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2020 - 2022 Rule Updates

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Hockey Canada Rulebook
Updates & Changes



Objectives



- To update officials on rule changes for the 2020-2021 season.
- Provide explanations for the changes and how to apply them.

Key Rule Changes

Key Rule Changes



1. Definitions – Body Contact, Body Checking & Disrespectful Behavior
2. Kneeing
3. Match Penalty
4. Gross Misconduct
5. Time Outs

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 BEHAVIOR

Behavior that is rude, unpleasant, inappropriate and unprofessional that is found to be offensive to others

Added Wording



A minor penalty, or at the discretion of the referee, a major penalty and game misconduct **based on the degree of violence of impact...**

Rule 6.3 (a) - Charging

Rule 6.4 (a) – Checking from Behind

Rule 6.6 (a) – Kneeing (No more elbowing)

Rule 7.3 (a) - Interference

Rule 8.2 (a) - Cross-Checking

Rule 8.3 (a) – High-Sticking



Consistency to the
Rules on Referee
discretion.

Why the change?

Gross Misconducts



Moved infractions into the “Playing Rules” sections of the rule book

Rule 4.7 (b) Situation 1 – now is Rule 9.2 (f) Situation 9

Rule 4.7 (b) Situation 2 – now is Rule 6.7 (g) Situation 22

Rule 4.7 (b) Situation 3 – is now Rule 9.2 (f) Situation 10



Section 4 discusses the types of the penalties but are not “playing rules”.

Why the change?

Kneeing



NEW

Now a **double minor**, or at the discretion of the Referee, major penalty and game misconduct

NEW

Linespersons may now report, at the next stoppage, any infraction calling for a double minor for kneeing

Key Point

Kneeing is now
treated similar to a
slew foot, butt end or
intentional head
contact, **note: no
elbowing penalty in
the playing rules





Any infractions under this rule are not being *“called”* by the linesman; they are only being *reported* to the referee.

The referee is the one to assess any penalty.

Reminder

Checking From Behind



Clarification

... shall be assessed any player who intentionally pushes, body checks, **cross checks while in motion**, or otherwise hits an opposing player from behind



Wording now matches
how officials have
called this penalty as it
relates to cross
checking from behind

Key Point

Rule 6.7 - Fighting



ADDED

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

Rule 7.3 - Interference



ADDED

Note 3: Regarding the finishing of a check, a player must make immediate contact... Immediate contact is described as contact occurring within the maximum distance of an arm and stick length between the puck carrier and the player delivering the check.

Other Rule Changes

Moved Rules



Butt Ending and Spearing have moved to Section 8

Originally located as part of the Match Penalty rules.

Match penalties can still be assessed for these penalties but the rule numbers have changed

Clarification – Stick Infractions



Similar to head contact, a double minor for a stick infraction counts as ONE penalty

EXAMPLE:

1. Double minor for spearing
2. Double minor for Butt-ending

Counts only as TWO penalties. No game ejection... yet 😊



Stick infraction and
head contact penalties
do not stack together.

Reminder

Rule 9.2 - Conduct



Renamed Rule:

“Unsportsmanlike Conduct and Harassment of Officials

*Note the added definition of “disrespectful behavior”

Rule 9.2f – Gross Misconduct



Gross misconducts now called entirely under this rule
In addition to discriminatory language:

“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.”

Rule 10.17 – Time Out



CHANGE:

The Referee shall allow the calling of a timeout after a stoppage of play at any time up to the point **the linesman blows the whistle to initiate the face-off procedure.**



**Junior /
Senior
Supplement**

Rule 3.1 – Adjustment of Equipment



A minor penalty shall be assessed any player who is not wearing a tie-down and is involved in a fight.

Rule 10.5 – Line Change on Icing



Line Change on Icing

A team that is in violation of icing shall not be permitted to make any player substitutions prior to the ensuing face-off. Should the offending team elect to utilize their team time-out at this stoppage of play, they are still not permitted to make any player substitutions. 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. If the offending team purposely tries to make a change, a warning will be given to the coach and if it occurs again a delay of game penalty will be assessed.

Rule 8.3 – High Stick



High Stick – 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, 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 at or below the level of the crossbar and enters the goal, the goal shall be allowed.** A goal scored as a result of a defending player striking the puck with their stick, carried above the height of the crossbar of the goal frame into their own net shall be allowed.

Rule Change Breakdown



This module highlights the key on ice changes officials should be aware of.

Please refer to the Hockey Canada Rulebook and the Playing Rule changes for a full listing of all changes.