

NBSHC MINIMUM STANDARDS OF DISPLINE

2025-2026

1. OBJECTIVES

To establish a disciplinary protocol that will clearly establish the role and responsibilities of all participants in the application of a disciplinary policy for infractions committed as per the Hockey Canada Official Playing Rules.

2. RESPONSIBILITIES

The League Presidents shall use the Minimum Standards for Discipline in the administration of discipline within New Brunswick. The masculine gender is used without prejudice to facilitate reading.

These standards are amended to agree with Hockey Canada's Official Rulebook.

a. COACHES

- i. Coaches are primarily responsible to control the behavior of their players on and off the ice.
- ii. Be knowledgeable of the Hockey Canada rules.
- iii. Be knowledgeable of the NBSHC disciplinary suspension standards.
- iv. Provide information, when required, to members of the Disciplinary Committee.
- v. Ensure that players are not allowed to play until a formal decision on the suspension has been rendered.
- vi. Explain the suspension to the player and encourage the player to modify his/her behavior.
- vii. Ensure that the player serves suspension.

b. OFFICIALS

- i. Maintain control of the game under his authority.
- ii. Ensure that the play evolves in a safe environment.
- iii. Impose the required penalty as per the Hockey Canada rule to both team players objectively.
- iv. Consult, when necessary, with other on-ice and off-ice officials.
- v. Prepare clear and concise HNB Game Incident Report reports on all Game Misconducts, Major, Match or Gross misconduct penalties.
- vi. Forward these reports within 24 hours to the NBHOC-ROC Referee in Chief or regional game incident report coordinator.

c. NBHOC - ROC REFEREE-IN-CHIEF

- i. Receives all GIR's from officials under his jurisdiction.
- ii. Reviews all GIR's for inconsistencies, errors or omissions.
- iii. Amend all GIR's before forwarding to the HNB Suspension Coordinator within 24 hrs of the infraction.
- iv. E-mail to League disciplinarian.

d. Leagues

- i. The League disciplinarian shall have jurisdiction over all infractions concerning majors, match penalties, game misconducts and gross misconducts for minimum imposed suspensions.
- ii. The League disciplinarian is to render suspension decisions based on the NBSHC Minimum Standards for Discipline. The NBSHC Executive Committee or League President may increase the suspension to the individual based on the seriousness of the infraction and/or if a serious injury resulted from the infraction.
- iii. coaches must abide by the NBSHC Minimum Standards for Discipline and it is the coach's responsibility to know of prior suspensions to impose amplification suspensions as per NBSHC Minimum standards of Discipline.
- iv. The League disciplinarian will endeavor to render a decision within 48 hours.

3. GENERAL NBSHC DISCIPLINE ADMINISTRATION

- a. All discipline suspensions will be given in games, unless otherwise noted in the following standards. Games counting towards suspensions are regular scheduled league games and exhibition games, which were scheduled before the infraction occurred, proof that the games were scheduled must be provided to the League Presidents jurisdiction.
- b. All persons receiving a suspension under the jurisdiction of Hockey Canada, HNB or its member Branches shall be deemed ineligible from participating at any level of hockey, including officiating, in any competition under the jurisdiction of Hockey New Brunswick until the suspension has been served or length of suspension has elapsed from within the league and/or Council in which it was given.
- c. The League President must receive game reports within 48 hours of the infraction.
- d. Members incurring suspensions in excess of Minimum Standards of Discipline or an indefinite suspension shall be permitted a hearing by the responsible authority.
- e. Further appeals of this decision may be made to the HNB Appeals Committee (attention HNB Executive Director) under HNB Regulation 110.

Appeals will only be entertained when they are higher than the minimum suspension, or when they are concerning rule interpretation or player eligibility. Official (s) judgement is not appealable.

f. Players and/or team officials conduct while under suspension

- i. Players
 - a. Can practice with the team while under suspension
 - b. Cannot play exhibition or league games while under suspension
 - c. Anyone carrying a suspension from a previous season can try out and is permitted to play exhibition games prior to the start of the season.
- ii. Coaches
 - a. During, before and after games, coaches cannot be in the dressing room while under suspension
 - b. During, before and after games, coaches cannot be near the players' bench
 - c. Coaches cannot coach league or exhibition games while under suspension
 - d. Severe penalties are to be assessed to coaches who allow suspended players to play.

h. A suspended player, whose team has been eliminated from further competition for the year, may serve their suspension with their higher category affiliate team provided they have played a minimum of 1 game as an affiliate after January 10.

i. Pictures, video or any equipment visual electronic, digital or otherwise, may only be used if the league has a video review policy, which has been approved by the HNB Senior Council Executive.

4 AFFILIATION

If an affiliated player is invited without the consent of the lower team coach, sanctions will be handed out. For the first offence, a written warning will be issued to the higher team. For the second offence, the affiliation agreement for the said player to the higher team will be annulled for the remainder of the season.

6. SUSPENSION FOR USE OF AN INELIGIBLE PLAYER

a. For use of ineligible or suspended player the Head Coach will be suspended for a minimum of 5 games.

b. An ineligible player may also be defined as any player deemed suspended, not properly rostered, or affiliated with his team or not having met the requirement of the NBSHC Operation Manual.

d. If a team participates with a player deemed ineligible all games played shall be declared a forfeit and the team shall be denied any participation in provincial playoffs during the current season.

7. NBSHC GAME INCIDENT REPORT CRITICAL PATH

a. League disciplinarian receives the Game Incident Reports (GIR) by e-mail or fax from the designated NBHOC representative for the District/ROC. (The designated NBHOC representative receives all the GIR's for the District/ROC).

b. The League disciplinarian reviews the incident report. If there are questions the League disciplinarian contacts the designated NBHOC representative for the information.

c. The League disciplinarian renders the appropriate discipline.

d. The League disciplinarian issues the suspensions to the designated person for each team and copies the League President and Senior Council Regional director.

e. Any indefinite suspensions that require a hearing will be forwarded to the League President.

f. If a hearing is required, the League President calls the offending party and explains the process, outlines what the GIR contains and asks if they have anything to add.

g. Once the hearing is held, the League President issues the notice.

h. This process should be completed in 24 hours or less.



HOCKEY CANADA SENIOR MINIMUM SUSPENSIONS

Updated: June 2025



1. The following minimum suspensions are not to be reduced; Members, Association and Leagues may strengthen any of the listed offences at their discretion.
2. These guidelines apply to Senior hockey leagues.
3. Indefinite Suspensions - Members shall establish a process for investigation or review to determine the appropriate length of suspension unless otherwise specified in the guidelines. Said processes shall include some form of communication and follow up with the individual(s) in question. This may include written submissions, phone or electronic communication, formal hearing, educational training etc. Any player or team official under indefinite suspension is deemed ineligible to participate until a decision has been rendered and the suspension is served in full.
4. All incidents resulting in multiple suspensions to a single participant must be served consecutively.
5. Discipline applied in accordance with any minimum suspension(s) within these guidelines are not subject to appeal.
6. Any Game Misconduct or Gross Misconduct assessed in the last ten (10) minutes of regular playing time or overtime will result in an additional automatic one (1) game suspension under Rules 4.8 (c) [Game Ejection & Game Misconduct Penalties] or 4.9 (b) [Gross Misconducts Penalties].

SECTION 1 - MALTREATMENT

Rule #	Type	Penalty	Suspension	Last 10 Minutes
11.1(e)	Game Misconduct	Unsportsmanlike Conduct	n/a	n/a
11.2(e)	Game Misconduct	Abusive Behavior	1 game	2 games
11.2(f)	Gross Misconduct	Abusive Behavior	2 games	3 games
11.3(c)	Match	Spitting	5 games	n/a
11.4	Gross Misconduct	Discrimination	Indefinite Suspension (Minimum 5 Games)	n/a
11.5(c)	Match	Physical Harassment of Officials	Indefinite Suspension	n/a
11.5(e)	Game Misconduct	Physical Harassment of Officials	1 game	2 games
Progressive Suspensions - Player or Team Official			Accumulation Suspension	
2 Game Misconducts in a season under any of Rules 11.1 (e), 11.2 (e) or 11.5 (e)			2 additional games	
3 or more Game Misconducts in a season under any of Rules 11.1 (e), 11.2 (e) or 11.5 (e)			Indefinite Suspension	
2 Gross Misconducts in a season under any of Rules 11.2 (f) or 11.4			Indefinite Suspension	
3 or more Gross Misconducts in a season under any of Rules 11.2 (f) or 11.4			Indefinite Suspension	

SECTION 2 - MAJOR PENALTIES

Rule #	Type	Penalty	Suspension	Last 10 Minutes
7.1(b)	Major	Grabbing hair, facial protector, helmet, chin strap or throat protector.	1 game	2 games
7.2(b)	Major	Boarding	1 game	2 games
7.4(b)	Major	Charging	1 game	2 games
7.5(b)	Major	Checking from Behind	1 game	2 games
7.7(b)	Major	Head Contact	1 game	2 games
7.8(b)	Major	Kneeing	1 game	2 games
8.5(b)	Major	Interference with the Goaltender	1 game	2 games
8.7(b)	Major	Clipping	1 game	2 games
9.2(b)	Major	Cross-Checking	1 game	2 games
9.3(b)	Major	Slashing	1 game	2 games
10.5(b)	Major	Throwing or Shooting Stick or Object	1 game	2 games
10.8(b)	Major	Refusing to Start Play – Play Resumed	Indefinite Suspension	n/a
		Refusing to Start Play – Game is suspended	Indefinite Suspension	n/a
Progressive Suspensions - Player				
Any player receiving 2 Majors in same season for any of the above infractions			2 games	3 games
Any player receiving 3 Majors in same season for any of the above infractions			4 games	5 games
Any player receiving 4 Majors in same season for any of the above infractions			Indefinite Suspension	n/a

SECTION 3 - MATCH PENALTIES

Rule #	Type	Penalty	Suspension	Last 10 Minutes
7.1(c)	Match	Attempt to Injure or Deliberate Injury	3 games	n/a
7.1(c) i.	Match	Head Butting	3 games	n/a
7.1(c) ii.	Match	Grabbing hair, throat protector or any part of the helmet	3 games	n/a
7.1(c) iii.	Match	Kicking	3 games	n/a
7.1(c) iv.	Match	Using equipment as a weapon	3 games	n/a
7.2(c)	Match	Boarding	3 games	n/a
7.4(c)	Match	Charging	3 games	n/a
7.5(c)	Match	Checking from Behind	3 games	n/a
7.7(c)	Match	Head Contact	3 games	n/a
7.8(c)	Match	Kneeing	3 games	n/a
8.5(c)	Match	Interference with the Goaltender	3 games	n/a
8.7(c)	Match	Clipping	3 games	n/a
8.8(c)	Match	Slew Footing	3 games	n/a
9.1(c)	Match	Butt-Ending	3 games	n/a
9.2(c)	Match	Cross Checking	3 games	n/a
9.3(c)	Match	Slashing	3 games	n/a

9.4(c)	Match	Spearing	3 games	n/a
10.5(c)	Match	Throwing or Shooting Stick or Object	3 games	n/a
Progressive Suspensions - Player				
Any player receiving 2 Match penalties in same season for any of the above infractions			Indefinite Suspension	n/a
Any player receiving 3 Match penalties in same season for any of the above infractions			Indefinite Suspension	n/a

SECTION 4 - FIGHTING PENALTIES				
Rule #	Type	Penalty	Suspension	Last 10 Minutes
7.10(b)	Major	Fighting - Third Offence	1 game	2 games
		Fighting - Fourth Offence	2 games	3 games
		Fighting - Fifth Offence	3 games	4 games
		Fighting - Sixth Offence	Indefinite Suspension	n/a
7.10(b)	Pre/Post Game Altercations			
	Major + GM	Any player involved where Majors and Game Misconducts are assessed.	1 game	2 games
	Major + GM	Coach of team whose players are so penalized.	3 games	4 games
7.10(c)	Match	Fighting – wearing rings or tape to inflict punishment.	3 games	n/a
7.10(e) ii.	Game Misc.	Player who joins in a fight or acts as a peacemaker.	1 game	2 games
7.10(e) iii.	Game Misc.	Player who takes part in another or secondary fight during the same stoppage of play.	1 game	2 games
7.11(a)	Instigator or Aggressor of a Fight			
	Minor	First Offense	1 game	n/a
	Minor	Second Offense	3 games	n/a
	Minor	Third Offense	Indefinite Suspension	n/a
	NA	The coach of team whose player is penalized for a third offence of Instigator or Aggressor.	3 games	n/a
<i>Rule 7.11(a) Note: If a player is assessed both penalties in the same altercation, they would be suspended for both offences.</i>				
10.4(e)	Game Misc.	Player identified as first to leave the players' or penalty bench during a fight or for the purpose of fighting.	3 games	4 games
10.4(e)	Game Misc.	Any player identified as the first to leave the players' or penalty bench during a fight.	3 games	4 games
10.4(e)	Game Misc.	The coach of team whose player is penalized under the above two points.	2 games	3 games
10.4(e)	Game Misc.	The coach whose player left the player bench but is not identified as the first to leave the players or penalty bench during an on-ice altercation.	1 game	2 games
10.6(f)	Gross Misc.	Any player who removes their chinstrap before or during a fight.	2 games	3 games

10.6(f)	Gross Misc.	If a player removes their helmet and releases their chinstrap to fight and the opposing player doesn't, the former will be assessed an additional two-minute Minor penalty.	2 games	3 games
10.6(f)	Gross Misc.	Any player who removes an opponent's helmet or releases an opponent's chinstrap before or during a fight.	2 games	3 games

SECTION 5 -OTHER

Rule #	Type	Penalty	Suspension	Last 10 Minutes
4.9	Gross Misc.	Any gross misconduct assessed to a player or team official not otherwise covered within these guidelines	3 games	4 games
10.4(f)	Gross Misc.	Any player or team official who, having been removed from the game due to a Game Ejection, Game Misconduct, Gross Misconduct, or Match penalty, returns to the ice surface or becomes involved with or disrupts the game in any way.	Indefinite Suspension	n/a