

Hockey Canada Summary 2020-2022

Rules
Procedures
Definitions
Situations
Housekeeping



Definitions

Body Contact

- Incidental contact of two opposing players in pursuit of the puck on the ice in the same direction. Body contact occurs as a result of movement by the offensive player.

Body Checking

- An attempt by a player to gain an advantage on the opponent with the use of the body. Body checking results when two opposing players collide while skating in opposite directions or when positioning and angling allow the checker to use the force of the body to gain the advantage. Body checking may result in a penalty if used in a division of hockey that does not allow for body-checking.

DISRESPECTFUL BEHAVIOUR

- Behaviour that is rude, unpleasant, inappropriate and unprofessional that is found to be offensive to others.



Procedures

The following have been deleted:

- Elbowing – can be roughing or head contact if in the head, face or neck.
- Penalty Shot Signal – Now, blow whistle and point to center.



Rule 6.6

- (a) A **double Minor** penalty or, at the discretion of the Referee, a Major penalty and a Game Misconduct penalty based upon the degree of violence of impact shall be assessed to any player who makes initial contact with their opponent's knee.
- (b) A Major penalty and a Game Misconduct penalty shall be assessed to any player who injures an opponent by kneeling.
- (c) A Match penalty shall be assessed to any player who deliberately injures an opponent by kneeling or deliberately attempts to injure an opponent with their knee.



Rule 6.6

Rule 6.6 (a) Kneeing (double Minor) added to list of reportable penalties by a Linesperson.



Situations



Addition

Situation 3 – Rule 3.1

A goaltender goes to the bench during a delayed penalty and begins to return to their net following the stoppage of play. Part way to the net, the goaltender realizes that their stick is broken or that a piece of equipment requires repair or adjustment. Can the goaltender return to the bench if they have not yet realized their goal area?

Answer: No.

Once the goaltender begins to return to their net, they must continue and is now governed by Rule 3.1 (c).



Addition

Situation 3 – Rule 3.1

Clarification:

To be consistent with change of players within the NOHA, goaltender is allowed ten-feet from their bench.

Note: Officials should be communicating with the goaltender.



New

Situation 21 – Rule 4.2

Between the second and third periods, the resurfacing machine has cleaned the ice. When the teams return to the ice, one team has all of its players skating in their defending zone.

The Referee assesses a Bench Minor penalty to the team as per Rule 10.15 (d)

The Head Coach does not agree with the penalty and persistently challenges the Referee; the Coach had already been given a warning for this during the first period.

The Referee has no other choice than to assess a Bench Minor penalty under Rule 9.2 (a), thus resulting in two Bench Minor penalties being assessed to the offending team.



Relocated Situations – Rule 4.7

Rule 4.7 (b) Situation 1 Gross Misconducts now Rule 9.2 (f) Situation 9

Wherever a Referee has **reasonable grounds** to believe that a player or team official is impaired by alcohol **and/or drugs**, such player or team official is encouraged to voluntarily withdraw from the game. However, should a further incident occur requiring penalties that entail a written report, the possible use of alcohol and/or drugs should be noted in the Official Game Report.



Relocated Situations – Rule 4.7

Rule 4.7 (b) Situation 3 Gross Misconducts now Rule 9.2 (f) Situation 10

When a player or team official sprays water out of a drinking bottle on **or at any person**, the Referee is directed to assess a Bench Minor penalty. If the player or team official guilty of such action can be identified, a Gross Misconduct shall also be assessed.



New

Situation 21 – Rule 6.7

In the event that a player makes no attempt to retaliate, other than to protect or defend themselves and in the opinion of the Referee does not engage in the fight, then their opponent will be the only player to be assessed a Major penalty and Game Misconduct for Fighting. The player protecting themselves may receive a Minor penalty for Roughing or perhaps no penalty at all. In this situation the player receiving the Major penalty and Game Misconduct for Fighting will also receive an additional Minor penalty as the instigator of the fight under Rule 6.7 (b) Note 3.



New

Situation 1 – Rule 8.6

Rule 8.6 (a) player must have committed three or more stick infractions and not three or more penalties.

EXAMPLE A:

A player receives a Minor penalty for High-sticking, a Minor penalty for Slashing and a Minor penalty for Butt-end hooking.

RULING: The Game Ejection penalty does not apply.



New

Situation 1 – Rule 8.6

Rule 8.6 (a) player must have committed three or more stick infractions and not three or more penalties.

EXAMPLE B:

A player receives a Minor penalty for High-sticking and a double Minor for Spearing.

RULING: The Game Ejection penalty does not apply. The player has received three Minor penalties, but has only committed two stick infractions.



New

Situation 1 – Rule 8.6

Rule 8.6 (a) player must have committed three or more stick infractions and not three or more penalties.

EXAMPLE C:

A player has received two stick infraction penalties. There is an obvious third stick infraction committed by this player and the Referee has the penalty on delay. The non-offending team scores a goal to nullify this penalty.

RULING: The Game Ejection penalty does not apply.



New

Situation 1 – Rule 8.6

Rule 8.6 (a) player must have committed three or more stick infractions and not three or more penalties.

EXAMPLE D:

A player has received two stick infraction penalties. There is an obvious third stick infraction committed by this player and the Referee has the penalty on delay. The offending team is already shorthanded and is serving a Minor penalty. The non-offending team scores during the delayed calling of the stick infraction penalty.

RULING: The scoring of the goal nullifies the penalty being served and the stick infraction penalty is assessed along with the Game Ejection penalty.



New

Situation 1 – Rule 8.6

Rule 8.6 (a) player must have committed three or more stick infractions and not three or more penalties.

EXAMPLE E:

A player has received two stick infraction penalties. There is an obvious third stick infraction committed by this player that calls for a double Minor penalty and the Referee has the penalty on delay. Subsequently, the non-offending team scores.

RULING: The first of the double Minor penalties is nullified by the goal. The second penalty is assessed and the Game Ejection penalty applies.



New

Situation 2 – Rule 9.5

No player may leave the players' bench for the purpose of starting a fight.

EXAMPLES:

During the play, Team A9 comes off the players' bench on a player change and goes directly to an opposing player and is involved in a fight.



New

Situation 2 – Rule 9.5

No player may leave the players' bench for the purpose of starting a fight.

What penalties are assessed if:

Team A9 initiates or instigates the fight and both players fight or is deemed a one player fight to A9.

RULING: A9 double Minor plus Game Misconduct for leaving players' bench for purpose of starting a fight, Minor for Instigating and a Fighting Major and Game Misconduct. B6 receives a fighting Major plus a Game Misconduct if involved in the fight or no penalty if they do not fight.

A fight takes place with both players being willing participants.

RULING: A9 would not receive the Instigating Minor. All other penalties would remain the same as above.



New

Situation 2 – Rule 9.5

EXAMPLE:

During the play, Team A9 comes off the players' bench on a player change and is involved in a fight with B6.

What penalties are assessed if:

B6 is the instigator.

RULING: A9 would only receive a Fighting Major and Game Misconduct. B6 would receive a Minor for Instigating, a Fighting Major plus a Game Misconduct.



New

Situation 23 – Rule 9.5

In some arenas, the players' and penalty benches are side by side with no physical barrier between them. If when a player's penalty expires they do not proceed to their player's bench by way of the ice, that player shall be assessed a Bench Minor penalty as per Rule 2.5 (c) and (e) and the penalty is to be served by that offending player in accordance with Rule 4.3 (b).

Question:

A player on the penalty bench leaves the penalty bench early on their own accord without proceeding by way of the ice to their players' bench with five (5) seconds remaining in their original penalty. What penalty or penalties do you assess to the player?



New Situation 23 – Rule 9.5

Ruling:

A Minor penalty will be assessed to the offending player for a violation of Rule 2.5 (c) and (e), not proceeding by way of the ice to their players' bench and a Minor penalty for a violation of Rule 9.5 (d), leaving the penalty bench before the expiration of his penalty in addition to the five (5) seconds remaining in the original penalty for a total of 4:05 minutes.

Note: should the player leave the penalty bench early in the above situation upon error of the time keeper, then only the Minor for not proceeding to the players' bench by way of the ice will be assessed, in addition to the unserved time from the original penalty.



New

Situation 23 – Rule 10.2

The Linesperson signals a delayed off-side. Despite the Linesperson's clear call, the offending player continues and goes directly to the net and forces the goaltender to freeze the puck.

Where does the face-off take place?

Ruling: The face-off takes place at the nearest attacking team end-zone location, intentional off-side.



Housekeeping



Wording

Hockey Canada has changed all references to “his, her, him, she, and he” to neutral pronouns.

The term Linesman and Linesmen has been changed to Linesperson and Linespersons.



Wording

Rule 4.2 (a) For a Minor penalty, any player, except a goaltender, shall be ruled off the ice for two minutes actual playing time, during which time no substitutes shall be permitted.

New Note: should a player be penalized by way of a time penalty and the on-ice officials neglect to place the penalized player (or the penalized player's substitute) in the penalty bench to serve the penalty, the officials shall have the team place the correct player(s) in the penalty bench at the next stoppage of play. Should there be no stoppage prior to the expiration of the penalty, then the officials should stop once the short-handed team gains possession and control of the puck in order to return the team to full strength.

Example: Team A assessed a Minor, Team B a Double Minor, the two minute differential goes on the clock and the officials did not send a player from the ice to serve the time penalty.



Relocated

Rule 4.2 (e) Minor penalties now 8.6 with a new heading, Three or More Stick Infractions

A Game Ejection shall be assessed to any player who incurs a total of three or more stick infraction penalties during the same game. For the purpose of this rule, only High-sticking, Cross-checking, Slashing, Butt-ending and Spearing are considered stick infractions. Players penalized under this rule shall be ordered to the dressing room for the remainder of the game.

Note: a double Minor penalty is to be considered as one infraction towards the accumulation of stick infractions for the purpose of this rule.



Wording

Rule 4.9 (h) Should a goal be scored from a Penalty Shot, a further penalty to the offending player shall not be applied unless the offense for which the Penalty Shot was awarded was such as to incur a Major or Match penalty, in which case the penalty prescribed for the particular offense shall be assessed. If the offense for which the Penalty Shot was awarded was such as would normally incur a Minor penalty, then regardless of whether the Penalty Shot results in a goal or not, no further Minor penalty shall be served. **Should the infraction resulting in the Penalty Shot normally result in a double Minor penalty (e.g. Spearing), then the Penalty Shot shall be in lieu of one Minor penalty and the second Minor penalty shall be assessed, regardless of the result of a goal being scored on the Penalty Shot.**



Wording

Rule 6.4 (b) Where a player is high-sticked, cross-checked, body-checked, pushed, hit or propelled in any manner from behind into the boards or goal, in such a way that the player is unable to protect or defend themselves, a Match penalty shall be assessed. **A Match penalty could also be assessed under this rule if the Referee believes that there was a deliberate attempt by the offending player to cause injury to the opponent.**



Wording

Rule 6.7 (h) Any player **or goaltender** joining in a fight or acting as a peacemaker shall be considered a subsequent player participating in a fight and be assessed a Game Misconduct penalty plus any other penalties incurred.

(i) Any player **or goaltender** taking part in another or subsequent fight during the same stoppage of play will be assessed a Game Misconduct penalty plus any other penalty the offender incurs under the rules.

(n) When a goaltender leaves their crease during a fight, they shall be assessed a Minor penalty, plus any other penalties they incur.



Wording

Rule 9.2 (b)

A Misconduct penalty shall be assessed on any player who:

- 1) Uses **disrespectful** language or **gestures** to any person.

Note 2: For the purpose of this rule, “disrespectful” is defined as actions or words deemed rude, unpleasant, inappropriate or unprofessional and found to be offensive to others that have not escalated to the criteria of abuse or obscenity outlined within Rule 9.2 (f) which are discriminatory comments.



Wording

Rule 9.2 (c) If the Referee is unable to identify the person responsible for the use of **disrespectful** language or **gestures**, a Bench Minor penalty shall be assessed.



Wording

Rule 9.2 (f) Any player or team official who engages in verbal taunts, insults or intimidation based on discriminatory grounds (race, ethnicity, religion, gender, sexual orientation, language) shall be assessed a Gross Misconduct penalty and the Referee shall report full details of the incident to the President.

Notwithstanding the above, at the discretion of the Referee, a Gross Misconduct penalty shall be assessed to any player or team official that conducts themselves in a manner as to make a travesty of the game by using obscene, profane or threateningly abusive language, gestures or actions towards any person with discriminatory or otherwise malicious intent. **Such actions may also be described as verbal or physical taunts or gestures that intend to humiliate, demean, belittle, cause offense to or harm the reputation of the person or group targeted.**



Wording

Rule 10.17 (f)

TIME-OUT GUIDELINES

1. Each team may have one 30-second time-out per game. This includes any overtime.
2. Both teams may take their time-out during the same stoppage of play.
3. All players, including goaltenders, may go to their respective benches during the time-out.
4. The Referee must advise the Timekeeper of the time-out and the Timekeeper will indicate when the time-out is over.
5. The Referee shall allow the calling of a time-out after a stoppage of play at any time up to the point **the official blows the whistle to initiate the face-off procedure.**
6. Subsequent to the time-out, the line change procedure shall recommence.



Hockey Canada Safety Guidelines

Northern Ontario Hockey Association



Fair Play Initiative

The Hockey Canada procedure is for Officials to approach each bench and meet the Coaches. Officials should not shake hands with Coaches, and should maintain proper physical distancing six feet from the bench. Official(s) are encouraged to make eye contact with the Coaches.

This is an excellent opportunity to establish expectations regarding communication with the Coaches, or Captains, during the game. This should also be the standard practice/position if it is necessary to communicate with a Coach during the game.



Fair Play Initiative

Hockey Canada has eliminated the practice of pre and post game handshakes between Players and Team Officials as a result of COVID-19. This will remain in effect until otherwise directed.

Officials should not shake hands or bump fists with Players or Coaches. If Coaches approach the Officials on the ice after the game with the intent of shaking hands, a quick wave and thank you as the Official maintains physical distancing would be appropriate.



Spitting on Ice

If a Player is spitting or blowing their nose without a tissue on the ice or in the bench area, Officials should encourage and promote proper hygiene habits with Players, as outlined in the Hockey Canada Safety Guidelines.

If a player is spitting or blowing their nose without a tissue on the ice or on the bench area, the first time this occurs, Officials will issue both teams a warning that the next occurrence by either team will result in the Player being ejected under code GE101.



Equipment

How should Officials handle the management of Player equipment on the ice, examples, broken/dropped sticks, neck guards, mouth guards, and gloves.

Players must pick up all loose equipment on the ice before proceeding to the players bench. If an Official sees a player has lost a piece of equipment they can instruct them to pick it up while play is in progress or before proceeding to the players bench.

Officials are directed not to pick up any equipment that may be on the ice. At the first stoppage of play, officials shall direct the player to retrieve their own equipment. When players are being escorted to the penalty bench and equipment is left on the ice, officials should follow the Hockey Canada Officiating Procedures and direct one player from the same team to collect any equipment.



Mentors

Associations are permitted to utilize on-ice coach/mentor officials, but also must respect and follow public health authority and facility guidelines.

