

ALBERTA MEN'S HOCKEY LEAGUE

RULE CHANGES – SUMMARY

Effective September 2012

Rule 2-5 Player Verification

The referees or timekeepers may check the identity of a player at any time, but teams will only be allowed to request verification of an opposing player **up until the start of the third period**.

The time to request an ID check was changed from 'before the flood' as this varied from game to game.

Rule 4-9(d) Composition of Team/ Replacement Goaltenders

- iii. If the goaltender is ejected at any time in the third period with his team winning, tied, or losing by no more than two goals, at the time of the ejection - or - if the goaltender is injured during the third period regardless of the score, the team will be permitted to finish the game using one of the following options:

- without a goaltender and substituting another skater (i.e. 6 skaters and no goaltender).
- with another fully dressed goaltender who is readily available on the team's bench.

If neither option is chosen by the team, the game will be declared a forfeit win for the opposing team.

If a game is tied at the end of regulation when one team ends the game without a goaltender, there will still be a shootout – but with only one team having to shoot. As the team facing an empty net would score on every shot, the other team may attempt to preserve the tie by taking up to three shots. The team must score on every one of the three shots, or the opposing team will be awarded an overtime win.

If both teams have their goaltender ejected in the third period, the game will be declared over, and the score at the time will be recorded as the final score.

This was added for additional clarification in the event that a goaltender is injured or ejected in the third period of a game. Teams MUST still have a fully dressed goaltender available to start a game.

Rule 4-18 Puck shot over the Glass

- a. Any player who **intentionally** shoots the puck over the glass will receive a minor penalty for delay of game. This will be at the referee's discretion and is NOT automatically assessed.
- b. Any goaltender who shoots the puck over the glass will be given a warning for the first occurrence. If the goaltender shoots the puck over the glass a second time during the same game a minor penalty for delay of game will be assessed.

This has been added to the rules for clarification.

Rule 6-1 Overview of Penalties

For Protests or Appeals, see Section 7-2.

A reference to the section on Protests and Appeals has been added, which indicates the time period in which an appeal may be made.

Rule 6-4 Major Penalties (not including Fighting)

Major Penalties assessed for head contact will be subject to additional discipline as described in rule 6-15.

A reference has been listed here to ensure awareness that suspensions and fines for head contact under Rule 6-15 are IN ADDITION to any suspensions and fines normally incurred for a major penalty.

Rule 6-7 (b) - High Stick Penalties

If an accidental high stick resulting in an injury to the face or head of an opposing player is assessed against a goaltender, the goaltender will not be ejected from the game. A player from the ice will be required to serve the double minor and no suspension will follow.

Goaltenders will still be held responsible for 'careless' use of their stick.

Rule 6-11 Match Penalties / Attempt to Injure

Suspension for a Match Penalty, unless listed within the rules of this section:

- 1. First Offense \$50.00 Fine**, Game Ejection and a minimum Five Game Suspension

Suspension for a Match Penalty for non-contact:

1. First Offense No Fine, and a Two Game Suspension
2. **Second offense \$50.00 Fine**, and a minimum Five Game Suspension

As a Match penalty is a serious offense, the fine has been increased to \$50.00

Rule 6-15 Contact to the Head

Any player who is assessed a major penalty for deliberate contact to the head of an opponent will have **an additional two games and a \$50.00 fine** added to any suspension and/or fine assessed. A second offence will result in league expulsion.

This section has been underlined for emphasis that suspensions and fines for head contact under Rule 6-15 are IN ADDITION to any suspensions and fines already incurred for a major penalty.

Rule 6-16 Supplementary Discipline

- d. Any player who receives 3 separate suspensions during the course of the season will be ineligible to play for the balance of the season and playoffs.**

Although this has been standard practice in the past it has been added to the rulebook for clarification.

Rule 7-1 Game Forfeits

- f. Any team who forfeits 3 or more games during a single season may become ineligible to participate in the AMHL in any future seasons.**

Teams who consistently fail to show up for games will not be welcome to participate in future seasons.

Rule 8-1 Payment of Fines

It is the responsibility of one of the team representatives to notify a player of suspensions and/or fines and ensure that all necessary payments are made. **The payment of fines must be made at or before the first game that the offending player is eligible to participate in.**

Whether or not a player who has received a fine is present, the fines are to be collected. The team representative will be notified of the outstanding fine.