



MEMORANDUM

February 18, 2021

VIA EMAIL

TO: NCAA Divisions I, II and III Ice Hockey Conference Commissioners, Coordinators of Officials and Head Coaches.

FROM: Jeff Fulton, Secretary-Rules Editor
NCAA Men's and Women's Ice Hockey Rules Committee.

SUBJECT: February 2021 Playing Rules Updates and Clarifications.

The NCAA Men's and Women's Ice Hockey Rules Committee is providing the following communication to further assist in the understanding of the playing rules as officials and teams make a stretch run to the end of season. Listed below are several situations that were raised as well as some minor clarifications.

- 1. **On-Ice Strength In Overtime.** In some cases, there has been some confusion regarding on-ice strength in overtime when noncoincidental penalties are assessed to each team just before overtime starts. The example chart below is meant to add clarity to that situation.

Time Remaining in Regulation	Team A	Team B	Ruling
1:50	A5 2 min.		Overtime will begin with the player strength of three (3) on three (3).
1:20		B25 2 min.	As the penalties to A5 and B25 expire, the players are released. The on-ice strength could get to four (4) on four (4). If that occurs, at the next stoppage, the on-ice strength would be adjusted to three (3) on three (3).

- 2. **Video Replay Criteria – Penalty Shots/Shootout (Rule 93.4).** The current rule book is silent with regard to reviewing shootout or penalty shot situations. The following language was approved for guidance to the video replay criteria:

"The legitimacy of all potential goals on penalty shot or shootout attempts to ensure compliance with applicable rules (e.g., double tap, rebound, goalkeeper throwing stick, goalkeeper dislodging goal, shooter cradling puck above the normal height of the shoulders, shooter performing illegal spin-o-rama move, skater's continued forward advancement of puck, goalkeeper leaving crease prior to puck touch at center ice, etc.) is part of the video replay criteria."

3. **Hand Pass – Faceoff Location (Rule 84).** In a few situations, the location of a faceoff after a hand pass violation created some questions. The Men's and Women's Ice Hockey Rules Committee is clarifying this situation below:

"The position of the puck, not the player, shall be the determining factor in which zone it was played."

For example, a player standing in the neutral zone plays the puck, which is in the attacking zone. The ensuing faceoff would be conducted in the neutral zone (one zone back from the violation).

Thank you for your time and attention to this communication. If you have any questions regarding this communication or specific playing rules, please contact me (ncaafulton@gmail.com) and/or Hilary Witt (hilary.witt@unh.edu), chair of the Men's and Women's Rules Committee. Good luck as the season progresses.

JF:th

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