

2006-07 Ice Hockey Rules Revisions

Rule 3-4-1a: (Change): “PENALTY: First offense, MISCONDUCT” to “First offense, TEAM WARNING; Further offense, MISCONDUCT.”

Rationale: The responsibility for players wearing proper equipment for games should lie with the coach, not the officials. Places a greater onus on the coach to ensure that the players are wearing proper equipment. This also allows for some preventive officiating during warm-ups.

Rule 3-4-2: (Move): “Stick” from 3-4-2 to 3-4-1.

Rationale: This change makes sticks recommended equipment rather than required equipment.

Rule 4-6-1a: (Add): “Unless increased by state association, the minimum” to first part of sentence.

Rationale: Minimum progressive game disqualification structure identified, which gives state associations authority to implement stronger penalties if they so choose.

Rule 5-4-1b: (Change): (Assistant referees will) “Conduct all faceoffs, with exception of center ice faceoffs to start the game” to “Conduct all faceoffs, with exception of center ice faceoffs at the start of a period and after a goal.”

Rationale: This will ensure that assistant referees are in position. Typically, the first judgment that is made is for offsides or icing. With one assistant referee at the center ice spot and the other across, neither is in position to make a quick call.

Rule 6-1-11: (Add): “No player, coach or bench personnel shall use any obscene gestures or racial/ethnic/gender slurs directed at officials or others during the warm-up, during the progress of a game, during the intermission or after the game.”

PENALTY: GAME MISCONDUCT

Rationale: Racial/ethnic/gender slurs or obscene gestures shall never be tolerated and must be treated more severely.

Rule 6-9-3: (Add to Rule 6-9-3 — “No player shall deliberately displace a cage — Penalty shot”): “If this illegal act prevents an obvious and imminent goal, a goal shall be awarded”

Rationale: The action of deliberately removing the net when the puck is about to enter should not be rewarded with an opportunity of preventing the goal with a penalty shot. This would be rewarding a foul.

Rule 6-22-2: (Add): Obstruction, defined as use of stick or body to interfere with an opponent away from play of the puck, shall be penalized under this rule.

PENALTY: MINOR

Rationale: Defining and adding “Obstruction” to this rule and identifying the penalty (MINOR). The use of the body or stick or “clutching and grabbing” in this way has taken away from the speed and skills of the game of hockey. Creating such a rule provides an avenue to crack down on these tactics and encourages a more skilled brand of hockey. Collegiate leagues as well as the NHL have recently taken steps in this direction.

Rule 6-36-1: (Add): If to prevent a reasonable scoring opportunity in the attacking zone or with less than two minutes in the game or any time during the overtime, **PENALTY SHOT**. If this occurred in the attacking zone when the goalkeeper had been removed from the ice and prevented an obvious and imminent goal, **AWARDED GOAL**.

Rationale: Situation of throwing the stick would require the goalkeeper to come back on the ice. This would reward the team that committed a foul that prevented an obvious and imminent goal. Thus, awarded goal.

Rule 6-37-1: (Add): “Recommended” to “There shall be three periods, each consisting of 15 minutes of actual play, with intermissions of 12 minutes each between periods,” so that it now reads:

“There shall be three periods, each consisting of 15 minutes of actual play, with recommended intermissions of 12 minutes each between periods.”

Rationale: To provide flexibility in length of intermissions due to each state’s unique rink and time issues.

Rule 6-37-3: (Add): “By state association adoption, running time may be utilized at any time when a team is leading another by a specified number of goals.”

(Delete): “shortened or” in the first sentence and “after two periods or during the third period” in Example 2.

Rationale: Provides for state association adoption for running time at any time during the game, rather than in just the third period.

Rule 6-39-3: (Replace current penalty for tripping with following new penalty):

PENALTY: PENALTY SHOT. If this occurred when the goalkeeper had been removed and prevented an obvious and imminent goal, **AWARDED GOAL**.

Rationale: The previous situation would call for the goalkeeper to come back on the ice for a penalty shot which gives an advantage to the team committing the foul.