



INFORMATION BULLETIN

Date: December 6, 2012
To: Minor Hockey Associations
C.C: Hockey Alberta Zone Teams
From: Kevin Macrae
Manager, Member Services
SUBJECT: Refusal to Start Play (Rule #10.14) Guidelines

Information on Rule #10.14 (Refusing To Start Play)

Premises

- Referees are considered non-bias parties that are used to ensuring that the game of hockey is played under a certain set of rules.
- The Referees control the playing of the game, by way of Hockey Canada playing rules.
- The control of the game is also determined by the coaches and players and the respect and discipline they show while playing the game according to the rules.
- Hockey Canada playing rules are developed so that competition is fair, equitable and played in a safe environment.

Rational

- The rule is in place so that coaches do not arbitrarily rule on the length and conclusion of a hockey game. The responsibility of interpretation of the Hockey Canada playing rules is up to the Referee.

Some Options

- Options are much easier than one would think. It is all about leadership from both head coaches and referees and being able to view the situation rationally and with control. When all three parties work together in tough situations they can make a difference.
- Consult with the Referee and ensure they understand your concerns about the rough play.

At that time a coach may suggest the following (if necessary):

- Play the remainder of the game straight time.
- Play the game without body checking.
- Coaches mutually agree to discontinue the game.

Should you have any questions please feel free to contact the Hockey Alberta office at (403) 342-6777.

CHA RULE 10.14

- (a) If a team is withdrawn from the ice and fails to return and start play, or if being on the ice fails to start play within TWO MINUTES after being ordered to do so by the Referee, the game or series shall be suspended. The team officials and/or players of the team which are responsible for any of these actions may be suspended for one year or more from the date of the infraction. The Referee shall report full details of the incident to the President. If a team after being ordered to return, does return to start play, then a Major penalty and a Game Misconduct shall be assessed to the Coach for Delay of Game. If this infraction occurs in the last two minutes of regular playing time, or anytime in over-time, a Penalty Shot (in addition to the Major penalty and a Game Misconduct) shall be awarded against the offending team's coach, as stated in Rule 10.1(e) – Delay of Game.
- (b) The commencement of the two-minute warning and the reason for such warning shall be announced over the public address system, on the instructions of the Referee.
- (c) If a team is withdrawn from the ice or fails to go on the ice, or being on the ice, fails to start play a SECOND TIME within the same game after being ordered to do so by the Referee, the two-minute allowance shall not be granted and the game will be officially suspended. The team officials and/or players of the team which are responsible for any of these actions may be suspended for one year or more from the date of the infraction. The Referee shall report full details of the incident to the President.

Note: Should the offending team be on the ice surface, the order shall be given in person by the Referee or the Linesman, if directed by the Referee. If the offending team is not on the ice, the Timekeeper, on the instruction of the Referee, will convey the order to the offending team. The order may be given to any player or team official of the offending team.

- (d) If a team fails to present itself at the time and place appointed to play any game, the game shall be awarded to the opposing team, unless such failure is caused by an unavoidable accident or unforeseen contingency. The team official and/or players responsible for any of these actions shall be reported to the President by the Referee, giving full details of the incident.
- (e) A player or team official who refuses to leave the bench or playing area after he has been assessed a Game Ejection, Game Misconduct penalty, Gross Misconduct or Match penalty, TWO MINUTES AFTER BEING ORDERED TO DO SO BY THE REFEREE, the game or series shall be suspended. The team officials and or players of the teams which are responsible for any of these actions may be suspended for one year or more from the date of the infraction. The Referee shall report full details of the incident to the president. IF THE PLAYER OR TEAM OFFICIAL, AFTER BEING ORDERED TO LEAVE, DOES LEAVE THE BENCH OR THE ICE, then a Major penalty and a Game Misconduct shall be assessed to the Coach for Delay of Game. If this infraction occurs in the last two minutes of regular playing time, or anytime in overtime, a Penalty Shot (in addition to the Major Penalty and a Game Misconduct) shall be awarded against the offending teams, as stated in Rule 10.1(e) – Delay of Game.