than five (5) minutes with the team scoring first declared the winner and being awarded an additional point. The overtime period shall be played with each team at a numerical strength of three (3) skaters and one (1) goalkeeper. Additional penalties to be assessed consistent with the rules in regulation time.

The overtime period will be commenced immediately following a one (1) minute rest period during which the players will remain on the ice. The teams will change ends for the overtime period. Goalkeepers may go to their respective players' benches during this rest period; however, penalized players must remain on the penalty bench. Should a penalized player exit the penalty bench during this rest period, he shall be returned immediately by the officials with no additional penalty being assessed, unless he commits an infraction of any other rule.

84.2 Overtime – Regular Season – Extra Attacker

A team shall be allowed to pull its goalkeeper in favour of an additional skater in the overtime period. However, should that team lose the game during the time in which the goalkeeper has been removed, it would forfeit the automatic point gained in the tie at the end of regulation play, except if the goalkeeper has been removed at the call of a delayed penalty against the other team. Should the goalkeeper proceed to his bench for an extra attacker due to a delayed penalty call against the opposing team, and should the non-offending team shoot the puck directly into their own goal, the game shall be over and the team that was to be penalized declared the winner.

Once the goalkeeper has been removed for an extra attacker in overtime during the regular season, he must wait for the next stoppage of play before returning to his position. He cannot change "on the fly." If he does, a bench minor penalty shall be assessed for having an ineligible player.

84.3 Overtime – Regular Season - Penalties

When regulation time ends and the teams are 5 on 3, teams will start overtime 5 on 3. Once player strength reaches 5 on 4 or 5 on 5, at the next stoppage of play, player strength is adjusted to 4 on 3 or 4 on 4, as appropriate.

When regulation ends and teams are 4 on 4 teams will start overtime 3 on 3.

If at the end of regulation time teams are 3 skaters on 3 skaters, overtime starts 3 skaters on 3 skaters. Once player strength reaches 5 skaters on 4 skaters or 5 skaters on 5 skaters, at the next stoppage player strength is adjusted to 4 skaters on 3 skaters or 4 skaters on 4 skaters, as appropriate.

At no time will a team have less than three players on the ice. This may require a fifth skater to be added if a two-man advantage occurs.

Refer to *TABLE 16 – Penalties in Effect Prior to the Start of Overtime – Regular Season*

If a team is penalized in overtime, teams play 4 skaters against 3 skaters. If both teams are penalized with minor penalties at the same stoppage of play (with no other penalties in effect), teams will play 3 skaters against 3 skaters.

In overtime, if a team is penalized such that a two-man advantage is called for, then the offending team will remain at 3 skaters while the non-offending team will be permitted a fifth skater.

At the first stoppage of play after the two-man advantage is no longer in effect, the numerical strength of the team will revert back to either 4 skaters on 4 skaters or 4 skaters on 3 skaters situation, as appropriate.

Refer to *TABLE 17 – Penalties Assessed in Overtime – Regular Season*

84.4 Shootout

During regular-season games, if the game remains tied at the end of the five (5) minute overtime period, the teams will proceed to a shootout. The rules governing the shootout shall be the same as those listed under *Rule 25 - Penalty Shot*.

Before the beginning of the shootout in a regular season game, there will be a (1) one minute break. The teams will change ends for the shootout. The home team shall have the choice of shooting first or second. The teams shall alternate shots.

Three (3) players from each team shall participate in the shootout and they shall proceed in such order as the Coach selects. All players are eligible to participate in the shootout unless they are serving a ten-minute misconduct or have been assessed a game misconduct or match penalty. When a goalkeeper has been assessed a misconduct, the player designated to serve the misconduct penalty becomes ineligible for the shootout. If the misconduct is assessed to the goalkeeper during the course of the shootout, the player designated to serve the misconduct must be a player who has yet to shoot and thus becomes ineligible to shoot.

Once the shootout begins, the goalkeeper cannot be replaced unless he is injured. No warm up shall be permitted for a substitute goalkeeper.

Each team will be given three shots, unless the outcome is determined earlier in the shootout. After each team has taken three shots, if the score remains tied, the shootout will proceed to a "sudden death" format. No player may shoot twice until everyone who is eligible has shot. If, however, because of injury or penalty, one team has fewer players eligible for the shootout than its opponent, both teams may select from among the players who have already shot. This procedure would continue until the team with fewer players has again used all eligible shooters.

Regardless of the number of goals scored during the shootout portion of overtime, the final score recorded for the game will give the winning team one more goal than its opponent, based on the score at the end of overtime.

The losing goalkeeper will not be charged with the extra goal against. The player scoring the game-winning goal in the shootout will not be credited with a goal scored in his personal statistics.

If a team declines to participate in the shootout procedure, the game will be declared as a shootout loss for that Team. If a team declines to take a shot it will be declared as "no goal."

84.5 Overtime – Playoff

In the MHL League Playoffs, when a game is tied after three (3) twenty (20) minute regular periods of play, the teams shall take a normal intermission of fifteen (15) minutes and resume playing twenty (20) minute periods, changing ends for the start of each overtime period. The team scoring the first goal in overtime shall be declared the winner of the game.

RULE 85. PUCK OUT OF BOUNDS

85.1 Puck Out of Bounds

When a puck goes outside the playing area at either end or either side of the rink, strikes any obstacles above the playing surface other than the boards or glass, causes the glass, lighting, timing device or the supports to break, it shall be faced-off at the nearest face-off spot in the zone from where it was shot or deflected out of play.

If the puck comes to rest on top of the boards surrounding the playing area, it shall be considered to be in play and may be played legally by hand or stick.

When the puck goes outside the playing area directly off the face-off, regardless as to which player may have last contacted the puck, the face-off shall remain in the same spot and no penalty will be assessed to either team for delaying the game.

When the puck is shot and it makes contact with the gloves or the body of a player hanging over the players' bench, or if the puck enters the players' bench through an open bench door, the face-off shall take place at the nearest face-off spot in the zone from where the puck was shot, however, if the puck hits a opposing player's glove or body that is hanging over the opposing team's players' bench or enters the opposing team's players' bench through an open bench door, the face-off shall take place in the neutral zone adjacent to the opponent's players' bench.

Should the puck strike the spectator netting at the ends and the corners of the arena, play shall be stopped and the ensuing face-off shall be determined as if the puck went outside the playing area. However, if the puck striking the spectator netting goes unnoticed by the on-ice officials, play shall continue as normal and resulting play with the puck shall be deemed a legitimate play. Players must not stop playing the game until they hear the whistle to do so.

Should the puck strike the curved glass located at the end of either players' bench, play shall be stopped when observed by any of the on-ice officials. The ensuing face-off shall be determined as if the puck went outside the playing area.

85.2 Puck Unplayable

When the puck becomes lodged in the netting on the outside of either goal so as to make it unplayable, or if it is "frozen" between opposing players intentionally or otherwise, the Referee shall stop the play.

The puck may be played off the goal netting by either team. However, should the puck remain on the goal netting for more than three (3) seconds, play shall be stopped. Should the goalkeeper use his stick or glove to freeze the puck on the back of the net or should a defending player shield an attacking player from playing the puck off the back of the net, the face-off shall take place at one of the face-off spots in the defending zone.

Should the puck go under the goal either from behind or the side, or through the mesh from behind or the side, if this is witnessed by an on-ice official, play should be stopped immediately and the ensuing face-off should take place at the nearest face-off spot in the zone nearest to the location where the play was stopped.

85.3 Puck Out of Sight

Should a scramble take place or a player accidentally fall on the puck and the puck is out of sight of the Referee, he shall immediately blow his whistle and stop the play. The puck shall then be faced-off at the nearest face-off spot in the zone where the play was stopped unless otherwise provided for in the rules.

85.4 Puck Striking Official

Play shall not be stopped if the puck touches an official anywhere on the rink, regardless of whether a team is short-handed or not.

A puck that deflects back into the defending zone off an official, who is in the neutral zone, will be deemed to be off-side as per *Rule 83 – Off-side*.

The puck striking or deflecting off an official does not automatically nullify a potential icing.

When a puck deflects off an official and goes out of play, the ensuing face-off will take place at the face-off spot in the zone nearest to where the puck deflected off the official.

If a goal is scored as a result of being deflected directly into the net off an official, the goal shall not be allowed.

85.5 Face-off Location

Should any player cause the puck to go out of play or become unplayable in any zone, the face-off shall take place at the face-off spot in the zone from which the puck was shot. If deflected out of play, at the nearest face-off spot in the zone where it deflected out of play. If the zone happens to be in the neutral zone, the face-off spot selected shall be the one that gives the offending team the least amount of territorial advantage.

For a puck that is unplayable due to being lodged in the netting or as a result of it being frozen between opposing players, the resulting face-off shall be at either of the adjacent face-off spots or at the nearest face-off spot in the zone from which the puck was shot, unless otherwise covered in these rules.

If the attacking team shoots the puck into the zone and a delayed off-side is indicated, or if the attacking team commits a game flow infraction such as contacting the puck with a high-stick or batting the puck with a glove (causing a stoppage of play), the ensuing face-off shall be in the neutral zone outside the offending team's attacking zone.

85.6 Minor Penalty

A minor penalty for delay of game shall be imposed on a goalkeeper who deliberately drops the puck on the goal netting to cause a stoppage of play. See *Rule 67.3 – Minor Penalty Goalkeeper*.

85.7 Verification of Time (NOT IN USE)

RULE 86. START OF GAME AND PERIODS

86.1 Start of Game and Periods

The game shall be commenced at the time scheduled by a "face-off" in the center of the rink and shall be renewed promptly at the conclusion of each intermission in the same manner.

86.2 Bench Minor Penalty

A bench minor penalty shall be imposed on either or both teams if:

- (i) They are not on the ice or can be seen proceeding to the ice to start the second period, third or any overtime period when the intermission time clock has expired:
- (ii) At the start of the second, third and any overtime period, all players with the exception of the starting players must proceed directly to their respective player's benches. Skating, warm-up or on-ice activities by non-starters is not permitted.
- (iii) When the visiting team must proceed by the way of the ice to their dressing room at the end of a period, they must wait for a signal from one of the officials before proceeding. Failure to wait for the official's signal shall result in a penalty.

86.3 Choice of Ends

Home clubs shall have the choice of goals to defend at the start of the game except where both players' benches are on the same side of the rink, in which case the home club shall start the game defending the goal nearest to its own bench. The teams shall change ends for each period of regulation time and, in the playoffs, for each period of overtime. (See *Rule 84 – Overtime*.)

86.4 Delays

No delay shall be permitted by reason of any ceremony, exhibition, demonstration or presentation unless the MHL authorizes it.

86.5 End of Periods

At the end of each period, the home team players must proceed directly to their dressing room while the visiting team players must wait for a signal from the official to proceed only if they have to go on the ice to reach their dressing room. Failure to comply with this regulation will result in a bench minor penalty for delay of game.

Players shall not be permitted to come on the ice during a stoppage of play or at the end of the first and second periods for the purpose of warming-up. The Referee will report any violation of this rule to the Commissioner for disciplinary action.

86.6 Pre-game Warm-up

During the pre-game warm-up (which shall not exceed fifteen (15) minutes in duration) and before the commencement of play in any period, each team shall confine its activity to its own end of the rink. (Refer to *Rule 47.9 – Fighting*)

The Game Timekeeper shall be responsible for signalling the commencement and termination of the pre-game warm-up and any violation of this rule by the players shall be reported to the Commissioner.

Fifteen (15) minutes before the time scheduled for the start of the game, both teams shall vacate the ice and proceed to their dressing rooms while the ice is being flooded. Both teams shall be signalled by the Game Timekeeper to return to the ice together in time for the scheduled start of the game.

86.7 Start of Periods

At the beginning of the second and third periods, and overtime periods in playoffs (0:00 on the clock), clubs must be on the ice or be observed to be proceeding to the ice. Failure to comply with this regulation will result in a bench minor penalty for delay of game.

Before the start of the second and third periods (and overtime periods in the playoffs), the teams will proceed directly to their respective players' benches. Only the starting line-up will be allowed on the ice. The visiting team will immediately place its starting line-up at the face-off circle, and then the home team will follow, with the Referee allowing the home team to make a line change if so desired prior to the face-off. Skating, warm-ups or on-ice activities by non-starters will result in a bench minor penalty for delay of game to the offending team.

No warm-up involving pucks on the ice shall be permitted for a goalkeeper at the start of any period. If, after one warning, this continues, the Referee shall assess a delay of game penalty to the offending team.

RULE 87. TIME-OUTS

87.1 Time-out

Each team shall be permitted to take one (1) thirty-second (30) time-out during the course of any game, regular season or playoffs. All players including goalkeepers on the ice at the time of the time-out will be allowed to go to their respective benches.

This time-out must be taken during a normal stoppage of play. Only one time-out, commercial or team, shall be permitted at any one stoppage of play. For the purpose of this rule, a commercial time-out is deemed an "official time-out" and not charged to either team.

Any player designated by the Coach will indicate to the Referee (prior to the drop of the puck) that his team is exercising its option and the Referee will report the time-out to the Game Timekeeper who shall be responsible for signalling the termination of the time-out.

No time-out shall be granted following a face-off violation.

When a penalty shot has been awarded to either team by the Referee, no time-out will be granted once instruction have been given to the player taking the shot and the goalkeeper defending the shot.

No time-out will be granted during the shootout.

No warm-up involving pucks on the ice shall be permitted for a goalkeeper or replacement goalkeeper during a time-out. If, after one warning, this continues, the Referee shall assess a delay of game penalty to the offending team.

87.2 Playoff

Each team shall be permitted to take one (1) thirty-second (30) time-out during PLAYOFF OVERTIME.

NEW If a team has not used its timeout during the three (3) periods, this timeout may be added to the timeout allocated during overtime periods.

Refer to Rule 87.1 for the application of the 'Time out' rule.



SECTION 11
MALTREATMENT
Hockey Canada

SECTION 11 MALTREATMENT

Hockey Canada is committed to contributing to the physical, psychological, social, and spiritual health of individuals of varying abilities, backgrounds, and interests. Hockey Canada firmly believes that only when sport environments are safe and inclusive can these values be realized. Maltreatment includes volitional acts that result in harm or the potential for physical or psychological harm. Maltreatment in all its forms is a serious issue that undermines the health, well-being performance and security of everyone associated with the game of hockey and is incompatible with the core values that lie at the heart of Canadian sport. Participants in Hockey Canada's programming should have the reasonable expectation that it will be in an environment that is accessible, inclusive and is free from all forms of Maltreatment.

Team officials will always be responsible for their conduct and that of their players. They must endeavor to prevent disorderly conduct before, during or after the game, on or off the ice and any place in the rink. The Referee may assess penalties to any team officials for failure to do so and will report the individual(s) by completing a Game Incident Report including full details and submitting the Report to the appropriate Member or League delegate.

RULE 88. UNSPORTSMANLIKE CONDUCT (HOCKEY CANADA RULE 11.1)

88.1 Unsportsmanlike Conduct includes disrespectful behaviour, which is conduct deemed rude, unpleasant, inappropriate, or unprofessional and found to be offensive to others, but not rising to the level of conduct described under Rule 90 - Discrimination.

Unsportsmanlike conduct may also include, but is not limited to, the following actions which will be penalized at the discretion of the Referee:

- (i). Challenging or disputing an official's decision in an unsportsmanlike manner.
- (ii). Use of derogatory language that may be offensive to any individual.
- (iii). Deliberately spraying snow from their skates into an opponent's face (e.g. 'spraying' snowing the goaltender).
- (iv). Shooting the puck at or near the goal after the whistle.
- (v). Shooting the puck out of the playing area, after the whistle.
- (vi). Engaging in any inappropriate or unwanted discussion with the Referee, following the game.
- (vii). Any behaviour intended to taunt or incite an opponent into incurring a penalty.
- (viii). After one (1) warning to either team, any team guilty for players sitting on the boards. (One warning in a game will result in a bench minor – 'sitting on the boards' for any future violations to either team.)
- (ix). Protesting an official's call by banging their stick against the glass [**Hockey Canada Rule 11.1 (a) – Interpretation 2**]
- (x). Spraying water out of drinking bottle on or at any person [**Hockey Canada Rule 11.1 (a) – Interpretation 3**].
- (xi). Any other display of unsportsmanlike behaviour that would be considered disorderly or contrary to the spirit of the game.
- (xii). Any Captain, Alternate Captain or any player who comes off the bench and makes any protest or intervention with the officials for any purpose (*Rule 6.1 – Captain*)

Note 1: If any behaviour described in Rule 88.1 includes behavior described in Rule 90 – Discrimination, the individual must be penalized under Rule 90, in addition to any other penalties that individual might incur.

Note 2: Where a player or team official has been assessed a Game Misconduct penalty under this rule, the Referee will report the individual(s) by completing a Game Incident Report, including full details and submitting the report to the appropriate Member or League delegate.

However, if a player has been assessed a Minor penalty and a teammate is guilty of Unsportsmanlike Conduct, the Referee is encouraged to assess a Misconduct penalty to that teammate. This avoids putting the team down 5-on-3, while still penalizing the second player for their Unsportsmanlike Conduct.

88.2 Minor Penalty [Hockey Canada Rule 11.1 (a)**]** – A minor or bench minor penalty will be assessed to any player or team officials who is guilty of Unsportsmanlike Conduct, as outlined in Rule 88.1.

88.3 Misconduct [Hockey Canada Rule 11.1 (d)**]** – A Misconduct penalty will be assessed to any player who:

- (i). Persists in Unsportsmanlike Conduct, after receiving a Minor penalty under *Rule 88.2*.
- (ii). Distracts a player taking a penalty shot or goaltender defending a penalty shot (*Rule 25*).
- (iii). Intentionally knocks or shoots the puck out of reach of an Official who is retrieving it.
- (iv). Does not proceed immediately and directly to the Penalty Bench when they have been penalized.
- (v). Enters or remains in the Referee's crease while the Referee is reporting to or consulting with any game official.
- (vi). A player who taunts an opponent or the opponent's bench, including after the scoring of a goal. Taunting may be

any physical gesture or comment towards an opponent or the opposition bench intended to incite the opponent.

Note 1: A Referee is not required to assess a Minor penalty under this rule before assessing a Misconduct penalty, but may assess either penalty initially.

Note 2: A team official may not be assessed a Misconduct penalty under this rule.

- 88.4 Game Misconduct [Hockey Canada Rule 11.1 (e)]** A Game Misconduct penalty will be assessed to any player or team official who persists in Unsportsmanlike Conduct, after receiving a Minor penalty under *Rule 88.2* or a Misconduct under *Rule 88.3*.

A Game Misconduct shall be assessed to any identifiable player or team official whom is on the bench and guilty of any actions outlined in *Rule 88.1 viii or ix*, in lieu of the Bench Minor penalty [**Hockey Canada Rule 11.1 (a) / (f) – Interpretation 3**].

Note 1: A Referee is not required to assess a Minor or Misconduct penalty under this rule before assessing a Game Misconduct penalty, mut may assess either penalty initially.

Note 2: Where a player or team official has been assessed a Game Misconduct penalty under this rule, the Referee will report the individual(s) by completing a Game Misconduct Report, including full details and submitting the report to the appropriate League.

Note 3: [Hockey Canada Rule 11.1 – Interpretation 1] The intent of this rule is not to restrict enthusiasm displayed by a player who has made an important play or scored a goal. Due to the wide scope of this rule, guidelines for judgment are difficult to describe. Officials are directed to use their best judgement and seek guidance from their Referee-in-Chief, as needed.

RULE 89. ABUSIVE BEHAVIOUR (HOCKEY CANADA RULE 11.2)

- 89.1** Abusive behaviour includes targeted, persistent, or excessively profane conduct that is intended to intimidate, threaten, belittle, or demean an individual, which is often of a personal nature, but does not rise to the level of conduct described in *Rule 90 – Discrimination*.

Note: If any behaviour described in Rule 89 includes behaviour described in Rule 90 – Discrimination, the individual must be penalized under Rule 90, in addition to any other penalties that individual might receive.

- 89.2 Bench Minor Penalty** – A Bench Minor penalty will be assessed to a team official or unidentified player from the bench who uses abusive conduct towards the Referee or any other person.

- 89.3 Misconduct Penalty** – A Misconduct penalty will be assessed to any player who uses abusive conduct towards the Referee or any other person.

- 89.4 Game Misconduct Penalty** – A Game Misconduct penalty will be assessed:

- (i). To any player who persists in the use of abusive conduct.
- (ii). To any team official who uses abusive conduct to the Referee or any person.
- (iii). To any player who conducts themselves in a manner as to make a travesty of the game. Such actions may also be described as verbal or physical taunts or gestures that cause harm to the reputation of the game [**Hockey Canada Rule 11.2 (f)**].
- (iv). If a player, reacting to verbal harassment, goes into the stands to confront a spectator, physically or verbally; unless the Referee determines the player's actions did not cause the trouble and would be determined an act of self-defense. [**Hockey Canada Rule 11.2 (f) – Interpretation 3**].
- (v). Wherever a Referee has reasonable grounds to believe that a player or team official is impaired by alcohol and/or drugs, they should encourage that player or team official to voluntarily withdraw from the game. However, if a further incident occurs, with penalties that require a written report, the possible use of alcohol and/or drugs should be noted within the official game report [**Hockey Canada Rule 11.2 (f) – Interpretation 4**].

Note 1: A Referee is not required to assess a Bench Minor or Misconduct penalty under this rule before assessing a Game Misconduct penalty.

Note 2: Where a player or team official has been assessed a Game Misconduct penalty under this rule, the Referee will report the individual(s) by completing a Game Misconduct Report, including full details and submitting the report to the appropriate League.

- 89.5** In making the determination between Unsportsmanlike Conduct and Abusive Behaviour, officials should consider whether or not the comment is personal in nature. If the conduct criticizes or protests the official's decision, this should be categorized under *Rule 88 – Unsportsmanlike Conduct*. If the comment or actions attack the official's character or integrity, this must be penalized under *Rule 89 – Abusive Behaviour*. If the comment or actions are based upon discriminatory grounds, then they must be penalized under *Rule 90 – Discrimination*.
- 89.6** A Linesperson cannot stop play to assess a Misconduct under *Rule 89.3* but must wait for a stoppage of play and then notify the Referee as outlined under *Rule 33.4 viii*.

RULE 90. DISCRIMINATION (HOCKEY CANADA RULE 11.4)

- 90.1 Game Misconduct [Hockey Canada Rule 11.4]** Any player or team official who engages in taunts, insults, or intimidation based on discriminatory grounds will be assessed a Game Misconduct penalty under this rule. Discriminatory grounds include the following, without limitation:

- (i). Race, national or ethnic origin, skin colour, or language spoken;
- (ii). Religion, faith or beliefs;
- (iii). Age;
- (iv). Sex, sexual orientation or gender identity / expression;
- (v). Marital or familial status;
- (vi). Genetic characteristics;
- (vii). Disability

The Referee will report the individual(s) by completing a game incident report including full details and submitting the report to the appropriate League.

Note 1: If an incident occurs that was not witnessed by the Officials and is reported to the Referee, the Referee will report the individual(s) to an appropriate member of each team's bench staff and will complete a Game Incident report including full details and will submit the report to the appropriate League.

Note 2: If any behaviour described in *Rules 88 or 89* includes behavior described within *Rule 90*, the player, goaltender or team official must be penalized under *Rule 90*, in addition to any other penalties that an individual may receive.

- 90.2 [Hockey Canada Rule 11.4 – Interpretation 1]** – Hockey Canada recognizes that it is necessary to provide further guidance to all participants to ensure consistent application of *Rule 90*. The objective is to have uniform application of this rule, avoiding the use of personal preference or sensibilities. To assist in determining whether conduct is discriminatory (*Rule 90*), abusive (*Rule 89*), or Unsportsmanlike (*Rule 88*), officials should apply the following test:

Question 1: Was the comment made in a negative context, with the intent to taunt, insult, or intimidate another person?
Question 2: Was the nature of the insult based on 'discriminatory grounds', as defined in *Rule 90.1*?

If the answer to BOTH questions are 'yes', then a Game Misconduct penalty under *Rule 90.1* must be assessed to the offending player or team official.

If there is any doubt regarding the nature of a comment or action, officials should strictly apply this test to ensure that the game of hockey is free from maltreatment.

RULE 91. PHYSICAL HARASSMENT OF OFFICIALS (HOCKEY CANADA RULE 11.5)

- 91.1** The safety of all participants is a priority for Hockey Canada. It is understood that on-ice officials may need to physically intervene in altercations to deescalate the situation and/or protect vulnerable players. Officials should only intervene in an altercation when it is safe for them to do so, with the sole purpose of deescalating the altercation. Players that are willing participants in an altercation must be aware of the risks to their own safety and are responsible for their actions, if they compromise the safety of the intervening officials.

When on-ice officials are required to intervene in altercations, it is understood that they will need to make physical contact with players and that the on-ice officials assume a certain level of risk of incidental contact. This rule is intended to address incidents where players make contact with an official that is more than incidental. Furthermore, officials should be aware that the amount of physical intervention they use to deescalate altercations must follow the same principles of minimizing the risk for all participants involved.

For the purpose of this rule, 'officials' refers to Referees, Linespeople, and off-ice officials.

Note: If any behaviour described under *Rule 91* includes behavior described in *Rule 90 – Discrimination*, the individual must be penalized under *Rule 90*, in addition to any other penalties that individual might receive.

91.2 Game Misconduct [Hockey Canada Rule 11.5 (e)] - A Game Misconduct penalty will be assessed to any player or team official who in the course of attempting to continue or continuing to participate in a gathering or altercation, accidentally applies physical force to an official.

91.3 Match Penalty [Hockey Canada Rule 11.5 (c)] – A Match penalty will be assessed to any player or team official who:

- (i). Conducts themselves in such a way that physically threatens or intimidates an on-ice or off-ice official, without making physical contact;
- (ii). Deliberately applies physical force to an official with a minimal to moderate degree of violence, without causing injury; or
- (iii). Deliberately applies physical force to an official with a high degree of violence or causes injury to an official by way of any intentional contact.

Note: Where a player or team official has been assessed a Match penalty under this rule, the Referee will report the individual(s) by completing a game incident report, including full details and submitting the report to the appropriate League.



APPENDICES

APPENDIX A: THE RINK AND ICE MARKINGS

Figure 1: Detailed Rink Diagram (Rule 1.2, 1.3)

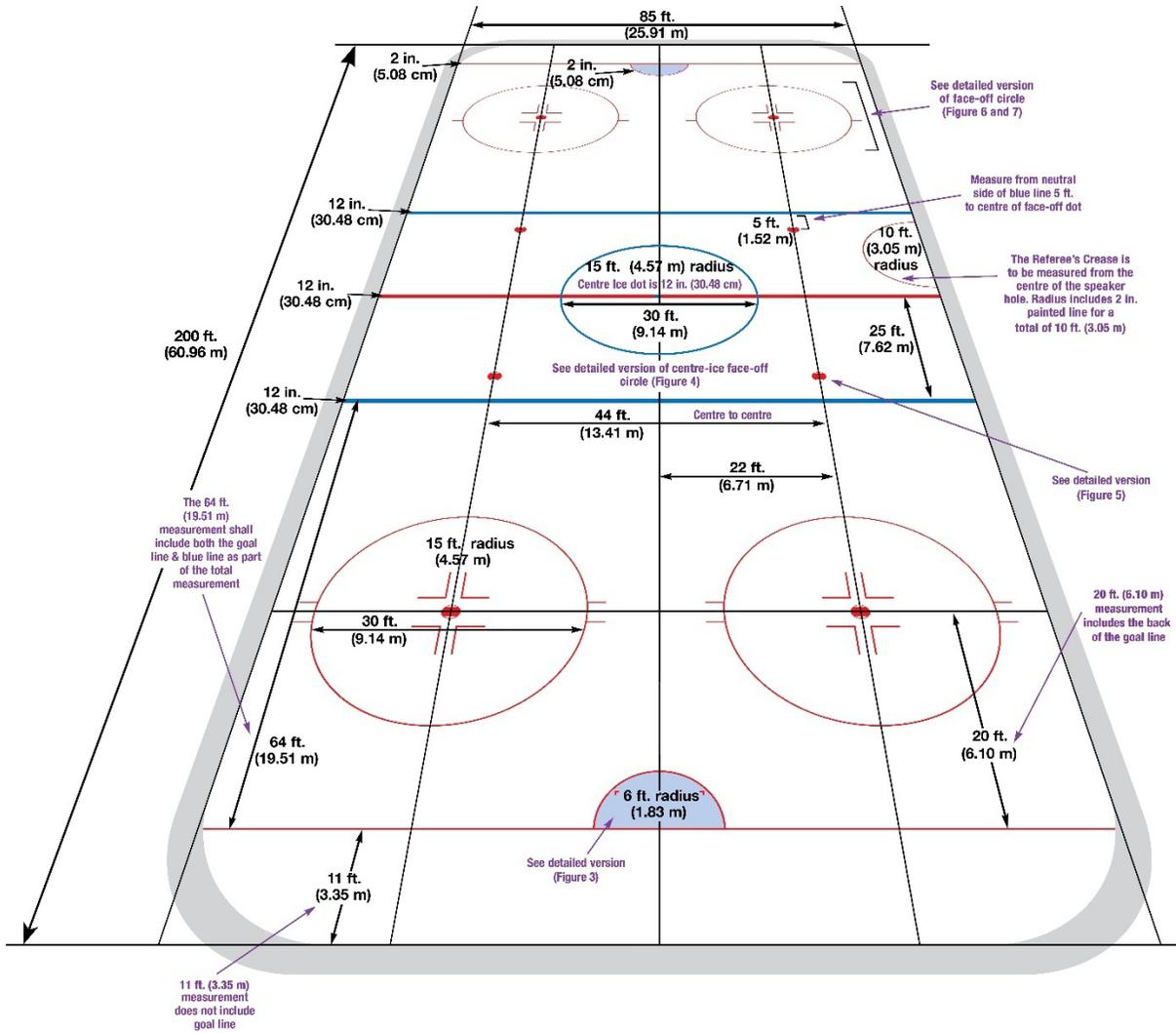


Figure 2: Goal Posts (Rule 1.4)

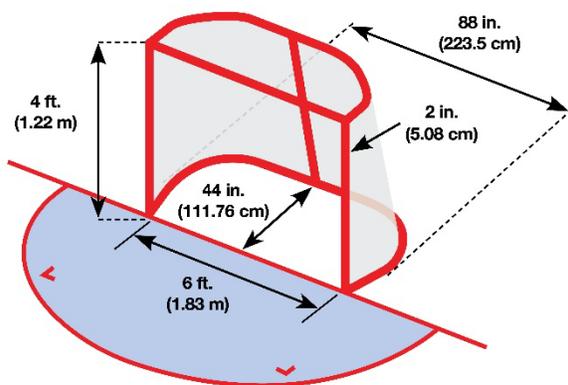


Figure 3: Goal Crease (Rule 1.5)

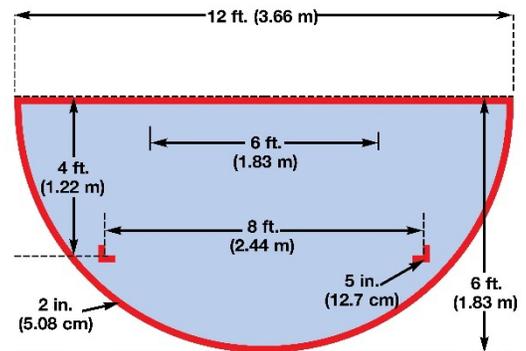


Figure 4: Centre Face-Off Circle (Rule 1.6)

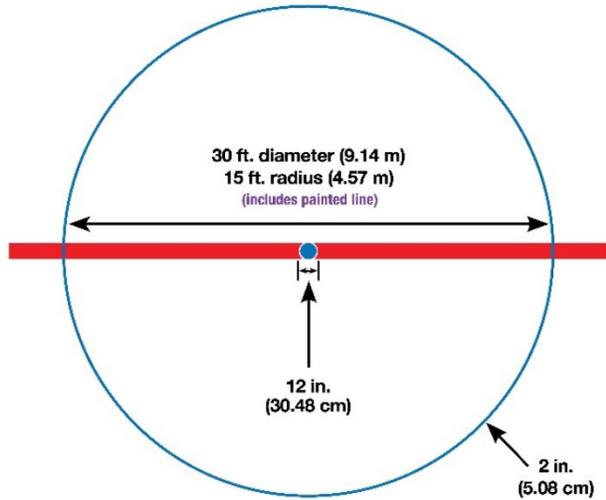


Figure 5: Face-Off Dot (Rule 1.7, 1.8)

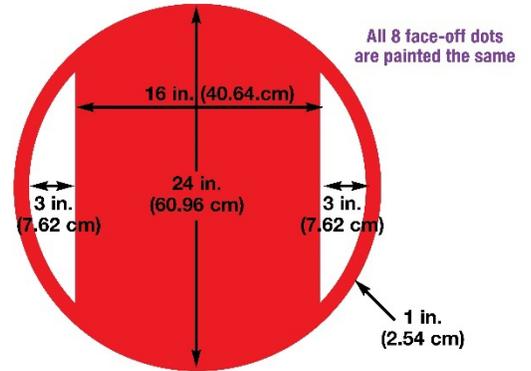


Figure 6: Face-Off Circle (Rule 1.8)

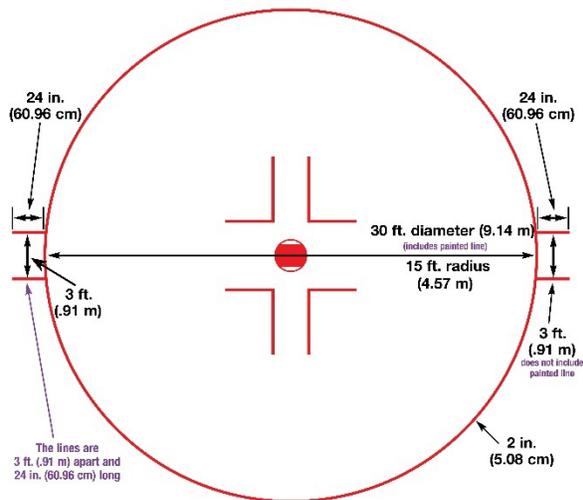
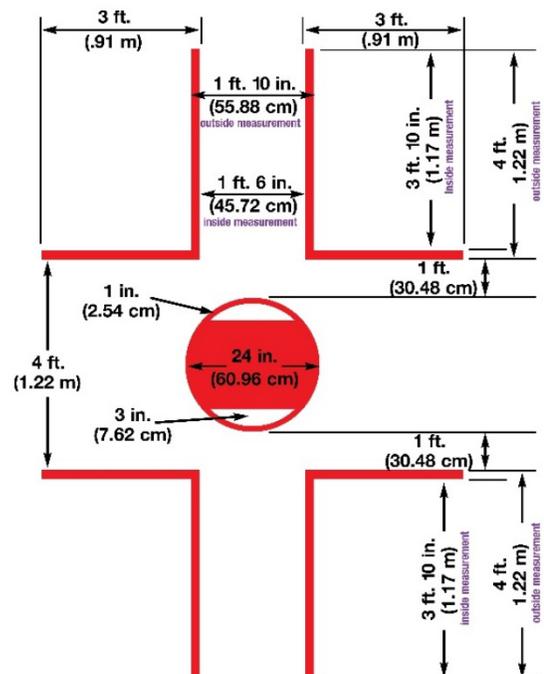
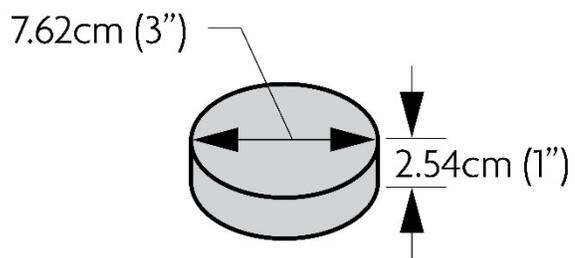
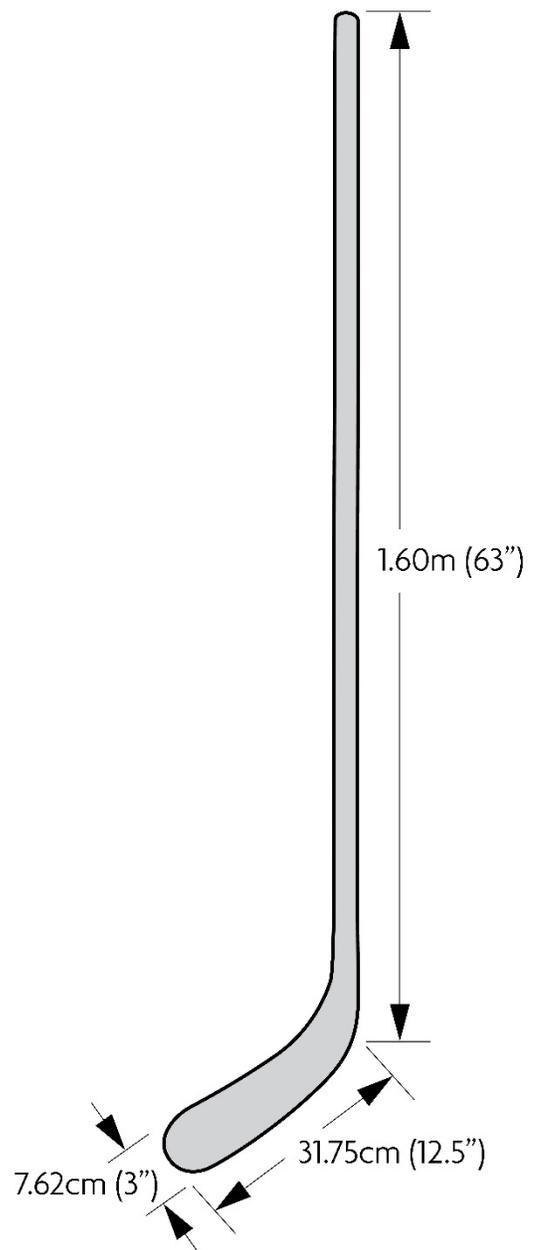
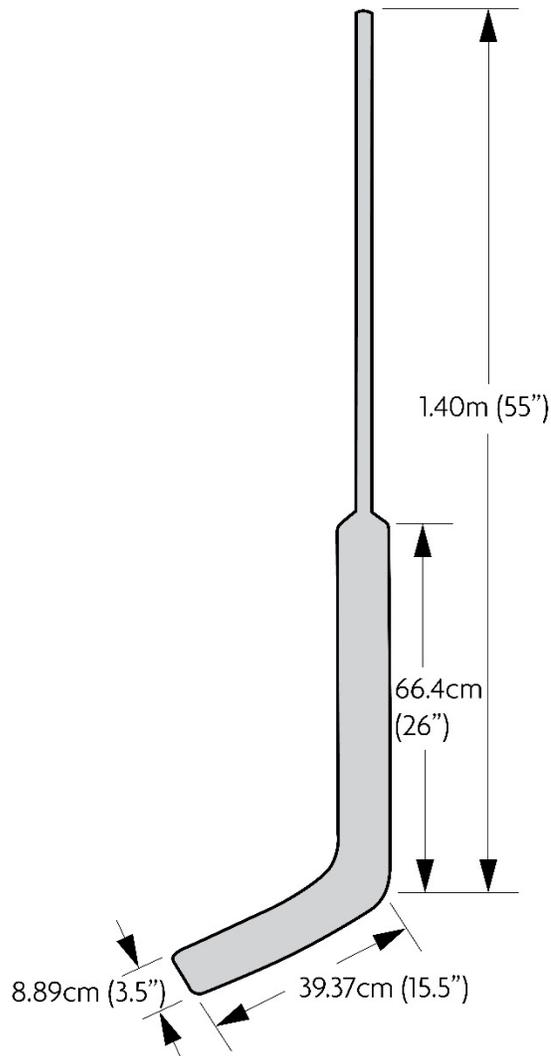


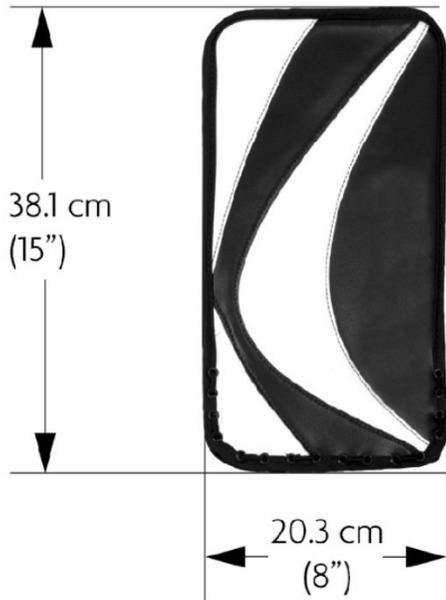
Figure 7: Face-Off Restraining Lines (Rule 1.8)



APPENDIX B: GOALTENDER'S STICK, PLAYER'S STICK & PUCK



APPENDIX C: GOALTENDER'S GLOVES & PADS



APPENDIX D: REFERENCE TABLES

TABLE 1
Summary of penalties to coaches and non-playing club personnel
 (Rule 15 – Calling of Penalties)

Description	Rule
(i) Hitting the boards with a stick	88
(ii) Interference with an opponent on a breakaway	56.5
(iii) Interference with an opponent or the puck while play is in progress	56.3
(iv) Interference with an opponent or the puck while the goalkeeper has been removed	56.6
(v) Interfering with an official	40.3
(vi) Leaving the bench by stepping onto the ice before the end of the period	70.5
(vii) Obscene language or gestures	89.2 89.4 75.3 75.5
(viii) Physically abusing an official	41.7
(ix) Refusing to start play (teams in their dressing room)	73.3
(x) Refusing to start play (teams on the ice)	73.2
(xi) Throwing a stick on the ice to a player or goalkeeper who has lost or broken a stick	40.3
(xii) Throwing any object onto the ice	75.3
(xiii) Throwing stick (breakaway on an open net)	53.7
(xiv) Throwing stick (defending zone)	53.6

TABLE 2
Summary of minor penalties
 (Rule 16 – Minor Penalties)

Description	Rule
(i) Boarding	42
(ii) Broken stick	10
(iii) Charging	43
(iv) Checking From Behind	44
(v) Clipping	45
(vi) Concealing puck with hand	67
(vii) Cross-checking	59
(viii) Delay of game	63
(ix) Elbowing	46
(x) Face-off violation	76
(xi) Goalkeeper interference	69
(xii) High-sticking	60
(xiii) Holding	54
(xiv) Holding the stick	54
(xv) Hooking	55
(xvi) Illegal equipment	13
(xvii) Illegal stick	10
(xviii) Instigator	47
(xix) Interference	56
(xx) Kneeing	50
(xxi) Leaving penalty bench too early	70
(xxii) Leaving the crease (goalkeeper)	28
(xxiii) Participating in the play beyond the center red line (goalkeeper)	28

(xxiv)	Roughing	51
(xxv)	Slashing	61
(xxvi)	Throwing puck towards opponent's goal (goalkeeper)	67
(xxvii)	Throwing stick	53
(xxviii)	Tripping	57
(xxix)	Use of hand on face-off	76
(xxx)	Unsportsmanlike conduct	75
(xxxi)	Checking to the head	44B
(xxxii)	Blind side hit	44 C

TABLE 3
Summary of bench minor penalties
(Rule 17 – Bench Minor Penalties)

Description		Rule
(i)	Abuse of Officials	89
(ii)	Delay of game	63
(iii)	Deliberate illegal substitution	74
(iv)	Face-off violation	76
(v)	Illegal substitution	68
(vi)	Improper starting line-up	7
(vii)	Interference from players' or penalty bench	56
(viii)	Interference with an official	88
(ix)	Leaving bench at end of period	86
(x)	Refusing to start play	73
(xi)	Stepping onto ice during period (Coach)	70
(xii)	Throwing objects onto ice	63
(xiii)	Too many men on the ice	74
(xiv)	Unsportsmanlike conduct	75
(xv)	Unsustained request for measurement	9.7

TABLE 4
Summary of double-minor penalties
(Rule 18 – Double-minor Penalties)

Description		Rule
(i)	Boarding	42
(ii)	Butt-ending	58
(iii)	Checking From Behind	44
(iv)	Head-butting	48
(v)	High-sticking	60
(vi)	Spearing	62

TABLE 5
Summary of major penalties
(Rule 20 – Major Penalties)

Description		Rule
(i)	Fighting	47

TABLE 6
Summary of major penalties that result in an automatic game misconduct
 (Rule 20 – Major Penalties)

Description		Rule
(i)	Boarding	42
(ii)	Butt-ending	58
(iii)	Charging	43
(iv)	Checking from behind	44
(v)	Checking to the head	44B
(vi)	Clipping	45
(vii)	Cross-checking	59
(viii)	Elbowing	46
(ix)	Fighting	47
(x)	Interference	56
(xi)	Head-butting	48
(xii)	Hooking	55
(xiii)	Kneeing	50
(xiv)	Slashing	61
(xv)	Spearing	62
(xvi)	Blind side hit	44C

TABLE 7
Summary of match penalties
 (Rule 21 – Match Penalties)

Description		Rule
(i)	Boarding	42
(ii)	Butt-ending *	58
(iii)	Charging	43
(iv)	Checking from behind	44
(v)	Clipping	45
(vi)	Cross-checking	59
(vii)	Elbowing	46
(viii)	Goalkeeper who uses his blocking glove to the head or face of an opponent *	51
(ix)	Head-butting *	48
(x)	High-sticking	60
(xi)	Kicking a player (or goalkeeper)	49
(xii)	Kneeing	50
(xiii)	Punching and injuring an unsuspecting opponent *	47
(xiv)	Slashing	61
(xv)	Slew-footing	52
(xvi)	Spearing *	62
(xvii)	Throwing stick or any object	53
(xviii)	Wearing tape on hands in altercation *	47
(xix)	Blind side hit	44C

NOTE *A match penalty is assessed anytime there is an attempt to injure or deliberate injury, in any manner.*

TABLE 8
Summary of misconduct penalties
 (Rule 22 – Misconduct Penalties)

Description		Rule
(i)	Banging boards with stick in protest of an official's ruling	88
(ii)	Continuing or attempting to continue a fight	47
(iii)	Deliberately breaking stick or refusing to surrender stick for measurement	10
(iv)	Deliberately throwing any equipment (including stick) out of playing area	53

(v)	Entering or remaining in the referee's crease	88.3
(vi)	Inciting an opponent	75
(vii)	Interfering or distracting opponent taking a penalty shot	25
(viii)	Jersey not properly tied down and/or shake one or both arm and/or remove one or both elbow.	47.12
(ix)	Knocking or shooting puck out of reach of an official	88.3
(x)	Leaving bench to speak to official	6
(xi)	Refusing to change non-regulation piece of protective equipment (second violation)	12
(xii)	Use of profane or abusive language	75
(xiii)	Verbal abuse of an official	89

TABLE 9
Summary of game misconduct included in the "general category"
(Rule 23 – Game Misconduct Penalties)

Description		Rule
(i)	Continues or attempts to continue a fight.	47.5
(ii)	Deliberately attempts to injure a Manager, Coach or other non-playing personnel.	75
(iii)	First or second player to leave the player's bench during or to start an altercation.	70
(iv)	First to intervene in an altercation (third man in)	47.17
(v)	Inciting an opponent into incurring a penalty	75
(vi)	Physically abuses an official.	91
(vii)	Leaving the penalty bench during an altercation	70.6
(viii)	Not properly tied down during an altercation (over his torso)	47.12
(ix)	Obscene language or gestures	88.1
(x)	Ordered to dressing room but returns.	70
(xi)	Persists to challenge or dispute official's ruling	88.3
(xii)	Persists in continuing an altercation	47.5
(xiii)	Removing jersey prior to an altercation	47.12
(xiv)	Resisting a linesman in the discharge of his duties.	91.2
(xv)	Throwing stick outside the playing area	53
(xvi)	Fighting off the playing surface or with another player who is off the playing surface.	47
(xvii)	Discriminatory words or gestures (Refer to the Anti-Discrimination Policy)	90

TABLE 10
Summary of penalty shots
(Rule 25 – Penalty Shot)

Description		Rule
(i)	Deliberate illegal substitution	68
(ii)	Intentionally dislodging the net from its moorings during the course of a breakaway	63
(iii)	Intentionally dislodging the net from its moorings when the penalty cannot be served in its entirety within regulation time	63
(iv)	Falling on the puck in the goal crease	63
(v)	Picking up the puck with the hand in the goal crease	53
(vi)	Player on a breakaway who is interfered with by an object thrown or shot by a defending team Player or goalkeeper.	70 / 56
(vii)	Player on a breakaway who is interfered with by a player or goalkeeper who has illegally entered the game	25 / 53
(viii)	Player or goalkeeper throws or shoots an object at the puck in his defending zone	53
(ix)	Player on a breakaway who is fouled from behind.	55 / 61

TABLE 11
Summary of awarded goals (when goalkeeper has been removed for an extra attacker)
 (Rule 26 – Awarded Goals)

Description	Rule
(i) Delaying the game	63.6
(ii) Handling the puck	67.5
(iii) Illegal substitution	68.4
(iv) Interference	56.6
(v) Leaving the players' or penalty bench	70.8
(vi) Throwing stick	53.7
(vii) Tripping (fouling from behind – including hooking, slashing, Etc.)	57.4

TABLE 12
Summary of goalkeeper penalties
 (Rule 28 – Goalkeeper's Penalties)

Description	Rule
(i) Illegal stick	10.8
(ii) Illegal equipment	9 / 11
(iii) Leaving crease during an altercation	28
(iv) Proceeding to players' bench	28
(v) Participates in the play beyond the center red line	28
(vi) Playing puck in restricted area	4 / 63
(vii) Proceeds to players' bench to replace stick	28
(viii) Deliberately shoots or bats puck out of play	63
(ix) Deliberately falls on the puck inside or outside the goal crease	63
(x) Deliberately drops the puck in his pads or on the goal net	63 / 67
(xi) Piling snow or other obstacles	67
(xii) Throwing the puck towards opponent's goal	67
(xiii) Using blocking glove to punch an opponent in the head or face	51

TABLE 13
Goals scored against a short-handed team
 (Rule 16 – Minor Penalties)

Ex	Time	Team A	Team B	Answer	Remarks
Minor penalty expiration criteria: a. Is the team scored against, short-handed? b. Are they serving a minor penalty on the clock? c. If the answer is yes to a) and b) delete the minor penalty with the least amount of time on the clock, except when coincidental penalties are being served.					
One player with a double minor penalty:					
A1	3:00 4:30	A15 – 2+2	Goal	No player returns	First penalty ends, the second begins at 4:30.
A2	3:00 5:30	A15 – 2+2	Goal	A15 returns.	The first penalty has expired, the second ends with the scoring of the goal.
One player with a minor and a major penalty:					
B1	3:00 4:30	A15 – 5+2	Goal	No penalty terminates.	The major penalty must be served first.
B2	3:00 8:30	A15 – 5+2	Goal	A15 returns.	The major penalty has expired; the minor penalty ends with the scoring of the goal.
Two players of the same team – Combination of minor and major penalties:					
C1	3:00 4:00 4:30	A15 – 2 A23 – 2	Goal	A15 returns.	
C2	3:00 4:00 4:30	A15 – 2 A23 – 5	Goal	A15 returns.	
C3	3:00 4:00 4:30	A15 – 5 A23 – 2	Goal	A23 returns.	
C4	3:00 4:00 4:30 5:30	A15 – 2+2 A23 – 2	Goal Goal	No player returns. A23 returns.	The first minor to A15 ends. A23 returns because he has the least amount of time to serve in his minor penalty.
C5	3:00 (S*) 4:30	A15 – 2 A23 – 2+2	Goal	A15 returns	The signalled double-minor penalty to A23 is assessed at 4:30. * S = signalled
C6	3:00 4:00 4:30	A15 – 5+2 A23 – 2	Goal	A23 returns.	A15 must first serve his major penalty. A23 returns as he is serving a minor penalty.
C7	3:00 7:30 8:30	A15 – 5+2 A23 – 2	Goal	A23 returns.	Least amount of time to serve.
C8	3:00 6:00 8:00	A15 – 5+2 A23 – 2	Goal	Both A15 and A23 return.	The major penalty to A15 has expired. His minor penalty ends with the goal. A23's minor penalty has expired.
C9	3:00 8:00 9:00	A15 – 5+2 A23 – 2	Goal	Captain's choice.	The major penalty to A15 has expired. Both minors terminate at the same time.

TABLE 13
Goals scored against a short-handed team
 (Rule 16 – Minor Penalties)

Ex	Time	Team A	Team B	Answer	Remarks
Three players of the same team – Delayed (D) or Signalled (S) penalty (no stoppage of play):					
D1	3:00 3:30 4:00 4:30 5:00 5:30	A15 – 2 A23 – 2 A6 – 2(D)	Goal Goal Goal	A15 returns. A23 returns. A6 returns.	Delayed penalty to A6 begins at 4:30
D2	3:00 3:30 3:30 (S) 4:30 5:00	A15 – 2 A23 – 2 A6 – 2	Goal Goal	A15 returns A23 returns	The penalty to A6 starts. And A6 remains in the box.
D3	3:00 3:30 (S) 4:30	A15 – 5 A23 – 2 A6 – 2	Goal	A23 returns and	The penalty to A6 starts.
D4	3:00 7:30 (S) 8:00	A15 – 5 A23 – 2 A6 – 2	Goal	A15 and A23 return and the penalty to A6 starts.	The major penalty to A15 is completed. The minor penalty to A23 ends on the scoring of the goal and the penalty to A6 starts.
One player from each team – combination of minors and majors:					
E1	3:00 3:30 4:30 5:00	A15 – 2	B12 – 2 Goal Goal	No player returns. A15 returns.	Teams are at equal strength. His minor penalty has been completed.
E2	3:00 3:30 4:30	A15 – 5+2	B12 – 2 Goal	No player returns.	Teams are at equal strength.
E3	3:00 7:30 8:00	A15 – 5+2	B12 – 2 Goal	No player returns.	The major penalty to A15 is complete but the teams remain at equal strength.
E4	3:00 3:30 4:30 5:00 5:30	A15 – 2+2	B12 – 2 Goal Goal Goal	No player returns. No player returns A15 returns	Teams are at equal strength. The first minor to A15 is completed but teams remain at equal strength. The first minor penalty to A15 and that of B12 are complete. The second minor penalty to A15 ends with the goal.
E5	3:00 6:00 8:00	A15 – 5+2	B12 – 2 Goal	A15 returns.	The major penalty to A15 and the minor penalty to B12 have expired. The minor penalty to A15 ends on the scoring of the goal.
E6	3:00 3:30 (S) 4:10	A15 – 2 A23 – 2	B12 – 2 Goal	No player returns.	The goal nullifies the signalled penalty to A23 (Reason: Team A was not short-handed).

TABLE 13
Goals scored against a short-handed team
 (Rule 16 – Minor Penalties)

Ex	Time	Team A	Team B	Answer	Remarks
Unequal number of players – combination of minors and majors:					
F1	3:00	A15 – 2	B12 – 2		He had the least amount of time to serve in his minor penalty.
	3:30				
	4:00	A23 – 2			
	4:30		Goal	A15 returns.	
F2	3:00	A15 – 2	B12 – 2		His minor penalty is completed. Teams are at equal strength at the time of the goal.
	3:30				
	4:00	A23 – 2			
	5:00		Goal	A15 returns.	
F3	3:00	A15 – 2			
	3:30	A23 – 2			
	4:00		B12 – 2		
	4:30		Goal	A15 returns.	
F4	3:00		B12 – 2		Least amount of time to serve in his minor penalty.
	3:30	A15 – 2			
	4:00	A23 – 2			
	4:30		Goal	A15 returns.	
F5	3:00		B12 – 2		Least amount of time to serve in his minor penalty.
	3:30	A15 – 2			
	4:00	A23 – 5			
	4:30		Goal	A15 returns.	
	5:00		Goal	A23 returns	
F6	3:00	A15 – 5	B12 – 5		Least amount of time (and Team A is short-handed by reason of a minor penalty).
	3:30				
	4:00	A23 – 2			
	4:30		Goal	A23 returns.	
F7	3:00	A15 – 2	B12 – 5		Least amount of time (and Team A is short-handed by reason of a minor penalty).
	3:30				
	4:00	A23 – 5			
	4:30		Goal	A15 returns.	
F8	3:00	A15 – 5			Short-handed by reason of a minor penalty.
	3:30	A23 – 2			
	4:00		B12 – 2		
	4:30		Goal	A23 returns.	
F9	3:00	A15 – 5	B12 – 2		Short-handed by reason of a minor penalty.
	3:30				
	4:00	A23 – 2			
	4:30		Goal	A23 returns.	
F10	3:00	A15 – 2			Short-handed by reason of a minor penalty.
	3:30	A23 – 5			
	4:00		B12 – 2		
	4:30		Goal	A15 returns.	
F11	3:00		B12 – 5		Least amount of time.
	3:30	A15 – 2			
	4:00	A23 – 2			
	4:30		Goal	A15 returns.	
F12	3:00	A15 – 2+2	B12 – 2		First minor penalty to A15 ends.
	3:30				
	4:00	A23 – 2			
	4:30		Goal	No player returns.	
F13	3:00	A15 – 2			The penalty to A6 begins at 4:00 Least amount of time.
	3:15	A23 – 2			
	3:30		B12 – 2		
	3:45	A6 – 2(D)			
	4:00		Goal	A15 returns.	
	4:30		Goal	A23 returns.	

TABLE 13
Goals scored against a short-handed team
 (Rule 16 – Minor Penalties)

Ex	Time	Team A	Team B	Answer	Remarks
F14	3:00 3:15 3:30 5:10	A15 – 2 A23 – 2 A6 – 2	B12 – 2 B3 – 2 Goal	A23 returns.	Penalties to A6 and B3 are not on the clock.
F15	3:00 3:30 4:00 (S) 4:30	A15 – 2 A23 – 2 Goal	B12 – 2 B3 – 2	Signalled penalty to B3 is not assessed.	The penalty to B12 does not make Team B short-handed.
F16	3:00 3:30 4:00 (S) 4:30	A15 – 2 A23 – 2 A6 – 2	B12 – 2 Goal	A15 returns.	The minor penalty to A6 begins at 4:30.
Coincidental penalties – equal number of players on each team:					
G1	3:00 4:30	A15 – 5+2	B12 – 2+2 Goal	No player returns.	Teams are at equal strength.
G2	3:00 4:30	A15 – 2+5	B12 – 5 Goal	The substitute for A15 returns.	Coincidental major penalties.
G3	3:00 3:30 4:30	A15 – 2 A23 – 2	B12 – 2 Goal	A15 returns.	Coincidental penalties are not put on the clock.
G4	3:00 3:30 4:30	A15 – 2 A23 – 2	B12 – 2 Goal	A23 returns.	
G5	3:00 3:30 4:30	A15 – 2 A23 – 5	B12 – 2 Goal	No player returns.	Team A is short-handed; however, it is with a major penalty.
G6	3:00 3:30 4:30	A15 – 2 A23 – 5	B12 – 5 Goal	A15 returns.	Team A is below the numerical strength of its opponent. Minor penalty to A15 expires on the scoring of the goal.
G7	3:00 3:30 4:30	A15 – 2 A23 – 2	Goal	A15 returns.	
G8	3:00 3:30 4:30	A15 – 2 A23 – 5	B12 – 5 Goal	A15 returns.	Penalties to A23 and B12 are not on the clock.
G9	3:00 3:30 4:30	A15 – 5 A23 – 2	B12 – 2 Goal	No player returns.	A15 is serving a major penalty. Penalties to A23 and B12 are not on the clock.
G10	3:00 3:30 4:30	A15 – 5 A23 – 2	B12 – 5 Goal	A23 returns.	Short-handed by reason of a minor penalty.
G11	3:00 3:30 4:30	A15 – 2+2 A23 – 2	B12 – 5 Goal	No player returns.	First minor penalty to A15 is eliminated.
G12	3:00 3:30 (S) 4:30	A15 – 2 A23 – 5 A6 – 2	B12 – 2 Goal	The penalty to A6 is not assessed	(Unless it is a major or match penalty).
G13	3:00 3:30 4:00 4:30 4:45	A15 – 2 A23 – 2 A6 – 2	B12 – 2 Goal Goal	A15 returns. A6 returns.	Penalties to A23 and B12 are not on the clock.

TABLE 13
Goals scored against a short-handed team
 (Rule 16 – Minor Penalties)

Ex	Time	Team A	Team B	Answer	Remarks
G14	3:00	A15 – 2	B12 – 2	A15 returns.	The minor penalty to A6 begins at 4:30. The penalties to A23 and B12 are not on the clock.
	3:30 (S) 4:30	A23 – 2 A6 – 2			
G15	3:00	A15 – 2+2	B12 – 2	Minor penalty to A15 is eliminated.	Team A would have placed an additional player in the penalty box to serve the extra minor penalty to A15. NOTE: A15's additional minor penalty begins at 3:30 due to the scoring of the goal by Team B, but does not affect the on-ice strength.
	3:30		Goal		
Coincident penalties – unequal number of players on each team:					
H1	3:00	A15 – 2	B12 – 2	Captain's choice.	This choice must be made at the time of assessment of the penalties.
	4:30	A23 – 2	Goal		
H2	3:00	A15 – 2	B12 – 2	No player returns.	The major penalty makes the team short-handed. The penalties to A15 and B12 do not go on the clock.
	4:30	A23 – 5	Goal		
H3	3:00	A15 – 2	B12 – 5	Captain's choice.	The minor penalties end at the same time.
	4:30	A23 – 2	Goal		
H4	3:00	A15 – 2	B12 – 5	A15 returns.	Major penalties are coincidental and do not go on the clock.
	4:30	A23 – 5	Goal		
H5	3:00	A15 – 5	B12 – 2	No player returns.	Coincidental minor penalties. Team A is short-handed by reason of the major penalty. Penalties to A23 and B12 do not go on the clock.
	4:30	A23 – 2	Goal		
H6	3:00	A15 – 2+2	B12 – 2	Captain's choice. The minor penalty to B12 can cancel off with any one of the minor penalties to the two players on Team A.	Depending on the choice made by Team A, A23 may return or the first minor penalty to A15 will end with the scoring of the goal. The minor penalty to B12 can cancel off with any one of the minor penalties assessed to the two players on Team A.
	4:30	A23 – 2	Goal		
H7	3:00	A15 – 2	B12 – 2	Captain's choice.	Depending on the choice made by Team A, A15 may return or the first minor penalty to A23 will end with the scoring of the goal.
	4:30	A23 – 2+2	Goal		
H8	3:00	A15 – 2	B12 – 2	Captain's choice.	B12 and one of the minor penalties to Team A (depending on choice) will not go on the clock. According to the choice made by Team A when the penalties were assessed.
	4:00	A23 – 2	Goal		
	4:30	A6 – 2	Goal		
H9	3:00	A15 – 5	B12 – 2	Captain's choice.	Coincidental penalty applies to B12 and either A23 or A6 (and these penalties would not go on the clock).
	4:30	A23 – 2 A6 – 2	Goal		
H10	4:00	A15 – 2	B12 – 2	No player returns.	A23's first penalty terminates. A23's second penalty starts.
	4:30	A23 – 2+2	Goal		
	5:00				

NOTE: Coincident penalties must always be served in their entirety.

TABLE 14
Coincidental penalties

(All penalties assessed at the same stoppage) (Rule 19
– Coincidental Penalties)

Ex	Time	Team A	Team B	Answer	Remarks
Ex. 1	A3	2	B10	2+2	Team B will play one player short-handed for two minutes. Team B must place an additional player to serve the extra minor penalty to B10.
Ex. 2	A3 A5	2 2+2	B10 B12	2+2 2	Teams play at full strength.
Ex. 3	A3 A5	2+2 5	B10 B12	2+2 5	Teams play at full strength.
Ex. 4	A3	2+5	B10 B12	2 5	Teams play at full strength
Ex. 5	A3 A5	2+5 2	B10 B12	2 5	Team A will play one player short-handed for two minutes. Team A Captain's choice to determine which penalty would go on the penalty time clock. Should A3 be chosen, then an additional team A player must be placed on the penalty bench to serve the minor penalty for A3.
Ex. 6	A3 A5	2+2 5	B10	2+2	Team A one player short-handed for five minutes.
Ex. 7	A3 A5	2+2 2	B10	2	Team A Captain's choice to play one player short-handed for four minutes or two players short-handed for two minutes. Should he choose the latter, an additional team A player must be placed on the penalty bench to serve the minor penalty for A3.
Ex. 8	A9 A24	2 2	B2 B18	2+2 2	Team B will be one player short-handed for two minutes. Team B Captain's choice of which player's time will go on the penalty time clock. If he chooses B2, then team B must place an additional player on the penalty bench to serve B2's minor penalty.
Ex. 9	A3	5	B5	5	Teams play at full strength.
Ex. 10	A3	5	B5 B7	5 5	Team B short-handed for five minutes (Captain's choice).
Ex. 11	A3 A4	5 5	B5 B7	5 5	Teams play at full strength.
Ex. 12	A3	5+5	B5	5	Team A short-handed for five minutes. Team A must place an additional player on the penalty bench to serve the extra major penalty.
Ex. 13	A3	5+5	B5 B7	5 5	Teams play at full strength.
Ex. 14	A3 A4	5+5 5	B7	5	Team A has the choice to cancel one of the two major penalties assessed to A3 or to simply cancel the one to A4. Should they choose A3, they will require an additional player in the penalty box.
Ex. 15	A3 A4	5+5 5	B5 B7	5 5	Team A will be short-handed for five minutes. Team choice to cancel majors assessed. Should they choose A3, they will require an additional player in the penalty box.
Ex. 16	A3	2+5	B7	5	Team A must place another player in the penalty box to serve the additional minor penalty to A3 immediately.
Ex. 17	A3	2+5	B7	2+5	Teams play at full strength.

TABLE 14
Coincidental penalties
 (All penalties assessed at the same stoppage)
 (Rule 19 – Coincidental Penalties)

Ex	Time	Team A	Team B	Answer	Remarks
Ex. 18	A3	2+5	B5	5	Team A short-handed for two minutes. Team B shorthanded for five minutes (Captain's choice). Team A must place another player in the penalty box to serve the minor penalty.
			B7	5	
Ex. 19	A3	2	B5	5	In the last five minutes of the game or anytime in overtime, the three minute differential will be posted on the penalty clock. Team B will play short-handed for three minutes and it will be served in the same manner as a major penalty.
Ex. 20	A3	2+2	B5	5	In the last five minutes of the game or anytime in overtime, the one minute differential will be posted on the penalty clock. Team B will play short-handed for one minute and it will be served in the same manner as a major penalty.
Ex. 21	A3	5	B5	2	If the last five minutes of the game or anytime in overtime, this example does NOT adhere to the requirements of Rule 19.4. Teams play 4 on 3.
			B7	2	
Ex. 22	A3	5	B5	2+2	If the last five minutes of the game or anytime in overtime, this example does meet the requirements of Rule 19.4 and the one minute differential will be posted on the penalty clock. Team A will play short-handed for one minute and it will be served in the same manner as a major penalty.
	A4	2	B7	2	
Ex. 23	A3	2+5	B5	2+2+5	Team B will play short-handed for two minutes. Team B will require an additional player in the penalty box to serve the minor penalty.
Ex. 24	A3	2+5	B5	5	Team A will play short-handed for two minutes. Team A will require an additional player in the penalty box to serve the minor penalty
	A4	5	B7	5	
Ex. 25	A3	2+5	B5	2+5	Team A will be short-handed, either one player for four minutes, or two players for two minutes (Captain's choice). Team B will be short-handed for five minutes (Captain's choice).
	A4	2+2+5	B7	5+5	
Ex. 26	A3	2+5	B5	2+2+5	Team B will be short-handed either one player for seven minutes or two players, one for two minutes and one for five minutes (Captain's choice).
	A4	5	B7	5+5	
Ex. 27	A3	2+5	B5	5	Team A will be short-handed either one player for seven minutes or two players, one for two minutes and one for five minutes (Captain's choice).
	A4	5			
Ex. 28	A3	2+5+5	B5	2+5	Teams play at full strength.
			B7	5	
Ex. 29	A5	2	B12	5+5	Teams play at full strength.
	A6	5+5	B13	2	
	A7	5	B14	5	

TABLE 14**Coincidental penalties**

(All penalties assessed at the same stoppage)

(Rule 19 – Coincidental Penalties)

Ex	Time	Team A	Team B	Answer	Remarks
Ex. 30	A3	2+10	B5	2	Teams play 4 on 4.
Ex. 31	A3	2+10	B5	2+10	Teams play 4 on 4.
Ex. 32	A3 A4	2 10	B5 B7	2 10	Teams play 4 on 4.

TABLE 15**Interference on the goalkeeper situations**

(Rule 69 – Interference on the Goalkeeper)

Situation	Result
1. THE GOALKEEPER IS IN THE GOAL CREASE.	
A. An attacking player is standing in the goal crease when the puck enters the crease then crosses the goal line. In no way does he affect the goalkeeper's ability to defend his goal.	Goal is allowed. This is a good goal.
B. An attacking player makes incidental contact with the goalkeeper; however, no goal is scored on the play.	Play continues no whistle.
C. An attacking player makes incidental contact with the goalkeeper at the same time a goal is scored.	Goal is disallowed. The official in his judgment may call a Minor penalty on the attacking player. The announcement should be, "No goal due to interference with the goalkeeper."
D. An attacking player makes other than incidental contact with the goalkeeper; however, no goal is scored on the play.	A Minor penalty, plus assessment of whatever other penalties may be appropriate up to and including Supplementary Discipline.
E. An attacking player makes other than incidental contact with the goalkeeper at the time a goal is scored.	Goal is disallowed, and a Minor and/or Major penalty, plus assessment of whatever penalties may be appropriate up to and including Supplementary Discipline.
2. THE GOALKEEPER IS OUT OF THE GOAL CREASE.	
A. An attacking player makes incidental contact with the goalkeeper; however, no goal is scored on the play.	Play continues no whistle.
B. An attacking player makes incidental contact with the goalkeeper at the time a goal is scored.	Goal is allowed.

TABLE 15
Interference on the goalkeeper situations
 (Rule 69 – Interference on the Goalkeeper)

Situation	Result
2. THE GOALKEEPER IS OUT OF THE GOAL CREASE.	
C. An attacking player makes other than incidental contact with the goalkeeper; however, no goal is scored on the play.	A Minor and/or Major penalty, plus assessment of whatever other penalties may be appropriate up to and including Supplementary Discipline.
D. An attacking player makes other than incidental contact with the goalkeeper at the time a goal is scored.	A Minor and/or Major penalty, plus assessment of whatever other penalties may be appropriate up to and including Supplementary Discipline and the goal is disallowed.
3. A DEFENDING PLAYER PUSHES, SHOVES OR FOULS AN ATTACKING PLAYER INTO THE GOALKEEPER, WHO IS IN OR OUT OF THE CREASE.	
A. The attacking player, after having made a reasonable effort to avoid contact, makes contact with the goalkeeper at the time a goal is scored.	Goal is allowed.
B. The contact by the attacking player with the goalkeeper is other than incidental and the attacking player, in the judgment of the Referee, did not make a reasonable effort to avoid such contact. However, no goal is scored on the play.	A Minor and/or Major penalty, plus assessment of whatever other penalties may be appropriate up to and including Supplementary Discipline.
C. The contact by the attacking player with the goalkeeper is other than incidental and the attacking player, in the judgment of the Referee, did not make a reasonable effort to avoid such contact at the time a goal is scored.	A Minor and/or Major penalty may be called at the discretion of the Referee plus assessment of whatever other penalties may be appropriate up to and including Supplementary Discipline and the goal is disallowed.
D. An attacking player, through his actions pushes, shoves or fouls a defending player into the goalkeeper at the time a goal is scored.	A penalty may be called at the discretion of the Referee for the actions of the attacking player and the goal is disallowed.
4. BATTLE FOR LOOSE PUCK WITH THE GOALKEEPER WHILE THE GOALKEEPER IS IN OR OUT OF THE GOAL CREASE.	
A. An attacking player makes incidental contact with the goalkeeper while both are attempting to play a loose puck at the time a goal is scored.	Goal is allowed.
B. An attacking player makes other than incidental contact with the goalkeeper while both are attempting to play a loose puck at the time a goal is scored.	A Minor and/or Major penalty, plus assessment of whatever other penalties may be appropriate up to and including Supplementary Discipline and the goal is disallowed.

TABLE 15
Interference on the goalkeeper situations
 (Rule 69 – Interference on the Goalkeeper)

Situation	Result
5. SCREENING SITUATIONS.	
A. An attacking player skates in front of the goalkeeper at the top of the goal crease, at the same time a goal is being scored. The attacking player remains in motion and does not maintain a significant position in the crease in front of the goalkeeper.	Goal is allowed. This is a good goal.
B. An attacking player skates in front of the goalkeeper, well inside the crease, at the same time a goal is being scored. The attacking player remains in motion and, in the judgment of the Referee, maintains a significant position in the crease impairing the goalkeeper's ability to defend his goal.	Goal is disallowed. The announcement should be, "No goal due to interference with the goalkeeper."
C. An attacking player skates in front of the goalkeeper, outside the crease, at the same time a goal is being scored. The attacking player remains in motion and impairs the goalkeeper's ability to defend his goal.	Goal is allowed.
D. An attacking player plants himself within the goal crease, as to obstruct the goalkeeper's vision and impair his ability to defend his goal, and a goal is scored.	Goal is disallowed. The announcement should be, "No goal due to interference with the goalkeeper."
E. An attacking player plants himself on the crease line or outside the goal crease, as to obstruct the goalkeeper's vision and impair his ability to defend his goal, and a goal is scored.	Goal is allowed.
6. CROWDING WITH THE GOALKEEPER.	
A. A goalkeeper initiates contact with an attacking player to establish position in the crease and the attacking player vacates the position immediately. No goal is scored on the play.	Play continues, no whistle.
B. A goalkeeper initiates contact with an attacking player to establish position in the crease and the attacking player does not vacate the position, however, no goal is scored on the play. A possible penalty depends on the Referee's judgment as to the degree of contact and degree of resistance with the attacking player and whether the goalkeeper was truly trying to establish a position.	Minor penalty. This player runs the risk of 'bad things' happening by being in the crease. In this example it is a minor penalty.
C. A goalkeeper initiates contact with an attacking player in the crease to establish position and the attacking player vacates the position immediately at the time a goal is scored. Even though the attacking player vacates his position immediately, the contact impairs the goalkeeper's ability to defend his goal.	Goal is disallowed. The announcement should be, "No goal due to interference with the goalkeeper."

TABLE 15
Interference on the goalkeeper situations
 (Rule 69 – Interference on the Goalkeeper)

6. CROWDING WITH THE GOALKEEPER.	
D. A goalkeeper initiates contact with an attacking player to establish position in the crease and the attacking player refuses to give ground at the time a goal is scored.	Goal is disallowed. A minor penalty is not assessed (loss of goal only). The announcement should be, "No goal due to interference with the goalkeeper."
E. A goalkeeper deliberately initiates contact with an attacking player other than to establish position in the crease, or otherwise acts to make unnecessary contact with the attacking player.	Minor penalty to the goalkeeper (slashing, etc.).
F. A goalkeeper initiates contact with an attacking player to establish position in the crease by using excessive force or acting in a manner which would otherwise warrant a penalty, and the attacking player refuses to give ground at the time a goal is scored.	Coincidental minors (goalkeeper/attacking player) [In this situation, the Referee would emphatically display to players and the fans that he was calling penalties before the puck entered the net, and thus the play was dead at the time the infractions occurred and thus stated there is no goal.]
G. A goalkeeper initiates contact with an attacking player to establish position in the crease by using excessive force or acting in a manner which would otherwise warrant a penalty, and the attacking player vacates the crease at the time a goal is scored.	A minor penalty to the goalkeeper and the goal is disallowed. This is an example where the attacking player has prevented the goalkeeper from doing his job by being in the crease. The announcement should be, "No goal due to interference with the goalkeeper (plus the announcement of the goalkeeper's penalty)."
H. A goalkeeper initiates contact with an attacking player to establish position in the crease by using excessive force or acting in a manner which would otherwise warrant a penalty and the attacking player vacates the crease, but no goal is scored.	Minor penalty to goalkeeper.
7. CONTACT WITH THE GOALKEEPER.	
A. An attacking player initiates contact with the goalkeeper, inside or outside the goal crease, in a fashion that would otherwise warrant a penalty (e.g. "runs" the goalkeeper)	Appropriate penalty (Minor and/or Major and a Game Misconduct) and subject to additional sanctions as appropriate, pursuant to 33A – Supplementary Discipline.
B. An attacking player is in the crease and makes every effort to vacate the crease and the goalkeeper initiates contact to embellish and draw a penalty. No goal is scored on the play.	This is a dive and a Minor penalty to the goalkeeper (diving).
C. A defensive player directs the puck into his own net while an attacking player initiates contact with the goalkeeper.	Goal is disallowed and a Minor and/or Major penalty, plus assessment of whatever other penalties may be appropriate up to and including Supplementary Discipline to the attacking player.
D. A defensive player directs the puck into his own net while an attacking player is standing in the goal crease. The attacking player does not affect the goalkeeper's ability to make the save.	Goal is allowed.

TABLE 16
Penalties in effect prior to the start of overtime –regular season
 (Rule 84 – Overtime)

Ex	Time in 3 rd	Team A	Team B	Resolve
Ex. 1	19:10	A5 - 2	B17 - 2	The penalty times are removed from the penalty clock at the end of the third period and the teams begin overtime playing 3 on 3. At first whistle following the expiration of the penalties, the penalized players are released from the penalty box.
Ex. 2	19:10 19:50	A5 - 2 A7 - 2	B17 - 2	The teams would begin the overtime period playing 4 on 3. The penalty times for A5 and B17 are removed from the penalty clock. At the first stoppage of play following the expiration of the penalties to A5 and B17, these players are released from the penalty box.
Ex. 3	19:10 19:25 19:40	A5 - 2 A7 - 2	B17 - 2	Overtime will begin with three (3) skaters for team A and four (4) skaters for team B. Through the normal expiration of penalty times, the penalized players will return to the ice. With continuous play, the potential of reaching on-ice strength of five (5) on five (5) is a possibility. However, the on-ice strength would be adjusted accordingly at the next stoppage of play.
Ex. 4	19:10 19:30 19:40	A5 - 2 A7 - 2	A17 - 2 A36 - 2	Overtime will begin with the player strength of three (3) on three (3). Penalties to A5 and B17 are removed from the penalty clock. Should there be a stoppage of play following the expiration of A5 and B17's penalties, these players shall be released from the penalty box. As the penalties to A7 and B36 expire, the on ice strength could get to four (4) on four (4). At the next stoppage, the strength would be adjusted to three (3) on three (3).
Ex. 5	19:10 19:20 19:30 19:40	A5 - 2 A7 - 2	B17 - 2 B36 - 2	Overtime on-ice strength will begin at three (3) on three (3). Through the normal expiration of penalty times, the penalized players will return to the ice. With continuous play, the potential of reaching on-ice strength of five (5) on five (5) is a possibility. However, the on-ice strength would be adjusted accordingly at the next stoppage of play to either four (4) on three (3) or four (4) on four (4), as the situation dictates at that particular stoppage of play.

TABLE 17
Penalties assessed in overtime – regular season
 (Rule 84 – Overtime)

Time in OT	Team A	Team B	On-ice Strength
0:30	A23 - 2		Team A - 3 skaters Team B - 4 skaters
1:00		B17 - 2	Team A - 3 skaters Team B - 3 skaters
1:30	A7 - 2		Team A - 3 skaters Team B - 4 skaters

Once team A has received their second minor penalty, each team must add one player to their on-ice strength. Should the penalty to A23 expire, bringing the on-ice strength back to four (4) on four (4) and there is a subsequent stoppage of play, the on-ice strength must be adjusted down to three (3) on three (3) at this point. However, if there is a stoppage of play once the penalty to B17 has expired (and before A7's expires); the on-ice strength would be adjusted to four (4) on three (3). If there is no stoppage in play until both teams have returned to five skaters each, at the next stoppage of play the on-ice strength would be adjusted back down to four (4) on four (4).