

NB MINOR HOCKEY COUNCIL



MINIMUM STANDARDS FOR DISCIPLINE

2008-2009 SEASON

OBJECTIVES

To establish a disciplinary protocol as per the HNB/NBMHC Code of Ethics and Fair Play that will clearly establish the role and responsibilities of all participants in the fair application of a disciplinary policy for infractions committed as per the Hockey Canada Official Playing Rules and the NBMHC Code of Conduct and disciplinary policies.

MISSION STATEMENT OF HNB

We dedicate ourselves to foster and enhance amateur hockey in New Brunswick.

VISION OF HNB

To promote the advancement of amateur hockey through fair play initiatives, quality service and ongoing leadership, creating an enjoyable experience for all participants.

Code of fair play and ethics and disciplinary standards should emanate from the Mission Statement and reflect the philosophy of Hockey Canada and Hockey New Brunswick.

CODE OF FAIR PLAY

The Code of Fair Play lists a set of principles for players, coaches, officials, and parents that enforce the concept that the game of hockey should be an enjoyable experience for all participants.

Some of the key principles are as follows:

Players - I will play by the rules of hockey and in the spirit of the game.

Coaches - I will teach my players to play fairly and to respect the rules, officials, and opponents.

Parents - I will encourage my child to play by the rules and to resolve conflicts without resorting to hostility or violence.

Officials - I will not permit the intimidation of any player either by word or by action. I will not tolerate unacceptable conduct toward officials, other players, spectators, or myself. I will be consistent and objective in calling all infractions, regardless of my personal feelings toward a team or individual player.

League Organizers - I will make sure that the age and maturing level of the participants are considered in program development, rule enforcement and scheduling.

The NBMHC Executive Committee shall administer all infractions under the code of fair play for non-game or non ice conduct arising from a game.

CODE OF ETHICS

Authority: HNB Constitution By-Law 15

All participants and members of HNB sanctioned programs and activities shall use the Code of Ethics as the guiding principle for their conduct and in discharging their responsibilities under the mandate of HNB. Infractions under the Code of Ethics shall be administered as per HNB By-Law 15. The District Directors, the NBMHC Chair or the President of Hockey New Brunswick as deemed necessary, shall administer infractions to the Code for activities under the NBMHC.

PRINCIPLES

The code of discipline should emanate from the Code of Fair Play philosophy and should be developed and applied in a fair, timely, and consistent manner.

As such, disciplinary decisions should be a constructive tool in modifying the participants' behavior and not be viewed as solely as a punishment for their action. For discipline to be effective, the imposition of any suspension must be based on available facts.

The on-ice officials have a responsibility to impose penalties as per the Hockey Canada Official Playing Rules. In a case of serious infractions, the report should disclose the necessary information for the reader to form an opinion as to the mitigating factors involved in the penalty. The HNB Game Incident Report information surrounding the infraction should be clear, concise, and objective and provide sufficient information for the reader to form an opinion of the issues related to the incident. All officials need to be properly informed and trained, free from any form of bias and held accountable for their decisions.

The person who has the responsibility to impose a suspension as per the standards should be able to inquire from other sources about the infraction. In serious cases, the Disciplinary Committee, formed at the discretion of the governing body, should be able to request a written report from the teams' officials, all on-ice officials, and other credible witnesses.

RESPONSIBILITIES

COACHES

1. Coaches are primarily responsible to control the behavior of their players on and off the ice.
2. Be knowledgeable of the Hockey Canada rules.
3. Be knowledgeable of the NBMHC disciplinary suspension standards.
4. Provide information, when required, to members of the Disciplinary Committee.
5. Ensure that players are not allowed to play until a formal decision on the suspension has been rendered.
6. Explain the suspension to the player and encourage the player to modify his/her behavior.
7. Ensure that the player serves suspension.

OFFICIALS

1. Maintain control of the game under his authority.
2. Ensure that the play evolves in a safe environment.
3. Impose the required penalty as per the Hockey Canada rule to both team players objectively.
4. Consult, when necessary, with other on-ice and off-ice officials.
5. Prepare clear and concise HNB Game Incident Report reports on Major, Match or Gross penalties.

DIRECTORS

1. The NBMHC District Director or his designate shall have jurisdiction over all infractions concerning match penalties, gross misconducts, Fair Play Policy and the Code of Ethics. The only exceptions are province-wide leagues providing HNB provincial championships. The provincial league presidents will handle the infractions occurring in these leagues for minimum imposed suspensions. Serious infractions requiring a case review must involve a member of the NBMHC Executive Committee.
2. The District Director is responsible for infractions occurring in his District. If a team/player from another District is involved, then the Director from the District of the player involved is to be consulted before a decision is rendered.
3. District Directors will not handle game misconduct penalties except those assessed to coaches, managers, etc. which will be handled by the Director under the Fair Play Policy or Code of Ethics.
4. All District Directors are to render suspension decisions based on the NBMHC Minimum Standards for Discipline. The NBMHC Executive Committee/District Director may increase the suspension to the individual based on the seriousness of the infraction and/or if a serious injury resulted from the infraction. Repeated offenders may have their suspension increased accordingly.
5. District Directors will not handle suspensions of games played within a community club, but a club must abide by the NBMHC Minimum Standards for Discipline.
6. On all suspensions of 4 games or less, the Director will endeavor to render a decision within 72 hours (no hearing required).

LEAGUE PRESIDENT

1. League Presidents are required to administer the disciplinary action of their leagues consistently with the NBMHC Minimum Standards for Discipline.
2. Any discipline *above the NBMHC Minimum Standards for Discipline* given by a League President will be discussed with the NBMHC Director associated with that league.
3. All League Presidents are to render suspension decisions based on the NBMHC Minimum Standards for Discipline. The League President in consultation with a member of NBMHC Executive Committee may increase the suspension to the individuals based on the seriousness of the infraction and/or if a serious injury resulted from the infraction.
4. On all suspensions of 4 games or less, the League President will endeavor to render a decision within 72 hours (no hearing required).

All NBMHC District Directors, League Presidents Association, and Community Club Discipline Committees shall use the Minimum Standards for Discipline in the administration of discipline within their jurisdiction. The masculine gender is used without prejudice to facilitate reading.

These standards are amended to agree with the Official Rulebook 2005-2006 edition in effect for the 2007-2008 season.

GENERAL NBMHC DISCIPLINE ADMINISTRATION

1. 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 tournament games, which were scheduled before the infraction occurred, proof that the games were scheduled must be provided to the District Director or League President handing down the suspension. Exhibition games sanctioned prior to a game, in which a suspension is issued, will count toward the serving of a suspension.
2. 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 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.
3. The District Director or League President must receive game reports within 48 hours of the infraction.
4. Suspensions of more than 4 games MUST be allowed a hearing by the responsible authority. All hearings must follow Section 6.1 of the NBMHC Operations Manual.
5. Further appeals of this decision may be made to the HNB Appeals Committee (attention HNB Executive Director) under HNB Regulations 112.1.
6. Strict enforcement of the Code of Ethics for coaches being assessed misconduct and game misconduct penalties are to be adhered to.
7. Players and/or team officials conduct while under suspension

Players

- a. Can practice with the team while under suspension
- b. Cannot play exhibition, tournament or league games while under suspension
- c. Any carry one suspension can try out.

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, exhibition or tournament games while under suspension
8. Molesting or abuse of officials will not be tolerated (see below).
 9. Severe penalties are to be assessed to community clubs and/or coaches who allow suspended players to play (see below).

For use of an ineligible player as defined in NBMHC Operation Manual Section 12.1 the minimum suspension is 5 games.

NBMHC MINIMUM STANDARDS FOR DISCIPLINE ABUSE OF OFFICIALS

Abuse of officials may be handled in 2 manners: Hockey Canada Rule # 9.2 outlines the various penalties or abuse of officials and Rule # 4.7 with regard to making a travesty of the game may also be used to control the abuse of officials.

- Any physical abuse of referees or other game officials by players, coaches, team officials, or parents shall be subject to a suspension to be determined by the NBMHC Executive Committee (District Director) under the discipline format.

- **PLAYERS** A player who abuses an official by swearing and carries on with abusive language to the point that he receives a gross misconduct penalty shall receive a minimum 4 game suspensions for the first offence. The suspension is to be doubled for each successive gross misconduct penalty incurred by the player at fault.
- **TEAM MANAGEMENT** A coach, manager, trainer or team official who receives a gross misconduct penalty shall be handled under the Code of Ethics section of the NBMHC Regulations by the NBMHC Executive Committee. For a first offence, the suspension shall be a minimum of 6 games. Repeat offenders will be suspended as deemed necessary.

TRAVEL PERMITS

- Minimum 6-month suspension to a coach, manager, team official for traveling without a proper travel permit.

HNB INITIATION PROGRAM/NOVICE HOCKEY MODEL PROGRAM

- Any community club violating the maximum IP 20 games / Novice 20 game 3 jamboree rules will be suspended from all provincial play-off play in all age divisions.

PLAYERS/COACHES, ETC. PARTICIPATING WHILE UNDER SUSPENSION OR AWAITING DECISION ON MATCH OR GROSS MISCONDUCT PENALTIES

Players, coaches or team officials and associations that participate in games or team functions contrary to the attached guidelines will be dealt with in a severe manner by the NBMHC Executive Committee.

RECOMMENDED SUSPENSION FOR USE OF AN INELIGIBLE PLAYER

1. For use of ineligible player, Refer to Section 12.1 of the NBMHC Operations Manual.
2. An ineligible player may also be defined as any player deemed suspension, not properly rostered or affiliated with his team or not having met the requirement of the NBMHC Operations Manual.
3. 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.

SCHEDULE OF MINIMUM STANDARDS FOR SUSPENSIONS

NOTE: Additional game suspensions may be given if the participant receives subsequent penalties of the same nature (second offence) or if the infraction resulted in a serious injury to the other player. Suspensions may double with each subsequent offence.

For a full description of the infraction, the reader should refer to the Hockey Canada Official Rule book.

These suspensions will be served in addition to the penalty imposed by the on-ice officials during the hockey game". For example, a fighting major with a game misconduct within the last 10 minutes of the last period (overtime), would result in an additional 2 games suspension (1 game + 4.6 C).

RULE	DESCRIPTION	MINIMUM	ADDITIONAL
4.6 C	Game Misconduct – Last 10 minutes	1 game	1 game / offence
4.7 B	Travesty of the Game – Player	3 games	Subsequent infractions- suspension doubled each time
4.7 B	Travesty of the Game – Coach / Officials	4 games	Subsequent infractions- suspension doubled each time
4.8	Match Penalty	3 games	Case review by delegated body
6.1	Attempt to Injure / Deliberate Injury Match Penalties		
6.1 A	In any manner - Not otherwise covered	3 games	Second Offence 6 games
6.1 B	Head-Butting	3 games	Second Offence 6 games
6.1 C	Kicking	3 games	Second Offence 6 games
6.1 D	Pulling hair or grabbing facial protector	3 games	Second Offence 6 games
6.1 E	Uses facial protection as weapon	3 games	Second Offence 6 games
6.1 F	Butt-ending	3 games	6 Games - Makes Contact
6.1 G	Spearing	3 games	6 Games - Makes Contact
6.1 H	Slash, High Stick, Cross Check	3 games	6 Games - Makes Contact
6.2 A	Boarding - Major Penalty	1 game	Apply Rule 4.6 C
6.2 B	Body Checking - Recreational Level Major	1 game	
6.3 A	Charging - Major Penalty	1 game	Second Offence 2 games / apply rule 4.6 C
6.3 C	Charging Goaltender - Major Penalty	1 game	Apply Rule 4.6 C
6.4 A	Checking from behind - Major Penalty	2 games	Second Offence 4 games / Apply rule 4.6 C
6.4 A	Checking from behind - Major Penalty Recreational Level	4 games	Second Offence 6 games / Apply rule 4.6 C
6.4 B	Hit in any manner from behind	3 games	Subsequent infractions- suspension doubles each time
6.5 B	Checking to the Head - Major Penalty	1 game	Apply Rule 4.6 C
6.5 C	Checking to the Head - Match Penalty	3 games	Second Offence 6 games
6.6 B	Elbowing/Kneeing - Major Penalty	1 game	Second Offence 3 games / Apply rule 4.6 C
6.7	Fighting and Roughing		
6.7 A+B	Fighting - Major Penalty	1 game	Apply Rule 4.6 C
6.7 A (4)	Wearing material to inflict injury – Match Penalty	3 games	Second Offense 6 games
7.2 B	Hooking - Match Penalty - Injury	3 games	Case review by delegated body
8.1 A, C	Cross-checking - Major Penalty	1 game	Second offence 3 games / Apply Rule 4.6 C
8.1 D	Cross-checking - Major Penalty	1 game	Apply Rule 4.6 C
8.1 E	Cross-checking - Match Penalty	3 games	6 Games - Makes Contact
8.2 A	High-stick - Major Penalty	1 game	Apply Rule 4.6 C
8.2 B	High-stick - Major Penalty	1 game	Apply Rule 4.6 C
8.2 C	High-stick - Match Penalty	3 games	Second Offence 6 games
8.3 B	Slashing - Major Penalty	1 game	Apply Rule 4.6 C
8.3 D	Slashing - Match Penalty - Attempts to / Injure	3 games	6 Games - Makes Contact
9.2 A	Unsportsmanlike Conduct - Player/Coach	1 game	Subsequent infractions- suspension double each time
9.2 B	Game Misconduct - Abuse of officials - players	1 game	Subsequent infractions- suspension double each time
9.2 B	Game Misconduct - Abuse of officials - coach/officials	2 games	Subsequent infractions- suspension double each time
9.2 F	Gross Misconduct - Discriminatory Grounds	2 games	Case review by delegated body
9.5 F	Team Official Getting On the Ice – Game Misconduct	3 games	Case review by delegated body
9.6	Physical Abuse of Officials - Match Penalty		
9.6 A	Threatens or attempts to strike on-ice or minor official	6 games	
9.6 B	Intentionally touches, holds or pushes on-ice official	10 games	
9.6 C	Deliberately strikes, trips, or body checks on-ice and minor officials	1 year	
9.7	Spitting - Match Penalty	3 games	6 Games - Makes Contact
10.14 A	Fails to return and start play - Team officials	Up to 1 year	
10.14 C	Fails to return and start play - Second time in same game	Up to 1 year	
10.14 D	Fails to present themselves at a game for playoff provincials	6 games	suspension from playoffs
10.14 E	Refusal to leave area after game misconduct assessed A team or management failing to complete a game or series without the permission of the Executive Committee	Minimum of 1 Minimum of 1 year	From former HNB Operations Manual
	Any player, manager, coach, trainer, or stick boy using obscene and/or profane language - first infraction - second infraction (same game)	10 minute misconduct Game Misconduct	From former HNB Operations Manual

