



COMPETITIONS

RINGETTE ONTARIO PROTESTS & GRIEVANCES

1.1 TOURNAMENT DISCIPLINE, PROTEST AND GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE

1.1.1 It is strongly recommended that Sanctioned Tournaments have a Discipline, Protest and Grievance (DPG) Committee, as appointed by the Chair, consisting of three (3) registered Ringette Ontario participants i.e., official, coach, etc. The Tournament Chair and/or RO Program Coordinator should act as ex-officio. The Referee-in-Chief of the tournament should also be considered as one of the participants.

The DPG Committee will convene should any of the following Sanction Rules be violated by a participating player, Bench Staff, or team during the RO Sanctioned Event.

1.1.2 At Provincial Events, a Provincial Discipline, Protest and Grievance Committee of four (4) people: Ringette Ontario Operations Director as Chair, the Championship Director of Officials (or designate), Ringette Ontario Program Coordinator, and one (1) impartial participant.

In the case that one of these individuals has a conflict, then the Provincial Host Chair (or designate) may replace that individual.

The Committee will convene should any of the Codes of Conduct, or any of the Sanction Rules be violated by a participating player, bench staff, or team during the Ringette Ontario Sanctioned Event.

1.1.3 **NOTE:** *A representative of the DPG Committee may not participate in a decision involving their Home Club.*

1.1.4 No Protests and/or Grievances shall be entertained against the official's judgment and/or application of the playing rules on the ice. Questions concerning the on-ice rule interpretations shall be directed to the Referee-in-Chief of the Tournament.

1.1.5 The RO Program Coordinator assigned to the event be copied on all minutes of any DPG Committee Meeting. Minutes MUST be taken.

1.2 DISCIPLINE

1.2.1 All match and misconduct penalties are subject to review by the DPG Committee. Additionally, any violations of the RO Code of Conduct may result in discipline from the DPG Committee and/or Ringette Ontario.

1.2.2 Match Penalty Suspensions

The following guidelines apply to all play directly under Ringette Canada. The suspensions specified (in number of games), are over and above those specified and outlines in Section 20.3e Match Penalty (Consequences of Penalties) of the Official Rules of Ringette, for Match penalty infractions.

Athlete/Team Official Assessed a MATCH Penalty for:	
Action	Suspension (# in games)
Hair Pulling	3
Face Masking	3
Head Butting	3
Spearing	4
Butt Ending	4
Stick Swinging	4
Kicking	4
Deliberate Intent to Injure	4
Fighting	
Instigating	4
Participating (incl. Those in addition to original participants)	2
Abuse of an Official	
Excessive Verbal	2
Physical	
Minimal (ex. touch/brush)	3
Moderate (ex. push)	5
Excessive (ex. punch/attempt to punch/push causing fall)	7

Based on the circumstances surrounding the Match penalty, the DPG Committee may choose to impose a game suspension, without appeal, up to a maximum number of games stated for the specific infraction(s). Additional suspensions may be imposed should the circumstances warrant the same. Should an individual commit more than one of these infractions

in the same game, the suspension penalties imposed shall be additive.

1.3 PROTESTS

1.3.1 At a Sanctioned Event, the only actions that may be protested are:

- Ineligible Bench Staff
 - Bench Staff who is not registered and verified with RO.
 - A Bench Staff on any team other than the one(s) they are registered on, except as allowed as a properly documented substitute.
 - Bench Staff that do not have the required qualifications.
 - Bench Staff participating while under RO suspension.
- Ineligible Players
 - A player who is not registered and verified with RO.
 - A player on any team other than the one(s) they are registered on, except as allowed as a properly documented substitute.
 - A player playing while under Ringette Ontario suspension.

Substantiated violation of the above will result in team disqualification from the tournament. The team will also be subject to sanction fines levied by Ringette Ontario.

1.4 GRIEVANCE

1.4.1 At a Sanctioned Event, a Ringette Ontario participant can grieve any action not covered under the Protest Section.

1.4.2 The interpretation of a grievance is that it is of such a serious nature that the cash deposit will be \$150.00 non-refundable, payable to the Hosting Association. NOTE: The host can change this amount.

1.4.3 No grievance will be allowed against the judgement and application of the playing rules on the ice. Questions concerning rule interpretations shall be directed to the Referee-In-Chief of the tournament.

1.4.4 All upheld grievances shall automatically go to the Club President for potential further disciplinary action.

1.5 PROCEDURES FOR PROTESTS AND/OR GRIEVANCES

1.5.1 Coach will inform the on-ice official at the end of the game of their intention of protesting a violation of the tournament rules or initiating a grievance. The official will record the intended protest in the "Notes" section on the online game sheet (or the front of the game sheet if using paper).

1.5.2 The coach will submit the protest and/or grievance in writing to the Tournament

Arena Convener on duty within thirty (30) minutes of the end of the game. A \$150.00 cash deposit must accompany the submission. NOTE: This amount can be changed at the host's discretion.

1.5.3 The Arena Convenor shall contact a representative of the DPG Committee immediately.

1.5.4 The Tournament DPG Committee shall meet within two (2) hours of notification of a protest and/or grievance and will inform both coaches of the teams involved within one (1) hour of the end of their meeting as to whether the violation is substantiated or otherwise.

1.6 VIOLATION OF SANCTION RULES

1.6.1 Violations of sanction rules are to be administered by Ringette Ontario. Sanctioned rules and fines are outlines at the following link: [Violations of Sanctioned Rules](#)

