



MEMORANDUM

December 18, 2019

VIA EMAIL

TO: NCAA Men's and Women's Ice Hockey Conference Commissioners and Head Coaches,

FROM: Wayne Dean, chair
Men's and Women's Ice Hockey Rules Committee

Steve Piotrowski, secretary-rules editor
Men's and Women's Ice Hockey Rules Committee.

SUBJECT: Mid-Season Rules and Officiating Updates.

The rules committee is providing additional reminders on the current rules, which require a consistent standard of enforcement and compliance.

Video Replay Criteria (Rule 93.4)

As a reminder, a coach's challenge is **no longer required** to review a puck directed into the net by a high stick or to determine if a goal was scored by a puck deflecting off the protective netting above the glass.

Both offsides and too many players infractions leading to a goal **will require** a coach's challenge. These plays may only be reviewed by a coach's challenge at any point in regulation or overtime play during the regular season. Officials do not have discretion to review these plays without a coach's challenge. During the postseason (conference tournaments or NCAA tournaments), these plays **are permitted** to be reviewed without a coach's challenge.

Video Replay Continued (Rule 93.4)

Rule 93.4 allows the on-ice officials to review infractions that may result in the ejection of a student-athlete. Game officials may use replay during the game to review major penalties that would result in the removal of a student-athlete to ensure proper enforcement.

Reminders/Protocol

- MUST be when a MAJOR PENALTY is being considered.
- On-ice officials will notify coaches prior to review.
- Instruct public address announcer to make an announcement so fans and media are aware.
- Officials have the following three options for their final determination in situations where the game has been stopped for a penalty:
 1. Minor or Major Penalty Only;
 2. Major and Game Misconduct; or
 3. Major and Game Disqualification.

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- Where there is a possible infraction that was not observed and a major penalty may be considered, officials may use video to review the incident. Should the officials ascertain the infraction would be a minor penalty only, they may not assess this penalty by video review. However, should the officials ascertain that a major penalty, major and game misconduct or disqualification is warranted they may enforce such under this rule.

Key Reminder - A team may elect to use its timeout to allow officials to review infractions that may result in the ejection of the student-athlete. This includes infractions observed by the officials and are being assessed, as well as, possible infractions that were not observed by the officials.

Diving/Embellishment (Rule 68)

The committee is concerned with continued presence of diving and embellishment throughout both the men's and women's games. As a point of emphasis over the past few years, all parties should work to stop the spread of diving and embellishment. Attempting to deceive an official through these actions shows a lack of respect and the responsibility to curb this behavior must be shared by players, coaches, officials and administrators.

Puck Placement During Media Timeouts

Going into a media timeout, the committee recommends that officials place the puck at the faceoff location. This will allow coaches the opportunity to prepare their team for the next faceoff. It is also recommended that teams be notified either by horn or whistle with 10 or 15 seconds remaining in the timeout to return to the faceoff location. The referee will go through the normal line change procedure and begin play (e.g. drop the puck).

Allowable Contact (Women)

The committee is concerned with the inconsistencies that are present in the women's game as it relates to allowable contact. The committee is concerned that some contact is too often penalized without the elements of body checking present. To assist in this clarification, please review the video linked [here](#).

Tied Games – Regular-Season Tournaments (Rule 91.5)

After the mandatory five-minute 5-on-5 sudden-death overtime period (Rule 91.1), tournaments may use overtime procedures outlined in Rule 91.2 (Tied Games – Regular Season – Conference Policy) or Rule 91.4 (Tied Games – Postseason Tournament Procedure).

This requires that regular-season tournament games be played in the same manner as regular-season games. If the game is tied after regulation play, a five-minute 5-on-5 sudden-death overtime period must be played. If the game remains tied following this period, regular-season tournaments have the option of using one of the allowable overtime formats (e.g., shootout, 20-minute sudden-death overtime or five-minute 3-on-3 sudden-death overtime period followed by a sudden-death shootout).

Faceoff Protocol

The rules committee believes the rules governing faceoffs are adequate and appropriate. Enforcement of these rules, particularly in encroachment and centers that do not abide by the instructions of the officials, must be tightened. The lines on the ice are clear and stringent enforcement of these rules is the expectation.

Postgame Handshake

The rules committee also wanted to provide a brief reminder on the postgame handshake. At the conclusion of each game, players shall assemble at center ice for the traditional handshake. Coaches shall exchange handshakes and remain on the ice or at their respective bench areas until the conclusion of the player handshake. It is not required for coaches to assemble at center ice and go through the player handshake line.

If you have any general playing rules questions or concerns specific to men's ice hockey, please do not hesitate to contact Bill Riga (william.riga@quinnipiac.edu). If you have any general playing rules questions or concerns specific women's ice hockey, please do not hesitate to contact Hilary Witt (hilary.witt@unh.edu). Additionally, Wayne Dean (wayne.dean@yale.edu), chair of the NCAA Men's and Women's Rules Committee, is available to assist in any question or concern related to both men's and women's ice hockey. Lastly, if you have any questions regarding this communication or specific playing rules, please contact Steve Piotrowski, (spiotrowski@bigten.org).

The committee requests that this information be reviewed by all administrators, coaches, players and officials. Thank you for your time and attention to this communication. Good luck as the season progresses.

cc: NCAA Men's and Women's Ice Hockey Officials
NCAA Men's and Women's Ice Hockey Rules Committee
NCAA Men's and Women's Ice Hockey Supervisors of Officials
Selected NCAA Staff