



Competition Disciplinary, Suspension, and Tribunal Regulations

March 2025

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Introduction

The Competition Disciplinary, Tribunal and Suspension Regulations are made by Ice Hockey New Zealand (Ice Hockey NZ) pursuant to Section 18 “Discipline of Members” of Ice Hockey NZ’s Constitution.

This Regulation forms part of the body of ‘Rules’ governing the operations of Ice Hockey New Zealand, as defined in Ice Hockey New Zealand’s Constitution and Sport Regulations.

The penalties, fines, suspensions, Tribunal bodies and processes contained in this Regulation are binding on all Ice Hockey New Zealand Members who compete in Ice Hockey New Zealand sanctioned games and/or events.

1. Objectives

- To facilitate the expeditious resolution, in accordance with the principles of natural justice, of disciplinary actions for misdemeanours occurring in Ice Hockey NZ sanctioned competitions.
- To ensure that all players, officials and other associated individuals and organizations observe the rules of Ice Hockey, including the Constitution, By-Laws, Regulations, Rules of Competition and Policies of the International Ice Hockey Federation (IIHF), Ice Hockey NZ and its affiliated Member Organizations as shall be applicable from time to time.
- To provide a system which sets out procedures, processes, guidelines and penalties for breaches of Ice Hockey NZ Constitution, Regulations or Policies.
- To ensure that all charges brought against a party at a Tribunal, and any appeal from a Tribunal decision shall be conducted fairly and in accordance with the principles of natural justice.

2. Definitions & Interpretation

In these Regulations, unless the context otherwise requires, the following terms shall mean:

- a. **Additional Suspension** - means any suspension in addition to an automatic suspension.
- b. **Automatic Suspension** - means a recommended immediate suspension without the need for a Tribunal unless noted as requiring a Tribunal. Such suspension may be appealed with the provision of new evidence. Recommended refers to the typical suspension, history and other factors of the defendant can also positively or negatively influence the outcome.
 - i. Notwithstanding, in the case that a person accepts an automatic suspension, this cannot be appealed at a later date.
 - ii. Positive Influence, refers to the history of the defendant or the circumstances of the infraction. For example a first time offender.
 - iii. Negative Influence, refers to the history of the defendant or the circumstances of the infraction. For example a repeat offender.
- c. **Competition Season** - means the schedule of Regular Competition Games, Playoffs, Tournaments or Championships as organised and/or sanctioned by Ice Hockey NZ or an Ice Hockey NZ member organisation.

- d. **Competition Tribunal** – means a Tribunal as formed by Ice Hockey NZ, or Ice Hockey NZ member organization or league.
- e. **Defendant** – means a person brought under charges of this Regulation.
- f. **Entering the Ice** - means a person entering onto the ice surface without prior permission from the Senior Match Official or an Assistant Match Official unless as prescribed by IIHF Rule.
- g. **Fine** - shall mean a monetary amount is set for a misdemeanour as determined by Ice Hockey NZ and/or a member organisation or the Tribunal
- h. **Fixed Penalty** - means a suspension of a prescribed number of games as set out in Schedule H “Offences & Automatic Suspensions”.
- i. **Offence** - means any of the offences as set out in Schedule H “Offences & Automatic” for which a set penalty can apply.
- j. **Form** - means any of the forms as set out in Schedules of these Regulations.
- k. **Game** - means any game of ice hockey under the sanction of Ice Hockey NZ or an Ice Hockey NZ Member Organisation.
- l. **Game Official** - includes the following:
 - i. an appointed game referee; or
 - ii. an appointed linesperson; or
 - iii. any other person appointed as an off-ice official, including without limitation, Referee Supervisor, Timekeepers, Score-keepers, Goal Judges, Announcer, Video Goal Judge and Penalty Box Attendants as designated by Ice Hockey NZ or a member or sanctioned organisation.
- m. **In-Game Penalty** - means any penalty served by a player or team official during a game in accordance with the penalties provided in Schedule H “Offences and Automatic Suspensions”.
- n. **Management Committee** - used in this Regulation applies to Ice Hockey NZ Board and any properly constituted and elected Management Committee or equivalent of an Ice Hockey NZ member association or organization.
- o. **Member Organisation** – means a club, region or league that is a registered member of Ice Hockey NZ.
- p. **Ice Hockey New Zealand (Ice Hockey NZ)** – The organisation tasked to govern the sport of Ice Hockey in New Zealand.
- q. **Player** - means a registered individual member of Ice Hockey NZ and/or an Ice Hockey NZ Member Organization and who is a player on a team that is a member of Ice Hockey NZ and/or an Ice Hockey NZ Member Organization at the relevant time.
- r. **Protest** - means a formal written protest against a game result arising from an allegation that a team has fielded an ineligible player.
- s. **Relevant Team** - means any team or teams which a player or team official represents (whether formally or informally), or with which the player or team official is connected in any way, as determined by Ice Hockey NZ or an Ice Hockey NZ Member Organisation.
- t. **Serious Misconduct** – shall mean any act of omission by a player, team official or a game official which constitutes:
 - i. a breach of Ice Hockey NZ’s or an Ice Hockey NZ Member Organisation’s Regulations which may be in place from time to time;
 - ii. participating, assisting or arranging the participation or assistance of others in any game fixing, gambling or betting activities in relation to a game;
 - iii. in the opinion of Ice Hockey NZ or an Ice Hockey NZ Member Organisation, conduct which is or may be prejudicial to the interests of Ice Hockey NZ, its Member Organisations or the sport of ice hockey in New Zealand, including any of their sponsors.

- u. **Suspension** – means a disciplinary action for offences occurring in Ice Hockey NZ or an Ice Hockey NZ Member Organization game(s), competition(s), tournament(s) or championship(s) and affiliate organization games operated, managed or sanctioned by Ice Hockey NZ or Ice Hockey NZ Member Organizations and include Automatic Suspensions and any Additional Suspension.
- v. **Suspended Suspension** - means a probationary suspension in addition to an Additional Suspension.
- w. **Team** - means a team participating in, affiliated with, or in any other way connected to Ice Hockey NZ or an Ice Hockey NZ Member Organisation and for the removal of doubt includes any entity which has entered into a Team Licence Agreement with an Ice Hockey NZ or Ice Hockey NZ Member Organisation sanctioned League.
- x. **Team Official** - means one or more of the following, whether individually or collectively:
 - i. Team Office Bearers; and
 - ii. Team Officials (coach, assistant coach, manager, assistant manager, equipment manager or anyone who is officially associated with the Team).
- y. **Tribunal** - means a Tribunal established pursuant to this Regulation
- z. **Tribunal Members** – means members of a Tribunal Panel
- aa. **Tribunal Panel** – means an appointed person(s) with the responsibility to investigate, hear and resolve matters brought before them in accordance with these Regulations.

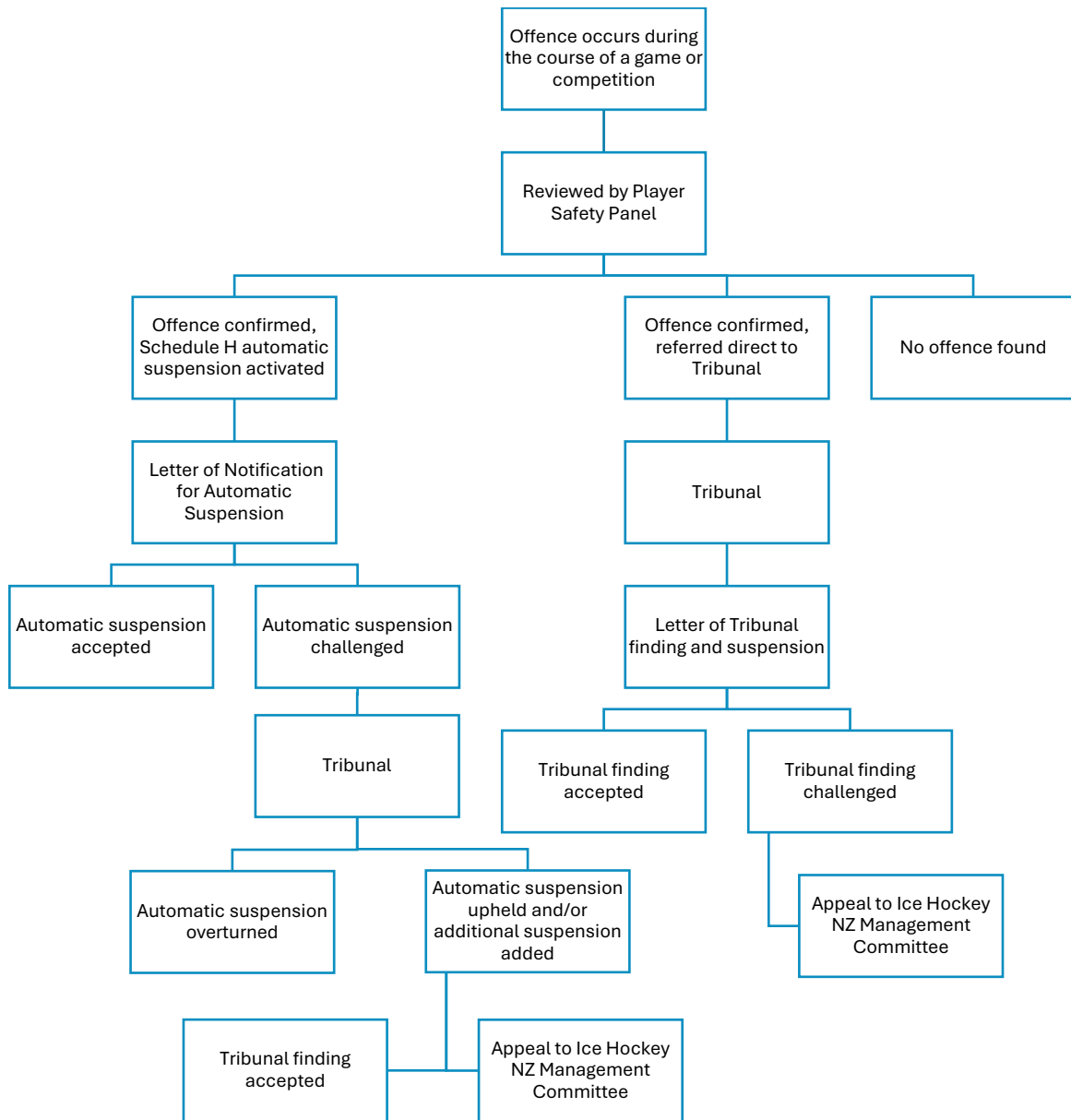
Any term defined in an Ice Hockey NZ Member Organisation’s Constitution or Licence Agreement, as effective from time to time, shall have the same meaning as set out in that document unless otherwise expressed in this Regulation.

Headings are for convenience of reference only and do not affect interpretation

3. Jurisdiction

- 3.1. All Ice Hockey NZ members (in this Regulation “defendant”) will be subject to, and submit unreservedly to the jurisdiction, procedures, penalties, appeal and suspension mechanisms of Ice Hockey NZ as set out in this Regulation.
- 3.2. All Ice Hockey NZ members agree that they will not become a party to any suit, at law or equity, against Ice Hockey NZ, Ice Hockey NZ Board, the Management Committee, an Ice Hockey NZ Official or any other person who may be the subject of this Regulation until all remedies allowed by this Regulation have been exhausted.
- 3.3. Ice Hockey NZ Member Organizations (clubs, regions, leagues, and all other affiliated organizations) are responsible for the establishment and operation of Tribunal processes for matters arising in their sanctioned games.
- 3.4. Ice Hockey NZ is responsible for the establishment and operation of Ice Hockey NZ’s Tribunal processes for matters arising in competitions, tournaments and championship games operated or managed by Ice Hockey NZ, and on matters of dispute between Ice Hockey NZ Member Organizations and for matters referred to it by a member club, region, league, affiliate association or affiliate organizations.
- 3.5. Ice Hockey NZ may intervene in disciplinary matters that are within the jurisdiction of a Member Organization or sanctioned event. Ice Hockey NZ in considering an exercise of its discretion under this Regulation must determine whether all disciplinary or judiciary avenues available to a Member Organization under the relevant organization’s Constitution has been exhausted.
- 3.6. Ice Hockey NZ may remit any matter referred to it by a Member Organization where:
 - 3.6.1. it considers that the matter is not of relevant significance or importance, or
 - 3.6.2. the matter has not been exhausted at all lower levels of appeal, or
 - 3.6.3. the matter has not been properly dealt with at the lower level.

4. Suspension, Tribunal, and Appeals Process



5. Panel for Player Safety

Major plus Automatic Game Misconduct penalties are considered “judgment calls”. Any Major penalties called during a game will be automatically referred to the Panel for Player Safety, who will review the Official Game Report along with any available video and / or audio. The Panel for Player Safety can either overrule the on ice call, uphold the call, or upgrade the call. The Panel cannot determine the length of a suspension

All incidents cited during a game but not called on the ice will be reviewed by Panel for Player Safety in the first instance.

6. Automatic Suspensions

The prime objective of the Regulations is to place the onus of responsibility on players and team officials to reduce the incidence of major plus Automatic Game Misconduct penalties. The second objective is to alleviate the need for a Tribunal in many cases. The Automatic Suspension Schedule does not remove the right of the penalised person, Ice Hockey NZ, a Ice Hockey NZ Member Organization, or the Tribunal Committee to request a Tribunal.

Included in the Regulations is a table that indicates the minimum number of suspended games that will apply to each of these penalties. The minimum number of suspended games a penalty may incur is based on a graded system which is also outlined in Schedule H.

It is expected that all Ice Hockey NZ Member Organisation teams understand that the current IIHF Rule Book, Case Book, Rule Emphasis Bulletins and Rule Interpretation Bulletins are the adopted rules under which all Ice Hockey NZ sanctioned games are played.

During a game, an official must use judgment in determining many infractions. However, there are numerous areas of the rule book which call for certain actions or rules to be followed that are not necessarily determined to be judgment calls or critical to the playing of the game, but none the less are important to ensure a game is played in a “fair” and “safe” manner. By teams observing strict adherence to these “fringe” rules, the official and Ice Hockey NZ Member Organization’s teams can focus on the “playing of the game” rather than the fringe issues that make up the Rule Book.

Note 1: With reference to the NZIHL and NZWIHL, if a player is suspended near the end of a given season or in the final game of the season, all suspensions incurred will carry over to the following season and the player shall be ineligible to play in that competition until the suspension has been realized.

Note 2: With reference to Ice Hockey NZ National Championships or an Ice Hockey NZ -run Championship Leagues, the same provisions shall apply as for note 1 whereby the player shall remain suspended from participation in another National Championship / League until the suspension has been realized.

Note 3: In the case that a penalty is incurred in an age-group championship and the player is ineligible to participate in the same age-group category tournament the following year, it is

permissible that the suspension is realized in the new age-group category, or at the next appropriate national championship event as determined by the Disciplinary Chairperson.

Note 4: If a player has received a suspension in any Ice Hockey NZ sanctioned league, they are not permitted to participate in any other Ice Hockey NZ sanctioned league until the original suspension has been fully served in the league where the infraction occurred. Exceptions can be made for players involved in multiple leagues; they may serve the suspension in another league to continue playing, but they must still complete the suspension in the original league the suspension occurred. This rule is intended to discourage misconduct across all Ice Hockey NZ leagues.

The automatic suspension(s) awarded in Ice Hockey NZ sanctioned games as per Ice Hockey NZ's Competition Suspension Regulations are to be applied by all Ice Hockey NZ Regional Member Organizations.

All Major plus Automatic Game Misconduct penalties shall be reported to Ice Hockey NZ office and the Ice Hockey NZ Referee-in-Chief immediately following the game by email.

7. Refusing a Suspension

- 7.1. The cited member, upon receiving notification of a suspension from a game or incident, may choose to refuse the reported charge and subsequent automatic suspension. If the charged person can provide new evidence not already considered and chooses not to accept the reported charge and subsequent automatic suspension, they must submit notification in writing within three days of the Notification of Suspension being received.
- 7.2. A fee of \$250 shall apply to appeal an automatic suspension, payable to the Ice Hockey NZ. The fee must be paid prior to the Tribunal taking place.
- 7.3. The case shall then go to a Tribunal (process is outlined in Section 15).
- 7.4. If the cited member's suspension is upheld, a further two (2) game suspension may be added to the existing suspension at the discretion of the Tribunal Chairperson.
- 7.5. If the cited member's suspension is reduced or eliminated as per the ruling by the Tribunal, the player shall be permitted to play immediately provided other suspension requirements have been fulfilled.

8. The Purpose and Powers of the Competition Tribunal – Disciplinary Tribunal

- 8.1. The purpose of the Competition Tribunal is to determine all reports and charges arising out of the conduct of Ice Hockey in Ice Hockey NZ, both on and off the ice. This includes charges against:
 - 8.1.1. players, team officials and game officials as reported by the game referee(s);
 - 8.1.2. any person reported under IIHF Rule 28, which covers Supplementary Discipline.
- 8.2. In all matters, the object of the Tribunal shall be to ensure the maintenance of an orderly disciplined sport, consistent with fair play and the current rules of ice hockey.
- 8.3. Suspended members cited for, or in the course of a Tribunal, where criminal legal action has been initiated, shall remain suspended until the criminal legal proceedings have been

concluded.

9. Composition of the Competition Tribunal

- 9.1. Ice Hockey NZ and its Member Organisations shall form and appoint a Tribunal Panel consisting of such person or persons as they shall, from time to time, deem fit.
- 9.2. The Tribunal Panel shall consist of a Tribunal Chairperson, plus two (2) other members as appointed by Ice Hockey NZ or a Member Organization's Management Committee.
- 9.3. **Chairperson:** The Chairperson of the Panel shall be appointed by the appropriate authorities. The role of the Chairperson is to:
 - 9.3.1. Normally chair disciplinary proceedings held in their local area or as required by Ice Hockey NZ or Member Organization, except that the Chairperson shall not sit on any Disciplinary panels involving members of his/her own Team or where he/she has a close personal interest unless the charged party agrees.
 - 9.3.2. Rule on points of order or matters of procedure and his or her ruling shall be final.
 - 9.3.3. Ensure a copy of all documentation is forwarded to Ice Hockey NZ Disciplinary Chairperson, the charged person/s, their club, and the Regional Disciplinary Chairperson.
- 9.4. **Members:**
 - 9.4.1. A minimum of two additional approved members are required for each panel. No member (including the Chairperson) shall be from the same team.
 - 9.4.2. Members of the Disciplinary Panel shall not participate in any hearing where they have a close personal interest in the outcome - i.e. Family member, relative, employee etc.
 - 9.4.3. Player representative, as appointed by the Senior Players Portfolio Holder, may be present at the Tribunal Panel in the capacity of Observer to observe and provide input. They will not have a vote. Their purpose is to provide feedback and report back to their respective teams.
- 9.5. **Disciplinary Panel Secretary:**
 - 9.5.1. A Disciplinary Panel Secretary may be present to record the panel, attendees, evidence and the outcome. Alternatively, the Chairperson or one of the Members may be called upon to act as Secretary. In the event that the Secretary is not one of the Members, then they shall not have a vote in determining the outcome of any particular report/charge. All documentation shall be forwarded to Ice Hockey NZ Disciplinary Chairperson and a copy of the decision forward to the charged person/s and their club or team.
- 9.6. No Tribunal Member may represent a defendant, team official or team in any proceedings before a Tribunal whilst a Tribunal Member, or within 12 months from the end of their term of appointment as a Tribunal Member. This does not apply to a Tribunal Observer.
- 9.7. In special cases where the Tribunal Chairperson sees fit, other experts may be called to sit on a Tribunal.
- 9.8. The party reported or charged shall have the right to object to a particular member of a Tribunal hearing the matter, providing an objection is received on the basis of actual bias. The Tribunal Chairperson shall have the authority to dismiss a member citing bias.
- 9.9. In the event that a Tribunal Member has been dismissed because of bias, a replacement Tribunal Member is to be appointed. The matter is to be referred to the Management

Committee to convene a new Tribunal of three persons. The Defendant shall remain under suspension during the course of these proceedings, unless deemed otherwise by the Management Committee.

10. Citing Before a Tribunal

- 10.1. Any Ice Hockey NZ member participating in an Ice Hockey NZ sanctioned competition may be required to appear before a Tribunal if:
 - 10.1.1. they incur a reported penalty by the Game Referee as per the rules under which the competition is being played and Ice Hockey NZ Competition Suspension Regulations, where such penalty includes appearing before a Tribunal; or
 - 10.1.2. they are reported on a “Supplementary Discipline” charge under IIHF Rule 28, especially if reported by a Referee Supervisor; or
 - 10.1.3. the person is reported by an Official of Ice Hockey NZ or a Member of Ice Hockey NZ as having:
 - 10.1.3.1. Breached, failed, refused or neglected to comply with a provision of the Rules, these Regulations or any other resolution or determination of the Assembly, Board or duly authorized Management Committee; or
 - 10.1.3.2. Acted in a manner unbecoming of a Member which is prejudicial to the objects and interests of Ice Hockey NZ, the competition and/or the sport of ice hockey; or
 - 10.1.3.3. Their actions have brought Ice Hockey NZ, the competition or the sport of Ice Hockey into disrepute whilst attending, or participating in, a competition, league, tournament and/or championship game operated, managed or under the sanction of Ice Hockey NZ.
- 10.2. In addition to the matters in Section 10.1, the Ice Hockey NZ Management Committee, or Ice Hockey NZ Executive Committee in its sole discretion, may refer to a Tribunal any other matter that they consider requires investigation or determination.
- 10.3. The Tribunal is empowered to discipline by method of reprimand, suspension, disqualification or expulsion. The Tribunal is not to deal with matters that are the subject of a criminal legal action and shall cease until the criminal legal action is resolved.
- 10.4. Any player or person receiving a Tribunal related penalty as reported by the Game Referee in an Ice Hockey NZ sanctioned competition is not entitled to play or participate in any other Ice Hockey NZ sanctioned game until the suspension has been served, or if in the case of a Tribunal, a final decision has been determined. Special consideration may be given to a suspended player who:
 - 10.4.1. Has been selected to and wishes to participate with a Ice Hockey NZ national team in a World Championship; or
 - 10.4.2. Is entering into a playing contract with an overseas team.

Each will be considered on its own merit by Ice Hockey NZ Executive Committee and the player’s relevant Regional Member Organization.

- 10.5. Any Individual Member who wishes to report an alleged infringement of the rules of the game shall lodge all particulars in writing, within 48 hours of the alleged offence taking place, to:
 - 10.5.1. Their relevant Member Organization for club, region, league or Organization matters; or
 - 10.5.2. Ice Hockey NZ General Manager for Ice Hockey NZ sanctioned national competitions, tournaments and championships.

Out-of-Competition matters are to be referred to the Tribunal process as outlined in Ice Hockey NZ Out-of-Competition Disciplinary and Tribunal Regulations.

- 10.6. Any Individual Member wishing to make a charge against any club, official or player under Ice Hockey NZ's Member Protection Policy shall lodge all particulars in writing with the relevant Ice Hockey NZ Regional Member Organization or the Ice Hockey NZ President.
- 10.7. Trivial or frivolous charges will not be considered by the Tribunal. Any member making such a charge may be subject to the provisions governing bringing the game into disrepute.
- 10.8. Game Referees making reports against clubs, teams, officials or players arising out of a game at which they have officiated must:
 - 10.8.1. Ensure the incident and subsequent penalty is recorded on the Official Game Sheet. This should be done immediately at the end of the game in which the offence occurred and prior to handing the Official Game Sheet to the Game Scorer.
 - 10.8.2. Once the game sheet has been signed by the Game Referee, the Game Scorer is responsible to advise managers of the participating teams which player(s) or team official(s) have been cited and for what offence(s).
 - 10.8.3. Immediately following the game, the Game Referee must complete the Game Referee's Incident Report (Schedule B) and forward the completed report to the relevant person(s) as appointed by the Management Committee of Ice Hockey NZ or the relevant Member Organization with which the competition is registered. This must be done within 24 hours of the conclusion of the game.
- 10.9. Once a report has been posted by the Game Referee, it cannot be withdrawn. The game report will be reviewed by the Panel for Player Safety and if necessary, any Tribunal matter pertaining to that report, must be heard by a Tribunal.
- 10.10. It is the responsibility of the charged or reported person or appropriate officials of the player's team management, to collect all supporting documentation (i.e. details of the charge or report) prior to leaving the venue. If this is not possible, the documents will be available to Ice Hockey NZ Disciplinary Coordinator, the Regional Disciplinary Coordinator, the Member Organization's Management Committee, or Ice Hockey NZ National Championship Supervisor for national championship games.

11. Matters Referred to the Management Committee

- 11.1. Where a charge or report is to be submitted to the Management Committee, the charge or report is to be forwarded to the Ice Hockey NZ Office (for national matters) or the President/Chairman of the respective Regional Member Organization who will then advise their respective Management Committee. The Management Committee may either:
 - 11.1.1. refer the complaint to a Tribunal; or
 - 11.1.2. refuse to refer the complaint to a Tribunal on the basis that there is insufficient evidence to constitute a prima facie case.

12. Pre-Tribunal Notification Investigation & Hearing Procedures

- 12.1. Any appointed person of Ice Hockey NZ or of a Regional Member Organization may investigate alleged misconduct to determine whether there is sufficient evidence to forward the matter to a Tribunal. Until such time as the matter is before the Tribunal, the

reported person(s) is free to continue their participation in their usual role(s) as normal.

12.2. For Tribunal type penalties or incidents, the game sheet and referee's report are to be immediately reported to the appointed person responsible for the management and coordination of Hearings and Tribunals.

12.3. If a penalty decision constitutes a Tribunal, automatic or otherwise:

12.3.1. Every attempt will be made to immediately notify the offending person personally or by telephone, email or standard post.

12.3.2. Notwithstanding this, the cited person is to be advised in writing of the charges against them and the details of the Tribunal using the appropriate forms and a covering letter as is exemplified in the schedules of this document.

12.3.3. The reported person shall not participate in any further Ice Hockey NZ sanctioned games until a final decision of the Tribunal has been determined.

13. Attendance at the Tribunal

13.1. Ice Hockey NZ individual members are required to attend a Tribunal if so cited. The cited member may choose not to attend the Tribunal. However, this action may be taken as an uncontested admission to the charges. Cited members are required to advise the Tribunal Chairperson prior to commencement of the Tribunal if they do not intend to be present.

13.2. If the cited person chooses not to attend the Tribunal, the Tribunal will still proceed, taking into account the evidence before it. In choosing not to attend a tribunal, the cited member waives their right to have an advocate present their case or have witnesses speak on their behalf.

14. Representation at Tribunals

14.1. Whilst it is the right of the reported person to have legal representation, Ice Hockey NZ discourages this practice. Should the reported person reserve the right to be legally represented, they must officially inform the Tribunal Chairman 24 hours prior to the commencement of the Tribunal, as the Tribunal may also wish to have legal representation. All parties must bear all ensuing costs associated with their legal representation regardless of the outcome.

14.2. The person or persons reported or charged may use the services of an Advocate to represent them. Those under 18 years of age must have a parent or guardian present.

15. Conduct of the Tribunal

15.1. Hearings by the Tribunal shall be of an informal nature. It is accepted that if proceedings do not follow the sequence set out in this Regulation, then the Tribunal cannot be seen to be improperly conducted, provided that all parties have been afforded the opportunity to state their case and bring forward appropriate evidence according to this regulation.

15.2. If a "Not Guilty" plea is submitted, then the tribunal is to proceed, and the Tribunal Chairperson shall conduct the proceedings according to his/her discretion in accordance these Regulations. However, the rights and interests of the parties are to be safeguarded at all times, and on the basis of full equality, in order that natural justice should occur.

16. Investigation & Tribunal Process

- 16.1. The Tribunal Panel may choose to first conduct an Investigation, or go direct to a Tribunal Hearing in any manner as they see fit, including but not limited to by way of teleconference or video conference and may, if it considers it appropriate, allow an amendment to the charges or adjourn the Hearing provided that:
 - 16.1.1. All parties affected are given a reasonable opportunity to be heard;
 - 16.1.2. The Investigation or Hearing is conducted with as little formality and technicality and with as much expedition as proper consideration of the matters before it permits;
 - 16.1.3. The Investigation or Tribunal is not bound by the rules of evidence or by the practices or procedures applicable to courts of record but may inform itself as to any matter and in such manner it deems appropriate; and
 - 16.1.4. The Investigation or Tribunal at its sole discretion may determine a matter before it in the absence of any parties.
- 16.2. Subject to this Regulation, the Tribunal may make guidelines with respect to practice and procedure of a hearing provided that such guidelines are not inconsistent with these Regulations. Any such guidelines are not binding on the Tribunal and any decision by the tribunal will not be invalid by reason of a guideline not being followed.
- 16.3. Video evidence shall be permissible where the Tribunal Panel deem relevant.
- 16.4. Notwithstanding the above, the Tribunal may follow the following sequence of procedures:
 - 16.4.1. The Tribunal must satisfy itself that the person or persons reported have had due notice and that they understand the report or charge against them by the Tribunal Chairman reading out each charge;
 - 16.4.2. The Tribunal Chairman must also ensure that each Tribunal Member has copies of all relevant correspondence and documents;
 - 16.4.3. The Defendant, if present, shall then be asked if they plead “GUILTY” or “NOT GUILTY”. The Defendant may reserve their plea, in which case the Tribunal Chairperson will note that an informal plea of “NOT GUILTY” has been entered;
 - 16.4.4. If the Defendant enters a plea of “GUILTY” to the charges against them, then the Tribunal may proceed with sentencing;
 - 16.4.5. If the Defendant enters a plea of “NOT GUILTY” then the Tribunal will proceed as detailed below. The Defendant shall remain present for the complete duration of the Tribunal Hearing and shall only be required to leave when the Tribunal Panel deliberates the evidence;
 - 16.4.6. Tribunal Members have the right to examine and cross-examine any persons participating at or appearing before a Tribunal Hearing as they deem fit;
 - 16.4.7. The Game Referee or person making the report or charge may be asked to present their evidence to the Tribunal if it deems necessary, and may call witnesses if they deem necessary;
 - 16.4.8. The evidence of the game referee or person laying the report or charge is then examined by the Tribunal and may be cross-examined by the reported person or their Advocate. The Game Referee need not be present and cross-examination may take place by telephone as deemed appropriate.
 - 16.4.9. After any cross-examination has taken place, the person having given evidence may be re-examined to explain matters arising from the cross-examination;
 - 16.4.10. The Defendant may then give evidence in their defence, and may call any witness or Advocate supporting their evidence.
 - 16.4.11. The Defendants evidence is then examined by the Tribunal, and may be cross-examined by the person making the report. This cross-examination may take

- place by telephone as deemed appropriate.
- 16.4.12. After any cross-examination of the Defendant, no further examination should take place, except with the expressed consent of the Tribunal Panel; and
- 16.4.13. After all evidence is presented, Defendant or their Advocate has the right to sum up their case, including making the Tribunal aware of any mitigating circumstances which the Tribunal Panel is to take into consideration before reaching the decision.
- 16.4.14. At the completion of the evidence:
- (a) The parties shall, if requested by the Tribunal, leave the hearing room or otherwise absent themselves from hearing the deliberations of the Tribunal. The Tribunal will consider all the evidence and submissions made during the hearing and make a determination on the balance of probabilities with respect to whether or not the matter, charge or charges have been proven;
 - (b) The Defendant should be advised that they can wait while the matter is decided or take their leave, having been assured that if they take their leave they will be advised orally within one hour of the decision if this is possible, or by telephone and/or email and formally in writing within three (3) working days;
 - (c) Where the Tribunal is constituted by three (3) persons then it will be sufficient for a majority of those persons to agree on the decision;
 - (d) Having considered all the material before it, including oral evidence and representations of the parties, the Tribunal will make a determination of guilty or not guilty on each of the charges against the reported person. The Tribunal will then consider what penalty is appropriate, in the event that a finding of guilty has been reached;

17. Decision of the Tribunal

- 17.1. The Tribunal, having considered all the evidence and submissions made during the hearing, may make the following findings:
- 17.1.1. the charge/s are not proven - dismissed, or
 - 17.1.2. the charge/s are proven, but in the circumstances, are not to be recorded in the Disciplinary records, or
 - 17.1.3. the charge/s are proven, but in the circumstances no penalty imposed and a reprimand may be given, or
 - 17.1.4. the charge/s are proven, and a suspension imposed for a period of time as deemed appropriate by the Disciplinary Panel, or
 - 17.1.5. the charge/s are proven, and a penalty is imposed pursuant to the automatic suspension schedule (Schedule H), or
 - 17.1.6. some other measure may be deemed appropriate by the Disciplinary Panel.
 - 17.1.7. In addition to other suspension, a recommendation to Ice Hockey NZ Executive that the guilty person be expelled from membership of Ice Hockey NZ.
- 17.2. Having reached their determination of guilty, the Tribunal may also have regard to any matters which it considers relevant to the question of penalty and, without limitation, take into consideration:
- 17.2.1. the seriousness of the conduct with which the party is charged or found guilty of by the Tribunal. This will be assessed as the following:

Category 1: Careless. Insufficient attention of thought to avoid harm or error. Liable

to happen as a consequence of, by intending to affect an opponent through a reactionary or accidental motion of the incident is deemed careless causing negligence.

Category 2: Reckless. A deliberate and or dangerous action with no concern for the result, with a conscious action to provoke, though intent and a willful purpose. Injury is not the determining factor but can be considered as influential means to the decision.

Category 3: Intentional. A willful purpose to injure. Incident is deemed serious in nature and is considered a willful negligence act of intent to affect the game by making illegal and /or unsuspecting contact.

The category definition will determine the amount of games that may be added to the recommended suspension.

17.2.2. any loss or damage sustained by any person howsoever arising from the conduct;

17.2.3. evidence of prior proven Misconduct by the party charged; and

17.2.4. insofar as they are relevant, the objectives of Ice Hockey NZ's and/or its Member Association's or Member Organization's Constitutions.

17.3. Where a Defendant is found guilty by the Tribunal of an offence listed in "Automatic Suspension Schedule" (Schedule E), the Tribunal shall impose the corresponding penalty listed. The Tribunal may award an additional penalty as deemed necessary. In the case of other offences, The Tribunal may impose such penalty as the Tribunal considers reasonable in the circumstances.

17.4. Subject to Clause 15.3 the Tribunal may impose, in its own absolute discretion, any one or more of the following penalties or outcomes on such terms as it sees fit:

17.4.1. Expulsion;

17.4.2. Disqualification;

17.4.3. Suspension;

17.4.4. A monetary fine;

17.4.5. A reprimand or caution;

17.4.6. Deduction of points;

17.4.7. Suspended Suspension

17.4.8. Compulsory attendance at a course or courses of education or rehabilitation, including without limitation, an anger management course; or

17.4.9. Any such other sanction or penalty as the Tribunal sees fit except any form of suspended penalty or a bond.

17.5. Any form of discipline determined is effective immediately on conclusion of the Tribunal. If an appeal is lodged, the Tribunal's judgment will stand, pending the outcome of an Appeal if one is submitted.

17.6. On the conclusion of the Tribunal, the person cited before the Tribunal is to receive written confirmation of the Tribunal's decision by telephone and/or email and in writing within three (3) working days after the Tribunal.

17.7. The Tribunal is not obliged to give reasons for any decision made by it.

18. Suspended or Probationary Suspension

- 18.1. Where it is considered by the Tribunal that a “Suspended” or “Probationary” Suspension should be included in a punishment to act as a deterrent to further offences, then the Suspended or Probationary Suspension must be given in conjunction with the **minimum** automatic suspension for the relevant offence. For example: - If the penalty schedule provides for a minimum automatic suspension of one (1) week or game up to a maximum of ten (10) weeks or games, then the tribunal may award a one week or game suspension plus up to a further nine (9) week or game suspended or probationary sentence. The minimum automatic suspension must be served in the first instance.

19. Appeals

- 19.1. Subject to these Regulations, a party subject to a determination of a Tribunal may appeal a determination to an Appeals Tribunal (“Appeals Board”), in accordance with Ice Hockey NZ or an Ice Hockey NZ Regional Member Organization’s Disciplinary Tribunal and Suspension Regulations in force at the relevant time.
- 19.2. Subject to these Regulations, a party subject to a determination of Schedule D: Automatic Suspension Regulations may appeal a determination to the Appeals Board in accordance with Ice Hockey NZ or Ice Hockey NZ Regional Member Organization’s Disciplinary Tribunal and Suspension Regulations in force at the relevant time.
- 19.3. Appeals to reopen the matter are allowed where a party can demonstrate there has been a lack of natural justice, or new evidence has come to light **“AFTER”** the original Tribunal. In these circumstances, the matter should be referred back to the relevant Regional Member Organization or Ice Hockey NZ (for national matters) in which the Tribunal was first heard. New evidence can also include taking evidence from someone outside of Ice Hockey NZ. Video evidence shall be permissible where deemed appropriate by the Appeals Board.
- 19.4. An Appeal **“cannot”** be made against:
- 19.4.1. the severity of a punishment awarded by the Tribunal, unless new and mitigating evidence can be presented; or
 - 19.4.2. a decision by a Committee of Management not to proceed with a complaint on the grounds that there is insufficient evidence to constitute a prima facie case for a Tribunal Hearing.
- 19.5. A Notice of Appeal must be lodged with the Tribunal Chairperson by email in a formal written request within three (3) working days of notification of the decision of the Tribunal. The Notice of Appeal must also be accompanied by an “Appeals Fee”.
- 19.6. The Appeals Fee is set at NZD \$500.00 and applies for all unsuccessful appeals to the Appeals Board. The Appeals Fee is lost where the appeal is dismissed. Payment of the Appeals Fee must be received within the same three (3) working days of notification of the decision of the Tribunal
- 19.7. Where the appeal is in relation to a suspension, such suspension shall remain in place pending the determination of the appeal.
- 19.8. Appeals are to be heard by an Appeals Board as established by the Management Committee of Ice Hockey NZ. The Management Committee Members may not be representatives of either the defendants Regional Member Organisation or another Regional Member Organisation involved in the incident.
- 19.9. The Appeals Board has the power to hear appeals under these Regulations or Policies. The Appeals Board shall convene and conduct its proceedings in accordance with Ice Hockey NZ Disciplinary Tribunal and Suspension Regulations in force at the relevant

time.

- 19.10. The Appeals Board will consist of any two members of the Management Committee plus the Disciplinary Tribunal Chairperson.
- 19.11. The Appeals Hearing is to be held as soon as practical, but no later than seven days of receipt of a formal written appeal. The Appeal Hearing is to be conducted using the same procedures as those used for the original Tribunal Hearing.
- 19.12. An Appellant shall attend and appear before the Appeals Board at the date, time and place fixed for hearing of the appeal. Where an Appellant fails to attend before the Appeals Board, the Appeals Board may hear and determine the appeal in the Appellant's absence.
- 19.13. Whilst it is the right of the reported person or persons to have legal representation, Ice Hockey NZ discourages this practice. Should the reported person reserve the right to be legally represented, they must bear all ensuing costs associated with their legal representation regardless of the outcome.
- 19.14. The Appeals Board may elect to uphold the original decision, vary it, or uphold the appeal. The appellant is to be immediately advised by telephone and/or email and formally in writing of the outcome of the appeal within three (3) working days of notification of the Appeals Board's decision.
- 19.15. Should an appellant not be satisfied with the Appeals Board's decision, the appellant may submit an appeal to the Court of Arbitration for Sport.
- 19.16. At all times, members have the right to submit an appeal to the Court of Arbitration for Sport. Such appeals should only be lodged when all avenues of recourse available under these Regulations have been exhausted.

20. Overruling of Automatic Suspensions

- 20.1. If a player is assessed an automatic game misconduct as a result of an on-ice infraction (as assessed by the match officials), the automatic suspension can be upgraded with a valid medical certificate within 48 hours. This is to be assessed by the Disciplinary Coordinator in conjunction with the League Director and must be in time before a hearing takes place.
- 20.2. If a player is assessed an automatic game misconduct that at the time of the game appears to have resulted in an injury to the victim player (as assessed by the match officials), but then the victim player appears to not have sustained an injury, the automatic suspension can be overturned and/or reduced at the discretion of the Disciplinary Coordinator. The referee report must note that the player returned to the game.

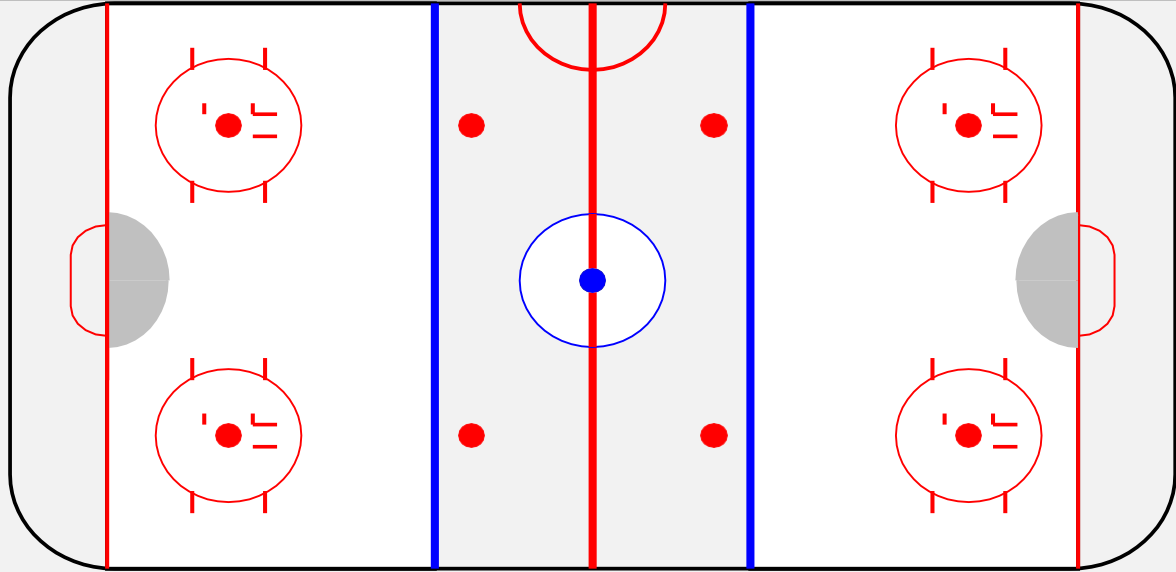
21. Multiple Appearances Before Disciplinary Board

- 21.1. Any players that may appear before the disciplinary board in any season, may be subject to the following:
 - 1st Appearance: Normal suspension
 - 2nd Appearance: Possible doubled suspension
 - 3rd Appearance: Possible tripled suspension, or Total suspension for rest of season.

Schedule A - Game Official Incident Report

Event / League		Game #	
Home Team		Visiting Team	
Date		Final Score	
Referee 1		Referee 2	
Linesperson 1		Linesperson 2	
Reason for Referee Game Report			
Period		Time of Incident	
Please provide a detailed description of the events leading up to the incident, the incident as it happened, and anything else that may be relevant. Use the rink diagram on the second page of this report to assist in the explanation of the incident. Print clearly			
Please provide a summary of any penalties assessed to each team in this incident including the jersey number of the penalized player, the penalty assessed, the number of minutes assessed and the IIHF Rule number.			
Home Team			
Rule #	Penalty	Minutes	Player Number
Away Team			
Rule #	Penalty	Minutes	Player Number

Please use the rink diagram to assist in explaining the incident



Official Completing this report

Signed

Supervising Official or Referee in Chief additional comments

Referee in Chief

Signed

A copy of this report must be sent to the respective league General Manager and the Ice Hockey NZ office immediately upon completion

Schedule B - Notification of Suspension

This is an official notice of suspension for the offences outlined below.

Name		Date	
Team		League	

Incident Details			
Game #		Date	
Home Team		Away Team	
IIHF Rule Number	Penalty	Minutes	Time of Incident

Resulting Suspension		
As per the Ice Hockey NZ Automatic Suspension Schedule, you are hereby notified of the following suspensions. Until such a time as the number of games applied are served, you are not allowed to participate in any Ice Hockey NZ sanctioned games.		
IIHF Rule Number	Automatic Suspension	Games Suspended

Signed			
Name		Position	

Schedule C - Notification of Tribunal

[date]

[name]

[team]

Dear

You are hereby advised that the Ice Hockey New Zealand Disciplinary Committee have convened a Tribunal to investigate the incident/s outlined below which it is alleged you were involved in.

Incident Details

Date		Time	
Location		League	
Game #			

Specifically, the Tribunal will be hearing the following charge/s against you:

IIHF Rule Number	Penalty

The Tribunal will be hearing the matters against you as follows:

Date		Time		Location	
Tribunal Chairperson				Signed	
Contact					

For your information, you are advised of the following:

- a. You are required to appear at this Tribunal. Failure to appear will result in your continued suspension and the matter will be determined in your absence. If you do not appear at the Tribunal, you will forego the right to be represented by any adviser or to have any witnesses

there on your behalf

- b. If, because of some serious and urgent reason, you are unable to attend the Tribunal as scheduled, you must contact the Tribunal Chairperson with your request for deferment. The Chairperson's decision on whether or not to agree to defer your Tribunal hearing will be final. If a deferment is granted, you continue to remain suspended from playing in any game organized by, or under the control of the Ice Hockey NZ until the conclusion of your Tribunal
- c. In appearing before the Tribunal you may be represented by an Advocate (adviser, club official or parent if you are under 18 years of age);
- d. At the Tribunal you are entitled to bring two (2) witnesses to substantiate your version of the incident. Team representatives will also be present
- e. At the Tribunal you will be fully apprised of the complaint against you, and you will be given the opportunity to give your version of the incident. You will also be required to answer any direct questions the Tribunal may ask you in relation to the incident
- f. The Tribunal will consist of three persons, the Tribunal Chairperson and two other members who may or not be members of Ice Hockey NZ. The Tribunal will be conducted in accordance with the Ice Hockey NZ Competition Tribunal & Automatic Suspension Regulations, a copy of which can be found on the Ice Hockey NZ website
- g. The decision of the Tribunal will be advised as soon as possible after the hearing. Your Member Regional Organization and/or Club and/or League will also be advised of the decision of the Tribunal
- h. Pending the decision of the Tribunal, you may continue training with your team, subject to your team's direction.

Schedule D - Automatic Suspension Process

Automatic Game Misconduct Penalties

A formal Letter of Notification will be sent to the offending player advising them of the automatic suspension.

Where a player is assessed an Automatic Game Misconduct by the game Referee for one of the offences listed in the Schedule E: Automatic Suspensions Schedule, the incident will be reviewed by the Panel for Player Safety. The Panel shall review all available evidence to confirm the on ice decision. If the Panel decided a suspension is warranted, the corresponding automatic number of game(s) suspended will apply.

The Panel for Player Safety has the right to change or pose additional penalties. No compensation will be awarded to any team where a call is downgraded.

All Automatic Game Misconduct penalties, or incidents requiring the aforementioned disciplinary actions, are to be entered on the Referee Game Report Form (Schedule A) by the Game Referee and, shall be reported to the Panel for Player Safety immediately following the game. Dependent on the severity of the incidents, further disciplinary action may be imposed by the appropriate Ice Hockey NZ or Ice Hockey NZ Regional Member Organisation's Proper Authorities.

At the same time, the application of an automatic suspension does not remove the right of the player to refuse an automatic suspension and request a Tribunal, if they disagree with the decision. However, the appeal must demonstrate new evidence under clause 8.1. Where "Tribunal" is listed against an offence, then the matter must go before a Tribunal for decision.

In addition to the automatic suspension imposed under these rules, the proper Ice Hockey NZ or Ice Hockey NZ Regional Member Organisation's Authorities may, at any time after the conclusion of the game, investigate any incident and may assess additional suspensions for any offence committed on or off the ice at any time before during and after the game, whether or not such offences have been penalised by the game referee. If an investigation is requested by a club, a league, or by an Ice Hockey NZ Regional Member Organization of its own initiative, it must be initiated within forty-eight (48) hours following the completion of the game in which the incident occurred.

With the exception of decisions made in response to "Indefinite Suspensions", all discipline decisions made by Ice Hockey NZ Panel for Player Safety or Disciplinary Committee shall be the final Ice Hockey NZ decision. Decisions that are made in response to an "Indefinite Suspension" may be appealed to Ice Hockey NZ President or Ice Hockey NZ Member Organization's President. It is to be understood that the time required for the President to respond may be delayed because of availability or the gathering of facts.

Schedule E - Automatic Suspension Schedule

Certain suspensions are graded to reflect the number of games in a team's given season.

Competition*	Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3
<8 Game Season	2 Games	1 Game	1 Game
9-13 Game Season	3 Games	2 Game	1 Game
14+ Game Season	4 Games	3 Games	2 Games

* Competition refers to the total number of scheduled games a team plays in a season. This excludes qualification playoff games but includes playoff games where all teams automatically qualify. For the purpose of this Schedule, NZIHL Div 2 will be judged as a NZIHL Div 1 Competition regardless of the number of games considered Div 2.

Rule numbers refer to the IIHF Official Rule Book 2024-2025 which can be found [here](#).

Any discrepancy between the wording in this table and the IIHF Official Rule Book, the IIHF Official Rule Book wording will take precedence.

Refer to Schedule F for guidelines on rule enforcement and evaluation.

Rule	Suspension
RULE 20 MAJOR PENALTIES	
20.4. AUTOMATIC GAME MISCONDUCT An "Automatic Game Misconduct" shall be applied to any Player who has been assessed a second Major Penalty, or a second Misconduct Penalty in the same game. An "Automatic Game Misconduct" shall also be applicable whenever a Player is assessed a Major Penalty for any of the infractions listed in the Reference Tables. When a Major and "Automatic Game Misconduct" are assessed, the Player shall be ruled off the ice for the balance of the game, but a substitute shall be permitted to replace the suspended Player after five (5) minutes have elapsed.	1 Game
RULE 21 DANGEROUS ACTIONS	
21.1. MAJOR PENALTY AND GAME MISCONDUCT PENALTY A Major Penalty with an automatic Game Misconduct Penalty shall be imposed on any Player who commits an action that is not covered by the playing rules and, in the judgement of the Referee, endanger any person involved in the game.	Grade 3
21.2 DISCIPLINARY MEASURES If deemed appropriate, Supplementary Discipline can be applied by the Proper Authorities at their discretion.	Tribunal
RULE 28 SUPPLEMENTARY DISCIPLINE	
28.1. SUPPLEMENTARY DISCIPLINE The Proper Authorities may, at their discretion, investigate any incident that occurs in connection with any game played under the jurisdiction of the IIHF, including any championship, pre-championship, practice or exhibition games and league games. The Proper Authorities may assess additional Disciplinary Measures for any offense committed during the course of a game or	Tribunal

Rule	Suspension
any aftermath thereof by a Player, Coach, or team personnel or Team executive, whether or not such offense has been penalized by the Referee(s).	
RULE 39 ABUSE OF OFFICIALS	
39.5. GAME MISCONDUCT PENALTY	
(I) Any Player who, after being assessed a Misconduct Penalty, persists in challenging or disputing the ruling of an Official.	2 Games
(II) –When a Coach or non-playing Team Personnel uses obscene, profane or abusive language or gesture directed at any On or Off-ice Official or uses the name of any Official coupled with any vociferous remarks, after already being assessed a Bench Minor Penalty (Rule 39.3 (ii)), this Coach or non-playing Team Personnel is to be assessed a Game Misconduct Penalty and the situation reported to the Proper Authorities for further action. When this type of conduct occurs by any player, coach or non-playing team personnel after the expiration of the game, on or off the ice, the Game Misconduct shall be applied without the necessity of having been assessed a Penalty for “ Unsportsmanlike Conduct” previously in the game.	2 Games
(III) Any Player who deliberately applies physical force in any manner against an Official, in any manner, where such actions were likely to cause injury to the latter to an Official, physically demeans, or deliberately applies physical force to an Official solely for the purpose of getting free of such an Official during or immediately following an altercation shall receive a Game Misconduct Penalty and the guidelines set out in → Rule 40 – Physical Abuse of Officials are to be applied.	2 Games
(IV) Any Player who, having entered the Penalty Box, leaves the Penalty Box prior to the expiration of their penalty for the purpose of challenging an Official’s ruling, shall be assessed. This rule does not replace any other more severe penalty that may be imposed for leaving the Penalty Box for the purpose of starting or participating in an altercation. →Rule 70 – Leaving the Players Bench or Penalty Box.	2 Games
(VI) Any Player, Coach or team personnel who throws or shoots any equipment or other object in the general direction of an Official but does not come close to making any contact. This action may occur on or off the ice.	2 Games
(VIII) Any Player, Coach or team personnel spits, smears blood or directing obscene, profane, or abusive language, use of obscene gestures, racial slurs or taunts or sexual remarks at an Official, during or after a game, on or off the ice and any location while in the arena and its connected premises.	Tribunal
RULE 40 PHYSICAL ABUSE OF OFFICIALS	
40.1. GAME MISCONDUCT Any Player who deliberately applies physical force in any manner against an Official, where such actions were likely to cause injury to the latter, physically demeans, or deliberately applies physical force to an Official solely for the purpose of getting free of such an Official during or immediately following an altercation shall receive a Game Misconduct Penalty. »For more information refer to IIHF Disciplinary Code.	2 Games
40.2. SUPPLEMENTARY DISCIPLINE – SUSPENSION – CATEGORY I Any Player who deliberately strikes an Official and could cause an injury or who deliberately applies physical force in any manner against an Official with intent to injure, or who in any manner attempts to injure an Official. For the purpose of the rule, “could cause an injury” shall mean any physical force which a player knew or should have known could reasonably be expected to cause injury. »For more information refer to IIHF Disciplinary Code.	Tribunal
40.3. SUPPLEMENTARY DISCIPLINE – SUSPENSION – CATEGORY II Any Player who deliberately applies physical force to an Official in any manner (excluding actions as set out in Category I), which physical force is applied without intent to injure, or who spits on an Official. »For more information refer to IIHF Disciplinary Code.	4 Games

Rule	Suspension
<p>40.4. SUPPLEMENTARY DISCIPLINE – SUSPENSION – CATEGORY III Any Player who, by their actions, physically demeans an official or physically threatens an official by (but not limited to) throwing a stick or any other piece of equipment or object at or in the general direction of an Official, shooting the puck at or in the general direction of an official, spitting, smearing blood at or in the general direction of an Official, or who deliberately applies physical force to an Official solely for the purpose of getting free of such an official during or immediately following an altercation. »For more information refer to IIHF Disciplinary Code.</p>	2 Games
<p>40.7. COACH OR NON-PLAYING TEAM PERSONNEL Any Coach or team personnel who holds or strikes an Official or commits any other infraction set out under 40.1 shall be assessed with a game Misconduct penalty, ordered to the Dressing Room and the matter will be reported to the Proper Authorities for further disciplinary action. »For more information refer to IIHF Disciplinary Code.</p>	Tribunal
RULE 41 BOARDING	
<p>41.4. MAJOR PENALTY AND GAME MISCONDUCT PENALTY The Referee, at their discretion, may assess a Major and an automatic Game Misconduct Penalty if, in their judgment, the Player recklessly endangers their opponent by “boarding” and the player would not be sufficiently sanctioned by imposing a Major Penalty. Such assessment of reckless endangerment shall be based on the severity of the infraction, severity of the contact, the degree of violence and the general reprehensibility involved.</p>	GRADE 3
<p>41.5. DISCIPLINARY MEASURES If deemed appropriate, Supplementary Discipline can be applied by the Proper Authorities at their discretion.</p>	Tribunal
RULE 42 CHARGING	
<p>42.4. MAJOR PENALTY AND GAME MISCONDUCT PENALTY The Referee, at their discretion, may assess a Major Penalty and an automatic Game Misconduct Penalty if, in their judgment, the Player recklessly endangers their opponent by “charging” and the player would not be sufficiently sanctioned by imposing a Major Penalty. Such assessment of reckless endangerment shall be based on the severity of the infraction, severity of the contact, the degree of violence and the general reprehensibility involved.</p>	1 Game
<p>42.5. DISCIPLINARY MEASURES If deemed appropriate, Supplementary Discipline can be applied by the Proper Authorities at their discretion.</p>	Tribunal
RULE 43 CHECKING FROM BEHIND	
<p>43.3. MAJOR PENALTY AND GAME MISCONDUCT The Referee, at their discretion, shall assess a Major Penalty and an automatic Game Misconduct Penalty to a Player guilty of “checking from behind” an opponent, and who recklessly endangers the fouled Player.</p>	1 Game
<p>43.4. DISCIPLINARY MEASURES If deemed appropriate, Supplementary Discipline can be applied by the Proper Authorities at their discretion.</p>	Tribunal
RULE 44 CLIPPING	
<p>44.3. MAJOR AND GAME MISCONDUCT PENALTY The Referee, at their discretion, may assess a Major Penalty and an automatic Game Misconduct Penalty if, in their judgment, the Player recklessly endangers their opponent by “clipping” and the player would not be sufficiently sanctioned by imposing a Minor Penalty. Such assessment of reckless endangerment shall be based on the severity of the infraction, severity of the contact, the degree of violence and the general reprehensibility involved.</p>	1 Game
<p>44.4. DISCIPLINARY MEASURES If deemed appropriate, Supplementary Discipline can be applied by the Proper Authorities at their discretion.</p>	Tribunal

Rule	Suspension
RULE 45 ELBOWING	
45.4. MAJOR AND GAME MISCONDUCT PENALTY The Referee, at their discretion, may assess a Major Penalty and an automatic Game Misconduct Penalty if, in their judgment, the Player recklessly endangers their opponent by “elbowing” and the player would not be sufficiently sanctioned by imposing a Major Penalty. Such assessment of reckless endangerment shall be based on the severity of the infraction, severity of the contact, the degree of violence and the general reprehensibility involved.	1 Game
45.6. DISCIPLINARY MEASURES If deemed appropriate, Supplementary Discipline can be applied by the Proper Authorities at their discretion.	Tribunal
RULE 46 FIGHTING	
46.1. FIGHTING / FIGHTER – WILLINGNESS TO FIGHT AND CONTINUING TO FIGHT	
MAJOR PENALTY AND GAME MISCONDUCT Players who willingly participate in a “brawl / fight”, so-called “willing combatants”, shall be penalized accordingly by the Referee(s) and may be ejected from the game. Further Supplementary Discipline may be imposed. A “fight” shall be deemed to have occurred when at least one (1) Player punches or attempts to punch an opponent repeatedly or when two (2) Player’s wrestle in such a manner as to make it difficult for the Linespersons to intervene and separate the combatants. Any Player who persists in continuing or attempting to continue a “fight or altercation” after they have been ordered by the Referee to stop, or who resists a Linesperson in the discharge of their duties shall, at the discretion of the Referee, incur at least a Major Penalty (“Fighting”) plus an automatic Game Misconduct Penalty (5’+GMP) in addition to any additional penalties imposed.	GRADE 3
46.3. INSTIGATOR / INITIATOR	
An “Instigator / Initiator” of an “altercation” shall be a Player who by their actions or demeanor demonstrates any/some of the following criteria: distance traveled; gloves off first; first punch thrown; menacing attitude or posture; verbal instigation or threats; conduct in retaliation to a prior game incident; obvious retribution for a previous incident in the game. A Player who is deemed to be the “ Instigator / Initiator ” of an “altercation” shall be assessed a Minor Penalty (Instigator / Initiator) plus a Major Penalty (“Fighting”) and an automatic Game Misconduct Penalty (2’+5’+GMP).	GRADE 2
A Player who is deemed to be both the “ Instigator / Initiator ” and the “ Aggressor ” of an “altercation” shall be assessed a Minor Penalty (“Instigator / Initiator”) plus a Minor Penalty (“Aggressor”) plus a Major Penalty (“Fighting”) and an automatic Game Misconduct Penalty (2’+2’+5’+GMP).	GRADE 1
46.4. AGGRESSOR	
The “Aggressor” in an altercation shall be the Player who continues to throw punches in an attempt to inflict punishment on their opponent who is in a defenseless position or who is an “unwilling combatant”. A Player must be deemed the “Aggressor” when they have clearly won the “fight”, but they continue throwing and landing punches in a further attempt to inflict punishment and/or injury on their opponent who is no longer in a position to defend themselves. A Player who is deemed to be the “ Aggressor ” of an altercation shall be assessed a Minor Penalty (“Aggressor”) plus a Major Penalty (“Fighting”) and an automatic Game Misconduct Penalty (2’+5’+GMP). A Player who is deemed to be the “Aggressor of an altercation” will have this recorded as an “Aggressor” of an altercation for suspension purposes – refer to Rule 28 Supplementary Discipline.	GRADE 2
A Player who is deemed to be both the “ Aggressor ” and the “ Instigator / Initiator ” of an altercation shall be assessed a Minor Penalty (“Aggressor”) plus a Minor Penalty (“Instigator / Initiator”) plus a Major Penalty (“Fighting”) and an automatic Game Misconduct Penalty (2’+2’+5’+GMP).	GRADE 1
46.5. DANGEROUS PUNCHER – “SUCKER PUNCH”	
Any Player wearing tape or any other material on their hands (below the wrist) who cuts or injures an opponent during an altercation will receive a Major Penalty and an automatic Game Misconduct Penalty (5’+GMP) in addition to any other penalties imposed including for “fighting” under this rule.	Tribunal

Rule	Suspension
A Major Penalty and an automatic Game Misconduct Penalty (5'+GMP) shall be assessed to a Player who punches an unsuspecting or "unwilling combatant / opponent" (i.e., "sucker punch") and could cause an injury.	
<p>46.6. DEFENDER – UNWILLING COMBATANT</p> <p>A Player who "defends" himself with a "few punches" against an Aggressor, an Instigator / Initiator or a fighter shall be considered as an "unwilling combatant". This Player does not want to continue or prolong a "fight" or "let a fight get out of hand" – it is clear to the Referees that this player does not want to "fight" irregularly.</p> <p>A Player who retaliates to being punched will be assessed at least a Minor Penalty ("Roughing") or a Major Penalty ("Fighting", without a Game Misconduct Penalty), if the criteria for "fighting back" with a few punches is not fulfilled.</p>	1 Game
<p>46.7. THIRD PLAYER IN</p> <p>A Game Misconduct Penalty, at the discretion of the Referee, shall be imposed on any Player who is the first to intervene ("third Player in") in an altercation already in progress, except when a Game Misconduct Penalty is being imposed in the original altercation. This penalty is in addition to any other penalties incurred in the same incident.</p> <p>This rule also applies to subsequent Players who elect to intervene in the same or other "altercations" during the same stoppage of play. Generally, this rule is applied when a "fight" occurs.</p>	GRADE 3
<p>46.9. FIGHTING OTHER THAN DURING THE PERIODS OF THE GAME</p> <p>Any Teams whose Players become involved in an altercation, other than during the periods of the game, will be investigated by proper authorities and supplementary discipline can be applied in addition to any other appropriate penalties that may be imposed upon the participating Players by Supplementary Discipline or otherwise.</p> <p>Players involved in "fighting" other than during the periods of the game shall be assessed a Major Penalty ("Fighting") and an automatic Game Misconduct Penalty (5'+GMP). An "Aggressor" and/ or an "Instigator / Initiator" shall be penalized according to the respective Rule 46.3 and/or Rule 46.4.</p> <p>In the case of altercations taking place after the period or game will be reported to the Proper Authorities for further Supplementary Disciplinary action.</p> <p>Should Players come onto the ice from their Players' Benches after the period ends and prior to the start of an altercation, they shall not be penalized if they remain in the vicinity of their Players' Bench and provided, they do not get involved in any altercations.</p>	Tribunal
<p>46.11. FIGHTING OFF THE PLAYING SURFACE</p> <p>A Game Misconduct Penalty shall be imposed on any Player involved in "fighting off the playing surface" or with another Player who is "off the playing surface". These penalties are in addition to any other time penalties assessed, including the Major Penalty ("Fighting").</p>	Tribunal
RULE 47 HEAD-BUTTING	
<p>47.3. MAJOR PENALTY AND GAME MISCONDUCT PENALTY</p> <p>The Referee, at their discretion, may assess a Major Penalty and an automatic Game Misconduct Penalty if, in their judgment, the Player recklessly endangers their opponent by "head-butting". Such assessment of reckless endangerment shall be based on the severity of the infraction, severity of the contact, the degree of violence and the general reprehensibility involved.</p>	GRADE 2
<p>47.4 DISCIPLINARY MEASURES</p> <p>If deemed appropriate, Supplementary Discipline can be applied by the Proper Authorities at their discretion.</p>	Tribunal
RULE 48 ILLEGAL CHECK TO THE HEAD OR NECK	
<p>48.3. MAJOR PENALTY AND GAME MISCONDUCT PENALTY</p> <p>The Referee, at their discretion, may assess a Major Penalty and an automatic Game Misconduct Penalty if, in their judgment, the Player recklessly endangers their opponent by an "illegal check to the head or neck". Such assessment of reckless endangerment shall be based on the severity of the infraction, severity of the contact, the degree of violence and the general reprehensibility involved.</p>	GRADE 3
<p>48.6. DISCIPLINARY MEASURES</p> <p>If deemed appropriate, Supplementary Discipline can be applied by the Proper Authorities at their discretion.</p>	Tribunal

Rule	Suspension
RULE 49 KICKING	
49.3. MAJOR PENALTY AND GAME MISCONDUCT PENALTY The Referee, at their discretion, may assess a Major Penalty and an automatic Game Misconduct Penalty if, in their judgment, the Player kicks or attempts to kick an opponent.	GRADE 2
49.4. DISCIPLINARY MEASURES If deemed appropriate, Supplementary Discipline can be applied by the Proper Authorities at their discretion.	Tribunal
RULE 50 KNEEING	
50.3. GAME MISCONDUCT PENALTY The Referee, at their discretion, may assess a Major Penalty and an automatic Game Misconduct Penalty if, in their judgment, the Player recklessly endangers their opponent by “kneeing” and the player would not be sufficiently sanctioned by imposing a Minor Penalty. Such assessment of reckless endangerment shall be based on the severity of the infraction, severity of the contact, the degree of violence and the general reprehensibility involved.	1 GAME
50.4. DISCIPLINARY MEASURES If deemed appropriate, Supplementary Discipline can be applied by the Proper Authorities at their discretion.	Tribunal
RULE 51 ROUGHING	
51.3. MAJOR PENALTY AND GAME MISCONDUCT PENALTY The Referee, at their discretion, may assess a Major Penalty and an automatic Game Misconduct Penalty to a Goalkeeper who uses their blocker glove to punch an opponent and the action is likely to result in injury to the opponent.	GRADE 3
51.4. DISCIPLINARY MEASURES If deemed appropriate, Supplementary Discipline can be applied by the Proper Authorities at their discretion.	Tribunal
RULE 52 SLEW-FOOTING	
52.2. MAJOR PENALTY AND GAME MISCONDUCT PENALTY The Referee shall, at their discretion, assess a Major Penalty and an automatic Game Misconduct Penalty if a Player is guilty of “slew-footing” on an opposing Player.	GRADE 3
52.3. DISCIPLINARY MEASURES If deemed appropriate, Supplementary Discipline can be applied by the Proper Authorities at their discretion.	Tribunal
RULE 53 THROWING EQUIPMENT	
53.5. GAME MISCONDUCT PENALTY A Game Misconduct Penalty shall be imposed on a Player who intentionally throws their stick or any part thereof or any other object or piece of equipment outside the Playing Area. If the offense is committed in protest of an Official’s decision, a Minor Penalty for “Unsportsmanlike Conduct” (Rule 53.2, iv) plus a Game Misconduct Penalty shall be assessed to the offending Player.	1 Game
53.6. MAJOR PENALTY AND GAME MISCONDUCT PENALTY The Referee, at their discretion, may assess a Major Penalty and an automatic Game Misconduct Penalty if a Player’s action of “throwing a stick or any other object” or piece of equipment at an opposing Player, Coach or team personnel could result in injury to the opponent. Note: Such assessment of reckless endangerment shall be based on the severity of the infraction and the general reprehensibility involved.	2 Games
53.9. DISCIPLINARY MEASURES If deemed appropriate, Supplementary Discipline can be applied by the Proper Authorities at their discretion.	Tribunal

Rule	Suspension
RULE 55 HOOKING	
55.3. MAJOR PENALTY AND GAME MISCONDUCT PENALTY The Referee, at their discretion, may assess a Major Penalty and an automatic Game Misconduct Penalty to a Player guilty of “hooking” an opponent, and who recklessly endangers the fouled Player in a way that at the discretion of the Referee such Player would not be sufficiently sanctioned by imposing a Minor Penalty.	1 Game
55.6. DISCIPLINARY MEASURES If deemed appropriate, Supplementary Discipline can be applied by the Proper Authorities at their discretion.	Tribunal
RULE 56 INTERFERENCE	
56.5. MAJOR PENALTY AND GAME MISCONDUCT PENALTY The Referee, at their discretion, may assess a Major Penalty and an automatic Game Misconduct Penalty if, in their judgment, the Player recklessly endangers their opponent by an “interference or a late-hit” and the player would not be sufficiently sanctioned by imposing a Major Penalty. Such assessment of reckless endangerment shall be based on the severity of the infraction, severity of the contact, the degree of violence and the general reprehensibility involved.	1 Game
56.9. DISCIPLINARY MEASURES If deemed appropriate, Supplementary Discipline can be applied by the Proper Authorities at their discretion.	Tribunal
RULE 57 TRIPPING	
57.4. MAJOR PENALTY AND GAME MISCONDUCT PENALTY The Referee, at their discretion, may assess a Major Penalty and an automatic Game Misconduct Penalty if, in their judgment, the Player recklessly endangers their opponent by a “tripping” and the player would not be sufficiently sanctioned by imposing a Major Penalty. Such assessment of reckless endangerment shall be based on the severity of the infraction, severity of the contact, the degree of violence and the general reprehensibility involved.	1 Game
RULE 58 BUTT-ENDING	
58.3. MAJOR PENALTY AND GAME MISCONDUCT PENALTY The Referee, at their discretion, shall assess a Major Penalty and an automatic Game Misconduct Penalty to a Player who “butt-ends” an opponent.	GRADE 3
58.4. DISCIPLINARY MEASURES If deemed appropriate, Supplementary Discipline can be applied by the Proper Authorities at their discretion.	Tribunal
RULE 59 CROSS-CHECKING	
59.3. MAJOR PENALTY AND GAME MISCONDUCT PENALTY The Referee, at their discretion, may assess a Major Penalty and an automatic Game Misconduct Penalty if, in their judgment, the Player recklessly endangers their opponent by a “cross-checking” and the player would not be sufficiently sanctioned by imposing a Minor Penalty. Such assessment of reckless endangerment shall be based on the severity of the infraction, severity of the contact, the degree of violence and the general reprehensibility involved.	1 Game
59.5. DISCIPLINARY MEASURES If deemed appropriate, Supplementary Discipline can be applied by the Proper Authorities at their discretion.	Tribunal

Rule	Suspension
RULE 60 HIGH-STICKING	
60.4. MAJOR PENALTY AND GAME MISCONDUCT PENALTY The Referee, at their discretion, may assess a Major Penalty and an automatic Game Misconduct Penalty if, in their judgment, the Player recklessly endangers their opponent by “high-sticking”. Such assessment of reckless endangerment shall be based on the severity of the infraction, severity of the contact, the degree of violence and the general reprehensibility involved.	1 Game
60.5. DISCIPLINARY MEASURES If deemed appropriate, Supplementary Discipline can be applied by the Proper Authorities at their discretion.	Tribunal
RULE 61 SLASHING	
61.3. MAJOR PENALTY AND GAME MISCONDUCT PENALTY The Referee, at their discretion, may assess a Major Penalty and an automatic Game Misconduct Penalty if, in their judgment, the Player recklessly endangers their opponent by “slashing” and the player would not be sufficiently sanctioned by imposing a Minor Penalty. Such assessment of reckless endangerment shall be based on the severity of the infraction, severity of the contact, the degree of violence and the general reprehensibility involved.	1 Game
61.6. DISCIPLINARY MEASURES If deemed appropriate, Supplementary Discipline can be applied by the Proper Authorities at their discretion.	Tribunal
RULE 62 SPEARING	
62.3. MAJOR PENALTY AND GAME MISCONDUCT PENALTY The Referee, at their discretion, shall assess a Major Penalty and an automatic Game Misconduct Penalty to a Player guilty who “spears” an opponent.	GRADE 3
62.4. DISCIPLINARY MEASURES If deemed appropriate, Supplementary Discipline can be applied by the Proper Authorities at their discretion.	Tribunal
RULE 69 INTERFERENCE ON THE GOALKEEPER	
69.8. DISCIPLINARY MEASURES If deemed appropriate, Supplementary Discipline can be applied by the Proper Authorities at their discretion.	Tribunal
RULE 70 LEAVING THE PLAYERS’ BENCH OR PENALTY BOX	
70.6. GAME MISCONDUCT PENALTY A Game Misconduct Penalty shall be imposed on the Player who was the first or second Player to leave the Players’ Bench or Penalty Box during an altercation or for the purpose of starting an altercation, from either or both Teams. Any penalized Player leaving the Penalty Box during a stoppage of play and during an altercation shall incur a Minor Penalty plus a Game Misconduct Penalty. The Minor Penalty plus the unexpired time remaining in their original penalty must be served by a replacement Player placed in the Penalty Box by the Coach of the offending Team. Any Player who has been ordered to the Dressing Room by the Officials and returns to their Players’ Bench or to the ice surface for any reason before the appropriate time shall be assessed a Game Misconduct. If deemed appropriate, Supplementary Discipline can be applied by the Proper Authorities at their discretion. → Rule 28 – Supplementary Discipline Once a Player enters the Penalty Box, they must not leave until their penalty expires and their Team is entitled to an additional Player on the ice, or, at the end of a period to proceed to their Dressing Room, or, when they have received permission from an On-ice Official. At any other time, they shall be assessed a Game Misconduct Penalty under this rule.	GRADE 2
70.10. DISCIPLINARY MEASURES If deemed appropriate, Supplementary Discipline can be applied by the Proper Authorities at their discretion.	Tribunal

Rule	Suspension
RULE 75 UNSPORTSMANLIKE CONDUCT	
75.5. GAME MISCONDUCT PENALTY	
(I) If a Player persists in any course of conduct for which they were previously assessed a Misconduct Penalty.	1 Game
(II) Any Player, Coach or team personnel who uses obscene gestures, racial slurs or taunts or sexual remarks, during or after the game, on or off the ice and any location while in the arena and its connected premises. The Referee shall report the circumstances to the Proper Authorities for further disciplinary action. (III) Coaches and team personnel who have previously been assessed a Bench Minor Penalty for the use obscene or profane language or gestures anywhere in the Rink. The Referee shall report the circumstances to the Proper Authorities for further disciplinary action. (IV) Any Player, Coach, or other team personnel whose actions, toward a Coach or other non-playing Team Personnel, could in any way cause injury. The Referee shall report the circumstances to the Proper Authorities for further disciplinary action. (V) Any Player, Coach, or non-playing Club personnel who directs obscene, profane, or abusive language or gestures to any person after the expiration of the game. This action may occur on or off the ice. (VI) Any Player, Coach, or team personnel who spits on or at an opponent or anyone in the Rink during a game. (VII) A bleeding Player who intentionally smears blood from their body onto an opponent or anyone anywhere in the Rink.	Tribunal
75.6 DISCIPLINARY MEASURES If deemed appropriate, Supplementary Discipline can be applied by the Proper Authorities at their discretion.	Tribunal
RULE 101 WOMEN'S HOCKEY – SPECIFIC PLAYING RULES	
101.1. ILLEGAL HIT IN WOMEN'S HOCKEY In Women's Hockey "bodychecking" is allowed when there is a clear intention of playing the puck or attempting to "gain possession" of the puck with the exception from the situation described in this rule. If two (2) Players are in pursuit of the puck, they are reasonably allowed to push and lean into each other provided that "possession of the puck" remains the sole object of the two (2) Players.	
(II) Major Penalty (5') and automatic Game Misconduct Penalty If two (2) or more Players are competing for "possession of the puck", they are not allowed to use the boards to make contact with an opponent to eliminate her from the play, push her into the boards, or pin her along the boards. A Player, who is stationary, is entitled to that area of the ice. It is up to the opponent to avoid body contact with such a Player. If that Player is stationed between the opponent and the puck, the opponent is obliged to skate around the stationary Player. If a Player with the puck is skating directly at an opponent who is stationary, it is the obligation of the puck carrier to "avoid contact". But, if the puck carrier makes every effort to "avoid contact" and the opponent moves into the puck carrier, that opponent will be assessed at least a Minor Penalty (2') for an "illegal hit". Players are allowed to "hold their ground" any time that they have established their position on the ice. No player is required to move out of the way of an oncoming player to avoid a collision. Any move by a Player to step or glide into an opposing Player will be assessed at least a Minor Penalty (2') for an "illegal hit".	Grade 3

Additional

Ineligible players – as per Ice Hockey NZ, or Ice Hockey NZ Member Organization Regulations	Tribunal
Eye Gouging	Tribunal
Fighting – During / After handshakes	Tribunal
Serious Misconduct at a Tribunal	Tribunal
Abuse of an official – Molesting	Tribunal
Abuse of a spectator – Molesting	Tribunal
Team official – Pulling the team from the ice and not returning	Tribunal
Team official – Allowing their team to go on the ice for a bench clearing altercation at any point in the game	Tribunal
Deliberate attempt to injure resulting in injury to an opponent	Tribunal
Taking of banned substances	Refer to WADA & Ice Hockey NZ Policy
Stick swinging during the course of an altercation	Tribunal
Pre/Post Game Altercation - any player(s) involved where major plus automatic game misconduct penalties are assessed	Tribunal
Pre/Post Game Altercation - coach or official of a team that is so penalized	Tribunal
Coach of a team whose player is penalized as the first player(s) to leave the players bench or penalty bench during an altercation, fight or fisticuffs.	Tribunal

Schedule F - Guideline of Rule Enforcement

Physical Fouls

The table below identified the key criteria taken into consideration when assessing the proper penalty for physical fouls such as Boarding, Check to the Head, Charging etc.

Key Criteria	Minor Penalty	Major Penalty	Major and GMP
Speed - Penalty increases with increase of the action	x	x	x
Force - Penalty increases with increase of the action)	x	x	x
Violence - Penalty increases with increase of the action	x	x	x
Poor Timing	x	x	NA
Opponent is in a Vulnerable Position	x	x	x
Extension of Body / Equipment	NA	x	x
Upward Motion	NA	x	x
Risk of Injury - / with Intent	NA	NA	x
Possession of Puck / Non-Puck Carrier	X	x	x
Blind Side	NA	NA	x

Stick Fouls

The table below identified the key criteria taken into consideration when assessing the proper penalty for stick fouls such as High Sticking, Slashing, Cross Checking etc.

Key Criteria	Minor Penalty	Major Penalty	Major and GMP
Decreases of Speed	x	NA	NA
Decrease of Movement	x	NA	NA
Minimized Possibility to Play the Puck	x	NA	NA
Poor Timing	x	x	NA
Risk of Injury	NA	NA	x
Possession of the Puck / Non-Puck Carrier	X	X	x
Targeting of Exposed Area / Location of Impact	NA	NA	x
Force (Penalty increases with increase of the action)	X	X	x