



Frequently Asked Questions on Uniforms and Contest Delays Ice Hockey – 2020-21

(This document includes specific NCAA Ice Hockey Rules references where applicable.)

1. What words, logos and symbols are allowed on the uniform?

All uniform rules are located in Rule 9. Applicable rules (with unrelated language removed) are included below:

9.1 Jerseys - Each player and each goalkeeper listed in the lineup of each team shall wear an individual identifying number at least 10 inches high on the back of the jersey and at least 4 inches high on the front or on both sleeves.

9.3 Protective Equipment - Each participant is responsible for wearing protective equipment. The equipment shall include gloves, shin pads, shoulder pads, elbow pads, hip pads or padded hockey pants, protective cup, pelvic protector, and any other equipment prescribed in these rules. All protective equipment, except gloves, helmets and goalkeeper's leg pads, must be worn under the uniform.

9.6 Uniform Logos - In accordance with NCAA Bylaw 12.5.4-(b): An institution's uniform or any item of apparel (e.g., team jersey) that is worn by a student-athlete while representing the institution in intercollegiate ice hockey may contain only a single manufacturer's or distributor's logo or trademark on the outside of the apparel (regardless of the visibility of the logo or trademark). The logo or trademark must be contained within a four-sided geometrical figure (e.g., rectangle, square, parallelogram) that does not exceed 2-¼ square inches.

A single manufacturer's or distributor's logo or trademark, not to exceed 2-¼ square inches, may appear on both the jersey and pants of a student-athlete's uniform.

If an institution's uniform or any item of apparel worn by a student-athlete in competition contains washing instructions on the outside of the apparel or on a patch that also includes the manufacturer's or distributor's logo or trademark, the entire patch must be contained within a four-sided, geometrical figure (e.g., rectangle, square, parallelogram) that does not exceed 2-¼ square inches.

The restriction on the size of a manufacturer's or distributor's logo or trademark is applicable to all apparel worn by student-athletes during the conduct of the institution's competition, which includes any pregame or postgame activities (e.g., postgame celebrations on the ice, pre- or postgame press conferences).

- Words
Ice Hockey rules are silent on additional words or phrases written on the uniform or equipment. However, all protective equipment (Rule 9.3) must be worn under the uniform (jersey, socks, etc.).
- Logos
Other than what is included in Rule 9.6, ice hockey rules do not reference any other logos or marks.

- Flags

The ice hockey rules are silent on flags; however, many institutions include the United States flag as part of their jersey.

2. *What size restrictions are there for these?*

Other than what is included in Rule 9.6, the ice hockey rules are silent in terms of size.

3. *Are any words other than the player's name allowed in the nameplate on the back?*

Ice hockey rules do not address this question or require a name to be used; in a few rare cases, institutions have honored a teammate by using the same name on all jerseys.

4. *May the required apparel/equipment contain any other words, slogans, messaging, etc.?*

Ice hockey rules are silent on this issue.

5. *Are words, slogans, messaging, etc. allowed on items (e.g., taped wrists) other than required apparel/equipment?*

The rules do not specifically address words, slogans, messaging, etc. on items not required by rule.

6. *How does the unsportsmanlike conduct rule apply?*

Rule 79 establishes the rules on unsportsmanlike conduct. In general, a minor penalty (two minute) would first be assessed to the offending player/coach for a violation of these rules; if these actions continue, or for a more significant violation (e.g., spitting on an opponent), a game misconduct penalty would be assessed.

7. *What are the rules about uniform colors for opposing teams?*

Rule 9.1 covers the colors of the uniforms: "The visiting team shall wear dark-colored jerseys and stockings; the home team shall wear light-colored jerseys and stockings. Uniform numbers must be a light-colored number on dark jerseys and a dark-colored number on light jerseys. All players of each team shall dress uniformly in that day's game jersey. Light-colored jerseys (e.g., white, gold, yellow or light blue) may be worn during the regular season by the visiting team only when the teams have agreed before the game. If the teams are unable to agree, the visiting team will wear dark-colored jerseys."

8. *Is it possible for the visiting team to wear their home (colored) uniform?*

Yes, this is possible, when the teams agree under Rule 9.1 If they do not agree, the visiting team shall wear dark-colored jerseys.

9. *What are the rules on non-compliance of appearance and uniforms?*

The penalty for not wearing a jersey/uniform meeting the requirements in Rule 9 would initially be a bench minor penalty (two-minute) to the offending team. The officials would report this to the conference office for additional follow-up.

10. *What is the rule regarding refusal to play?*

These situations are handled in Rule 77 (Refusal to Start Play). This rule reads:

“Refusal to obey the decision of the referee shall not be permitted. **PENALTY—Bench minor for delay of game. If this continues, a major shall be assessed. Should this behavior persist, the game shall be forfeited (score shall be 1-0).** *Note: The referee has the authority to determine the length of time for which the sequence of penalties are assessed.*

Removal of all or part of a team in protest of a referee’s decision shall not be permitted. **PENALTY—Forfeit (score shall be 1-0).”**

Additionally, ice hockey rules include protocols for the start of the game and each period. These rules are in Rule 90:

90.1 Start of Game and Periods - The game shall commence at the scheduled time by a faceoff in the center of the rink and shall be renewed promptly at the conclusion of each intermission in the same manner. 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 players’ benches. 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. Teams shall be on the ice ready to play promptly at the beginning of each period. The home team shall take the ice first. After each intermission, all players except the starting lineup shall go directly to the players’ bench (see 82.4). **PENALTY—Bench minor.**

90.3 Delays - Delay shall not be permitted by reason of any ceremony, exhibition, demonstration or presentation unless consented to in advance by the visiting team.

90.4 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 rule will result in a bench minor penalty for delay of game. When the visiting team must proceed by the way of the ice to its dressing room at the end of a period, the team must wait for a signal from one of the officials before proceeding. Failure to wait for the official’s signal shall result in the assessment of a bench minor penalty for delay of game.”

11. Are there any playing rules that specify protocols for student-athletes and/or coaches during the national anthem? Technically, yes, but these rules are intended to standardize the pregame timing and protocol for all games nationally. These rules were not intended to mandate activity during the anthem, etc. The rules committee has provided a clarification to all conferences and coordinators of officials in more detail noting that expressions of opinions that do not interfere with the timely and safe conduct of events should be allowed. Participants should be allowed to express their opinions (e.g., kneeling during the national anthem) as long as the action does not delay or disrupt competition.

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