



RCFHA Rule Amendments 2023-2024

Mandatory Goalie Equipment

Extra protection must not extend beyond natural body physique, and must not give extra assistance for the goalkeeper.

Players must use their season assigned jerseys. If a player forgets their jersey they cannot partake in the game.

Playing Area

No equipment can be kept on top of the nets.

High Sticking

Carrying or using the stick that causes the blade of the stick or opponent's stick to come completely above:

- The lowest visible point of the players' jersey [applicable to Mites, Junior Squirt, and Senior Squirt divisions].
- The crest of the jersey (i.e. logo of the jersey) [applicable to PeeWee, Bantam, and Adult divisions].

Bench Minor Penalties

Penalties occurring off the floor or after the game are served by the Centre on the floor at the time of the infraction (or Coaches' discretion if the Centre is already serving a penalty).

Minor Penalties

Penalty taker must serve the penalty in the position that the penalty was committed in. (Exception: if the penalty was committed by the goaltender, see Bench Minor penalty section above)

Unsportsmanlike Conduct and Roughing Penalties

...(including minor, double minor or major) after the game is over shall be served in the following game.

Add to Unsportsmanlike Conduct and remove from Abuse of Equipment: Hitting or slamming the bleachers/walls/floor/goal posts with the stick.

Interference

Interfering with play in any manner while off the playing area for any reason (including serving a penalty). Players must have two feet on the playing area to establish legal positioning on the floor.



Over Centre Interference

Lying on the floor, while an Over Centre Inference penalty is committed will be deemed a penalty.

Delay of Game

Jewelry

Removal of Delay of Game penalty for jewelry and add as a Violation.

Play is stopped right away, subject to referees' discretion (i.e. if they are involved in the play). The player must be substituted and take off any jewelry before they can return to the game.

Deliberate Stoppage in Play

Deliberate and repeated or unnecessary stoppages in play (subject to referees' discretion), i.e. embellishment resulting in a stoppage in play and calling a Time-Out when none are available.

Abuse of Equipment

Tapping Stick on the floor. Exception: this penalty will not be called in PeeWee, Bantam, or Adult. Excessive stick taps are subject to Referees' Discretion.

Coincidental Penalties

Coincidental penalties occur when an equal number of penalties are assessed to both teams during the same stoppage in play, i.e when the whistle was blown and/or when the puck was dropped.

If a coincidental penalty is called, players go directly to their bench after the expiration of their penalty and even strength continues during the duration of the penalties.

If a player receives a coincidental penalty and an additional non-coincidental penalty, the penalties will be served concurrently.

Double Minor Penalties

An Unsportsmanlike Conduct penalty may be upgraded if warranted, subject to the Referees' discretion of the severity of the incident.

Major Penalties

If a Major Penalty occurs during the 1st or 2nd period, the penalty duration will be served, and the player will be removed from the game.

If a Major Penalty occurs during the 3rd period, the penalty duration will be served, and the player will be removed from game, in addition to a full-game suspension during the next game.



Upgraded Penalties

If a player receives three Unsportsmanlike/Roughing/Dangerous Play minor penalties in one play, the minor penalties are upgraded to a Major penalty. If one of the penalties is not called as an Unsportsmanlike/Roughing/Dangerous Play minor penalty, the referee has discretion as to whether an upgraded Major Penalty is called or not.

Accumulation of Unsportsmanlike/Roughing Penalties

On-floor referees will communicate with the Referee-in-Chief in regards to any dangerous/rough/unsportsmanlike penalties that were not designated as Roughing or Unsportsmanlike Conduct on the score sheet. Including, but limited to Boarding, Charging, Cross-Checking, Elbowing, and Spearing.

If a player receives one to three roughing/unsportsmanlike/dangerous play penalties and a major penalty, they will be suspended for one game. If a player receives four to five roughing/unsportsmanlike/dangerous play penalties and a major penalty, they will be suspended two game suspension pending review by the Disciplinary Committee.

Tie-Breakers

1st Tiebreak is the least number of Mercy Rule violations in both Regular Season and Tournament.

Forfeits

Executive to review forfeit if they suspect foul play. Consequence: 5 min Bench Major and/or following game Forfeit.

A forfeit game will not be counted as a shutout for tie-breaker rules.

Face-Off Locations

When a goal is illegally scored by the attacking team by directing, batting, or kicking the puck into the goal, the resulting face-off shall take place in the defensive zone.

Overtime Rules

During the tournament, Round Robin Overtime will consist of 4-on-4 for one 5-minute period.

Non-Elimination Bracket Overtime will consist of 4-on-4 for as many 5-minute periods as necessary.

Elimination Bracket Overtime will consist of 5-on-5 for one 5-minute period, and if necessary, Overtime will continue as 4-on-4 for as many 5-minute periods as necessary.

Semi-Finals and Finals Overtime will consist of 5-on-5 for as many 15-minute periods as necessary.



Loophole for Flow Chart

During OT, 4 on 4 Flow Chart is as follows:

Flow Chart for 3+ Penalties during Regulation Time. Flow Chart for 2+ Players during Overtime.

1. Player 2 receives a penalty. 2. Substitute from the bench goes on the floor with their own stick, and plays in Player 2's position. 3. Player 2 goes directly to the bench when their penalty expires.

Adult Divisions Rules

Mandatory Goalie Equipment

Any goalie helmet can be worn (including non-CSA approved helmets) if a waiver is signed.

Shin pads/knee pads are required for goalies.

Delay of Game – Closing Hand on Puck

Includes concealing puck or preventing an opponent from playing the puck by covering puck with hand.

Will not be enforced unless concealing the puck has created a clear positional advantage.
Subject to referees' discretion.

Player Substitutions

A player can substitute another player on the floor with a stick as long as the change occurs within three feet of the team bench.