



**REPORT OF THE
NCAA MEN'S AND WOMEN'S ICE HOCKEY RULES COMMITTEE
JUNE 14-17, 2022, ANNUAL MEETING**

ACTION ITEMS.

1. Legislative items.

- **None.**

2. Nonlegislative items. The NCAA Men's and Women's Ice Hockey Rules Committee approved the following rules change proposals for the 2022-23 and 2023-24 seasons. The Ice Hockey Rules Committee requests approval from the NCAA Playing Rules Oversight Panel for the following items:

a. Overtime/Shootouts (Rule 91).

- (1) Recommendation. To change the rule to read: "A three-person shootout is permissible in all regular-season contests. For non-conference games, the host institution's conference policy shall be used. For independent host institutions, those institutions shall communicate its policy to all opponents before the start of the season."
- (2) Effective date. Immediately.
- (3) Rationale. After allowing shootouts by conference policy only, the committee believes allowing a shootout in non-conference games is appropriate.
- (4) Estimated budget impact. None.
- (5) Student-athlete impact. None.

b. Major Penalty – Contact to the Head/Hitting From Behind (Rules 45 and 50).

- (1) Recommendation. To change the rules to allow a standalone major penalty option for both contact to the head and hitting from behind infractions.
- (2) Effective date. Immediately.
- (3) Rationale. Since the 2010-11 season, the penalty for contact to the head and hitting from behind into the side boards or goal cage has been a minimum of a major penalty coupled with either a game misconduct or disqualification, depending on the severity of the foul. In those 11 seasons, the committee strongly believes player behavior has significantly improved. In recent seasons, the rigid nature of the penalty has resulted in ejecting student-athletes for actions that do not warrant such a severe penalty. A major penalty remains is a significant penalty and the committee believes providing this additional level is more appropriate to the severity of the foul.
- (4) Estimated budget impact. None.

- (5) Student-athlete impact. The committee believes this change will continue to emphasize a significant penalty for fouls of this type, while providing game officials appropriate tools for enforcement.

c. Video Replay Criteria (Rule 93).

- (1) Recommendation. The committee is proposing several adjustments to the video replay criteria, making several plays only reviewable with a coaches' challenge. These include: Offsides, goalkeeper interference, too many players on the ice and a defensive player covering the puck in the crease.
- (2) Effective date. Immediately.
- (3) Rationale. In recent years, the number and length of instant replay reviews has negatively impacted the game flow. The survey indicated strong support for reducing the number of reviews and this adjustment accomplishes that goal.
- (4) Estimated budget impact. None.
- (5) Student-athlete impact. None.

d. Video Replay Process (Rule 93).

- (1) Recommendation. The committee proposed a new structure for coaches' challenges. The first time a coach challenges a play through video replay and the play is not overturned, the team timeout will be charged. The second and subsequent time a play is challenged and not overturned, a minor penalty for delay of game will be assessed.
- (2) Effective date. Immediately.
- (3) Rationale. This adjustment is intended to allow challenges as appropriate and to provide an opportunity if the team timeout is used during the game.
- (4) Estimated budget impact. None.
- (5) Student-athlete impact. None.

e. End of Game Determination (Rule 93.6).

- (1) Recommendation. The committee clarified that: "...any video review must be initiated and reviewed prior to officials exiting the ice for the end of a period or the end of the game."
- (2) Effective date. Immediately.
- (3) Rationale. This better clarifies the timeframe for a video review and clearly defines the completion of the game.
- (4) Estimated budget impact. None.

(5) Student-athlete impact. None.

f. Offsides (Rule 86).

(1) Recommendation. The committee is proposing that a player will be considered onside when the puck proceeds the player into the attacking zone as long as the attacking team's player's skate is over the line. Previously, the skate was required to be in contact with the blue line to be considered onside.

(2) Effective date. Immediately.

(3) Rationale. The National Hockey League has successfully used this rule the past few seasons and it aligns with the committee's goal to reduce stoppages in play where possible and maintains the fairness of this play.

(4) Estimated budget impact. None.

(5) Student-athlete impact. None.

g. Intermissions (Rule 82.1).

(1) Recommendation. The committee is proposing making the allowable intermission duration either 12 or 15 minutes.

(2) Effective date. Immediately.

(3) Rationale. The Big Ten Conference has successfully experimented with 12-minute intermission periods and this codifies that experiment; additionally, the 15-minute time period has become the standard intermission time nationally.

(4) Estimated budget impact. None.

(5) Student-athlete impact. None.

h. Video Review – Removal of Possession/Control Aspect Related to Offsides (Rule 93.4).

(1) Recommendation. The committee proposed removing the rule that nullifies a review when the defensive team gains possession and control of the puck during the use of video replay for a potential offsides play.

(2) Effective date. Immediately.

(3) Rationale. After several seasons using the current rule, the college hockey community believes this type of play should be eligible for review regardless of possession and control of the puck by the defensive team.

(4) Estimated budget impact. None.

(5) Student-athlete impact. None.

i. Removal of Obstruction Designation (Rule 60).

- (1) Recommendation. The committee voted to remove obstruction as a penalty designation.
- (2) Effective date. Immediately.
- (3) Rationale. This designation was added more than 10 years ago to better track penalties of this type. Obstruction was called in conjunction with another penalty (e.g., holding). Today, most penalties of this type are simply called by the infraction without the obstruction designation.
- (4) Estimated budget impact. None.
- (5) Student-athlete impact. None.

j. Goalkeeper Equipment Issue – Protocol (Rule 14).

- (1) Recommendation. The committee is proposing additional guidance when goalkeepers have an equipment issue. When an equipment issue causes the goalkeeper to come to the bench for assistance, officials shall instruct the coach to prepare the backup goalkeeper for play. If the issue requires additional time, the coach will be given the chance to use their timeout or substitute for the goalkeeper. If the team does not have a timeout, a delay of game penalty may be issued.
- (2) Effective date. Immediately.
- (3) Rationale. While rare, the committee believes clarity is needed for officials and coaches to manage these situations.
- (4) Estimated budget impact. None.
- (5) Student-athlete impact. None.

k. Goalkeeper Equipment – Skate Blade (Rule 14).

- (1) Recommendation. The committee is proposing that a goalkeeper that loses a skate blade shall be treated as if a goalkeeper loses the catching glove. In this case, play will be allowed to continue until the puck is in a neutral area (e.g., puck in the corner or non-scoring opportunity).
- (2) Effective date. Immediately.
- (3) Rationale. Consistency with other rules (e.g., goalkeeper catching glove or blocker).
- (4) Estimated budget impact. None.
- (5) Student-athlete impact. None.

l. Pregame Warm-up/Between Intermission Protocol (Rule 82.4).

- (1) Recommendation. The committee is proposing language to make it clear that players are prohibited from being on the ice before the warm-up period. Additionally, the committee is adding a point of emphasis focusing the requirement for players to leave the ice after warm-ups. Finally, after each period, players must go to their benches except those that will participate in the start of the period.
- (2) Effective date. Immediately.
- (3) Rationale. This change is being made to make it clear that during the pregame period players are not permitted to be on the ice surface. In recent years, some players take the ice without proper equipment, which creates the potential for injury. Additionally, the committee believes in the warm-up and intermission timeframes, players must adhere to the current rules.
- (4) Estimated budget impact. None.
- (5) Student-athlete impact. None.

m. Supplementary Discipline (Rule 29).

- (1) Recommendation. The committee is proposing wording to clarify and remind that the purpose of supplemental discipline is to address egregious situations that the rules book may not be able to address, not to review all significant penalties.
- (2) Effective date. Immediately.
- (3) Rationale. In some cases, supplemental discipline has been used to review all penalties of any significance. The committee believes this places an unreasonable expectation and was not the intended use of this allowance.
- (4) Estimated budget impact. None.
- (5) Student-athlete impact. None.

n. High Sticking the Puck – Faceoff Location (Rule 87.3).

- (1) Recommendation. The committee proposed adjusting the faceoff location after a high-sticking the puck violation to the spot that gives the offending team the least territorial advantage. Previously, some situations provided a significant advantage to the team that high-sticked the puck.
- (2) Effective date. Immediately.
- (3) Rationale. Fairness and consistency with other rules codes, including the National Hockey League.
- (4) Estimated budget impact. None.
- (5) Student-athlete impact. None.

o. Minigame Format (Appendix A).

- (1) Recommendation. The committee voted to clarify that any overtime games in the minigame series will be played with the normal on-ice number of players (5-on-5).
- (2) Effective date. Immediately.
- (3) Rationale. In conferences that utilize the minigame, this format equates to a full postseason playoff series. Therefore, the committee believes the 5-on-5 overtime should be used.
- (4) Estimated budget impact. None.
- (5) Student-athlete impact. None.

p. Defensive Team High Sticking the Puck in the Defensive Zone (Rule 87.3).

- (1) Recommendation. The committee proposed that when a defensive team high sticks the puck in its defensive zone, that team may not change its players after the stoppage of play.
- (2) Effective date. Immediately.
- (3) Rationale. This makes this situation consistent with a hand pass in the defensive zone and is a similar infraction.
- (4) Estimated budget impact. None.
- (5) Student-athlete impact. None.

q. Video Replay – Covering the Puck in the Crease (Rule 93).

- (1) Recommendation. The committee proposed adding this situation as a reviewable play through a coaches' challenge. A penalty shot/optional minor will be awarded if the challenge is correct.
- (2) Effective date. Immediately.
- (3) Rationale. While rare, the committee believes the importance of this infraction makes adding this to the coaches' challenge criteria appropriate.
- (4) Estimated budget impact. None.
- (5) Student-athlete impact. None.

r. Overtime Ice Maintenance Stoppage (Rule 91.4).

- (1) Recommendation. The committee is proposing to clarify that if the reason for stopping play is a situation that does not allow one team to change its players (e.g., icing), the ice maintenance stoppage will not be taken. Play will continue until a stoppage occurs without the no-change criteria.

(2) Effective date. Immediately.

(3) Rationale. Consistency with other media stoppages and does not take away an earned advantage.

(4) Estimated budget impact. None.

(5) Student-athlete impact. None.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

1. **Welcome, introductions and announcements.** Joe Gervais, chair of the Ice Hockey Rules Committee, welcomed the Ice Hockey Rules Committee and thanked them for their time. Ice Hockey Rules Committee members and invited guests introduced themselves and provided a brief overview of their background.
2. **General policies – committee operations manual.** The meeting schedule and agenda were reviewed. The Ice Hockey Rules Committee reviewed the committee operations manual, which included the NCAA conflict of interest policy, guidance for committee members regarding meeting reports, notes and email, voting procedures, principles for rules writing and experimental playing rules guidelines. Staff provided the reasons for which committees can make a rules change during a non-rules change year.
3. **Approval of the 2021 annual meeting report.** The Ice Hockey Rules Committee reviewed the 2021 annual meeting report and approved it as written.
4. **Review of correspondence/memorandums during the season.** The Ice Hockey Rules Committee reviewed the memorandums and interpretations issued by the secretary-rules editor during the season. The Ice Hockey Rules Committee supported all interpretations and clarifications made and shared appreciation for the secretary-rules editor's performance. The Ice Hockey Rules Committee gave special thanks to the secretary-rules editor for his years of service to college hockey.
5. **Review of rules survey results.** The Ice Hockey Rules Committee reviewed the annual rules survey and noted the extremely high participation rate (including 100 percent of men's and women's Division I coaches). The feedback was extremely helpful in developing final proposals during the meeting.
6. **Report from National Hockey League.** Mike Murphy, vice president of hockey operations at the National Hockey League, joined the Ice Hockey Rules Committee and provided an update on rules and officiating items. The Ice Hockey Rules Committee reviewed some video from the NHL regarding recent points of emphasis and some unique plays and situations. Additionally, the Ice Hockey Rules Committee heard a report on the coach's challenge process used in the NHL where a timeout is not a factor, but any incorrect challenges result in a minor penalty for delay of game.
7. **Review of national officiating programs.** The men's and women's national coordinators of officials discussed activities of the officiating program. It was noted that a new software platform will be used starting with the 2022-23 season that will enhance educational efforts.

8. **Meeting with conference commissioners.** The Ice Hockey Rules Committee conducted separate meetings with the Division I men's conference commissioners and the NC women's conference commissioners to discuss the changes the Ice Hockey Rules Committee was considering and to provide the commissioners an opportunity to provide any feedback to the Ice Hockey Rules Committee.
9. **Meetings with various championship committees.** The Ice Hockey Rules Committee conducted separate meetings with the NCAA ice hockey championship committees. The committees provided updates to each other focusing mostly on potential changes to the selection criteria and possible impacts of the overtime and shootout procedures.
10. **Chair elections.** The Ice Hockey Rules Committee elected Keith Maurice to serve as committee chair for the 2022-23 season. Additionally, the Ice Hockey Rules Committee elected Erik Martinson to serve as the men's vice chair and Lee-J Mirasolo to serve as the women's vice chair.

Committee Chair: Joe Gervais, University of Vermont.

Staff Liaison(s): Ty Halpin, NCAA Championships and Alliances.

NCAA Men's and Women's Ice Hockey Rules Committee June 14-17, 2022, Annual Meeting	
Attendees:	
Yariv Amir, Colgate University.	
Frank Cole, national coordinator of men's officials.	
Tom Difusco, national coordinator of women's officials.	
Jeff Fulton, secretary-rules editor.	
Joe Gervais, University of Vermont, chair.	
Tracy Johnson, St. Olaf College.	
Trevor Large, Canisius.	
Keith Maurice, Trinity College.	
Erik Martinson, University of North Dakota.	
Lee-J Mirasolo, Harvard.	
Michael Mudd, Worcester State University.	
Mark Osiecki, Wisconsin.	
Randy Sieminski, State University of New York at Canton.	
Absentees:	
Ashley Kilstein, Wentworth Institute of Technology.	
Guests in Attendance:	
Joe Bertagna (American Hockey Coaches Association); Mike Murphy (National Hockey League); Terrance Murphy (men's active official); and Chelsea Rapin (women's active official).	
NCAA Staff Liaison (or Staff Support if subcommittee) in Attendance:	
Ty Halpin.	
Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:	
None.	