



OWHA FORFEITURE POLICY

A GAME SHALL or MAY BE FORFEITED WHEN:

1. A Team does not appear for that game.
2. When a game is declared forfeited due to the non-appearance of the team (Hockey Canada rule 10.14 (d), the team in attendance shall be declared the winner and the score recorded as 5-0. The incident shall be reported to the OWHA President to take any further actions as may be authorized in the organization's Constitution, By-Laws, and Regulations.
3. Team refuses to start play (Hockey Canada Rule 10.14).
4. When a game is declared forfeited in accordance with Hockey Canada Rule 10.14, the non-offending team shall be declared the winner and the score shall be recorded as per the Official Game Report if the non-offending team was in the lead at the time of the infraction or as 5-0 if the non-offending team was not in the lead. The players on both teams shall be credited with all personal statistics earned to the time the forfeit was declared. The incident shall be reported to the OWHA President.
5. A Team is unable to continue play due to having insufficient players (fewer than a goaltender and three (3) other players). When a game is declared forfeited due to a team having insufficient players to continue play, either through injury and/or penalties, the non-offending team shall be declared the winner and the score shall be recorded as per the Official Game Report if the non-offending team was in the lead at the time of the infraction or as 5-0 if the non-offending team was not in the lead. The players on both teams shall be credited with all personal statistics earned up to the time the forfeit was declared. The incident shall be reported to the OWHA President.
6. Both teams are unwilling or unable to continue the game.
7. When a game may be declared forfeited due to both teams being unwilling or unable (insufficient players) to continue the game, the score shall be recorded as 0-0 with no points awarded either team. The players on both teams shall be credited with all personal statistics earned up to the time the forfeit was declared. The incident shall be reported to the OWHA President.
8. If a team played a game with one (1) or more ineligible participants a game may be forfeited..
9. A game may be declared forfeited due to a team playing with one (1) or more ineligible participants. If the game is ruled a forfeiture, the non-offending team shall be declared the winner and score shall be recorded as per the Official Game Report if the non-offending team was in the lead at the time of the infraction or as 5-0 if the non-offending team was not in the lead. The players on both teams shall be credited with all personal statistics earned up to the time the forfeit was declared. Should the game in question be part of a tournament, the offending team shall automatically be relegated to the final position in any preliminary round robin series (if applicable) or to the final position in the tournament standings. The use of an ineligible player shall be reported to the Branch President.

FORFEITURE PROCEDURE:

- A. The OWHA Board of Directors shall address the procedure for managing forfeitures.
- B. The OWHA Discipline Panel shall set the procedure to secure information and rule on forfeitures involving Provincial playdowns, Provincial Championships. Decisions may not be appealed to the OWHA.
- C. OWHA Sanctioned Tournaments – any proposed changes to the forfeiture policy must be approved by the OWHA Tournament Committee prior to circulation and, once approved, must be circulated to all participating teams prior to the start of the tournament.
- D. OWHA Leagues – any proposed changes to the forfeiture policy must be approved by the OWHA Board of Directors prior to circulation and, once approved, must be circulated to all teams in the league prior to commencement of the league.
- E. Notwithstanding the above, the OWHA Board of Directors reserves the right to review the circumstances and rule as it deems appropriate.

Policy Approved: July 26, 2023