

ICE HOCKEY VICTORIA
TRIBUNAL AND SUSPENSION REGULATIONS
2012
Version 1.00

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ICE HOCKEY VICTORIA (IHV) TRIBUNAL & SUSPENSION REGULATIONS 2012

1. Introduction

- 2.1 IHV as a Member State Association of IHA endorses and ratifies the IHA Competition Tribunal & Suspension Regulations.
- 2.2 The IHV Tribunal & Suspension Regulations are created in accordance with clause 1.3 of those Regulations
- 2.3 This document is made pursuant to Clause 23 (2) of Ice Hockey Victoria's (IHV's) Constitution and By-Law 13 and is specific to leagues, competitions, tournaments and games operated, managed or sanctioned by IHV.
- 2.4 The term "Competition Tribunal" used in IHA's Regulation applies to the word "Tribunal" in this Regulation.
- 2.5 Specifically, the regulations are for use by IHV, and all IHV affiliated organisations.
- 2.6 The IHV Tribunal and Suspension Regulations are to facilitate the expeditious resolution of disciplinary actions for misdemeanors occurring in , games, competitions, tournaments and affiliate organisation games operated, managed or sanctioned by IHV.
- 2.7 Incidents or issues identified as "out-of-competition" are to be facilitated as per the IHV's Constitution, Section 10 - "Player Discipline".
- 2.8 These procedures are to govern both the conduct of IHV members and all other affiliated organisations for their competitions and tribunals.
- 2.9 Tribunals will not be held for players or team officials assessed a misconduct, match or major penalty issued under IHV's Suspension Regulations unless requirements of the penalty state otherwise.
- 2.10 If an automatic suspension (as per the schedule of penalties) is reported the reported player has 48 hours to request the said penalty be heard by the Tribunal.
 - 2.10.1 A fee of \$330 (inclusive of GST) is payable at this time.
 - 2.10.2 The fee will be refunded is the player is found not guilty of the reported offence.
 - 2.10.3 After 48 hours has elapsed the penalty is applied automatically.
- 2.11 The suspended player or person receiving a penalty which constitutes an automatic game suspension as reported by the referee is not entitled to play or participate in any IHV sanctioned game of any grade until the suspension has been served. If the member wishes to appeal the suspension, they may do so as outlined in Section 14 of these Regulations.
- 2.12 It is the responsibility of the team officials to obtain the final game report after each and every game to ensure a player and/or team official are not under report for suspension. Failure to do so does not constitute as being "not being informed".
- 2.13 A Tribunal and Suspension Process Flowchart as presented in Annex A is included to aid in the Tribunal and Suspension process.

2. Jurisdiction

- 2.1 All IHV members will be subject to, and submit unreservedly to the jurisdiction, procedures, penalties, appeal and suspension mechanisms of the IHV as set out in this Regulation. All members agree that they will not become a party to any suit, at law or equity, against the IHV, the IHV Committee of Management, any IHV Official or any other person the subject of this Regulation until all remedies allowed by this Regulation have been exhausted.
- 2.2 IHV affiliated associations and all other affiliated organisations are responsible for the establishment and operation of Tribunal processes for matters arising in association or all other affiliate organisation's sanctioned games.
- 2.3 Under IHA affiliation requirements IHV is responsible for the establishment and operation of IHV's Tribunal processes for matters arising in competitions, tournaments and games operated, managed or sanctioned by the IHV and, on matters of dispute between IHV affiliated association and for matters referred to it by a member affiliated association.
- 2.4 IHV may intervene in disciplinary matters that are within the jurisdiction of an IHV affiliated association. IHV in considering an exercise of its discretion under this Regulation must determine whether all disciplinary or judiciary avenues available to a member under the relevant other affiliated organisations constitution have been exhausted.
- 2.5 IHV may remit any matter referred to it by an IHV affiliated association where:
 - 2.5.1 it considers that the matter is not of relevant significance or importance, or
 - 2.5.2 the matter has not been exhausted at all lower levels of appeal, or
 - 2.5.3 the matter has not been properly dealt with at the lower level.

3. The Purpose and Powers of the IHV Tribunal

- 3.1 The purpose of the Tribunal is to determine all reports and charges arising out of the conduct of ice hockey in Victoria, both on and off the ice. This includes charges against:
 - 3.1.1 players, team officials and game officials as reported by the game referee(s);
 - 3.1.2 any person reported under IIHF Rule 510, which covers supplementary discipline; and
 - 3.1.3 any person who is a member of the IHV or any person holding an office of the IHV who by their words or actions, bring the game of ice hockey into disrepute whilst at a game, competition, tournament, national championship or all other affiliated organisations game operated, managed or sanctioned by the IHV.
- 3.2 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 civil legal action and shall cease until the civil legal action is resolved.
- 3.3 Suspended members cited for or in the course of a Tribunal where civil legal action has been initiated shall remain suspended until the civil legal proceedings have been concluded.
- 3.4 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 rules of ice hockey.
- 3.5 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.

4. Composition of the IHV Tribunal

- 5.1 The Tribunal shall consist of a Tribunal Chairperson, plus two other members as appointed by the IHV Committee of Management, or in the case of an IHV affiliated association their Committee of Management.
- 5.2 In special cases where the Tribunal Chairperson sees fit, other experts may be called to sit on a Tribunal.
- 5.3 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.
- 5.4 In the event that a Tribunal member has been dismissed because of bias, a replacement Tribunal member is to be appointed. If for some reason this is not possible and the Tribunal is reduced to two members, then the hearing may proceed, but a unanimous decision shall have to be reached before any discipline can be administered. In the event that the Tribunal is unable to reach a resolution, the matter is to be referred to the Committee of Management to convene a new Tribunal.
- 5.5 A Tribunal Coordinator (or Minute Secretary) may be present, but the Tribunal Coordinator (or Minute Secretary) has no vote on the matter before the Tribunal if they are not an appointed Tribunal member.

5. Citings Before a Tribunal

- 5.1 Any member of any club, any club representative, member of a team, team club or administrative official will be required to appear before a Tribunal if:
 - 5.1.1 they incur a match, major and/or game misconduct penalty reported by the Referee as per the rules of the game and the IHV Suspension Regulations, where such match, major and/or game misconduct penalty includes appearing before a Tribunal;
 - 5.1.2 they are reported on a "supplementary discipline" charge under IIHF Rule 510;
 - 5.1.3 the person is reported by an official of the IHV or a member of the IHV as having:
 - 5.1.3.1 breached, failed, refused or neglected to comply with a provision of these Rules, the Regulations or any other resolution or determination of the IHV, The Committee of Management or duly authorised committee;
 - 5.1.3.2 acted in a manner unbecoming of a Member or prejudicial to the Objects and interests of IHV and/or Ice Hockey; or
 - 5.1.3.3 brought IHV or Ice Hockey into disrepute whilst attending or participating in a game, competition, tournament and/or championship game operated, managed or sanctioned by IHV.
- 5.2 In addition to the matters in clause 5.1, the IHV Executive or IHV Committee of Management, at its sole discretion, may refer to the Tribunal any other matter which they consider requires investigation or determination.
- 5.3 Any player or person receiving a match, major and game misconduct penalty reported by the game referee, is not entitled to play or participate in any IHV sanctioned game until the suspension has been served.

- 5.3.1 A Game is defined as a competitive round game by the team (e.g. Premier A, Premier Reserve, etc.) and the offender can only resume in the grade from which he/she was reported.
 - 5.3.2 A BYE week is not counted in the penalty
 - 5.3.3 During this period a suspended person is NOT permitted to play or officiate in any other games.
 - 5.3.4 Consideration may be given to players who are selected to an IHV State or IHA national team or wishing to enter into a contract with an overseas team and each will be considered on its own merit.
- 5.4 Any club, affiliated association, all other affiliated organisations or IHV official wishing to make a charge against any club, official, player(s), or who wishes to report any alleged infringement of the rules of the game, shall lodge all particulars in writing with The Secretary IHV, the relevant member affiliated association / all other affiliated within 48 hours of the alleged offence taking place.
- 5.4.1 A fee of \$330 (inclusive of GST) must accompany said particulars
 - 5.4.2 The above fee will be refunded if the charge/complaint is upheld or otherwise not considered trivial, frivolous or unsustainable by the Tribunal sitting at the time.
 - 5.4.3 No fee is to accompany any report by a Referee
- 5.5 Any player wishing to make a charge against any club, player or official, or who wishes to report any alleged infringement of the rules of the game, shall lodge all particulars in writing within 48 hours of the alleged offence taking place to:
- 5.5.1 the relevant member affiliated association / all other affiliated organisations secretary for association / all other affiliated organizations matters; or
 - 5.5.2 the IHV Secretary for games, competitions, tournaments and championship games operated, managed or sanctioned by IHV.
 - 5.5.3 A fee of \$330 (inclusive of GST) must accompany said particulars
 - 5.5.4 The above fee will be refunded if the charge/complaint is upheld or otherwise not considered trivial, frivolous or unsustainable by the Tribunal sitting at the time.
- 5.6 Referees making reports against clubs, officials or players arising out of a game at which they have officiated must:
- 5.6.1 Ensure the incident is recorded on the Official Game Sheet. This should be done immediately at the end of the game in which the alleged offence occurred, prior to handing the Official Game Sheet to the Game Scorer.
 - 5.6.2 Once the game sheet has been signed by the game referee, the Game Scorer must advise both team managers of reported players/team officials.
 - 5.6.3 Immediately following the game, the game referee must complete an Officials Incident Report (Annex B) and forward the report to the Secretary IHV and the Tribunal Coordinator and if applicable the relevant affiliated association, within 48 hours of the completion of the game.
- 5.7 Once a report has been posted by the game referee, it cannot be withdrawn and that report and any matter pertaining to that report must be heard by a Tribunal.
- 5.8 It shall be the responsibility of the charged or reported person or appropriate officials of the players club, to collect all supporting documentation (i.e. details of the charge or report) prior to leaving the venue. In the event that this is not possible, these documents will be available from the Tribunal Coordinator.

6. Matters Referred to a Committee of Management

- 7.1 Where a charge or report is submitted under clause 5.1.3, the charge or report is to be forwarded to the member Club or affiliated association (for Club & all other affiliated organisations matters) and the IHV Secretary who will then advise the Committee of Management or the IHV Executive. The Executive or Committee of Management may either:
- 7.1.1 refer the complaint to the Tribunal; or
 - 7.1.2 refuse to refer the complaint to the Tribunal on the basis that there is insufficient evidence to constitute a prima facie case.

7. Pre-Tribunal Hearing Procedure

- 7.1 Immediately after a report or charge requiring a Tribunal has been logged on the Game Sheet and reported to Chief of Referees, the IHV Tribunal Coordinator is to be notified.
- 7.2 A Tribunal date, time and place should be set to take place prior to the next game in which that player or official would normally be entitled to participate.
- 7.3 Persons cited to appear before a Tribunal 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. A suggested format for such a letter is at Annex B.

8. Attendance at the Tribunal

- 8.1 Members of IHV are required to attend Tribunals 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 Coordinator prior to commencement of the Tribunal if they accept the suspension as charged under IHV's Suspension Regulations, or in the case of a mandatory Tribunal, do not intend to be present.
- 8.2 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.

9. Notice To Admit

- 9.1 The cited member, upon receiving notification of the report or charge, may choose to admit the report or charge and accept the decision as outlined in IHV's Suspension Regulations and/or of a Tribunal to impose an additional penalty.
- 9.2 If the person or persons reported or charged choose to admit to the report or charge then they must do so in writing to the Tribunal Coordinator no later than 24 hours before the scheduled time of the Tribunal. If the member does not intend to be present at the Tribunal, then the Tribunal will proceed as per Sections 11 and 12.

10. Representation at Tribunals

- 10.1 Whilst it is the right of the reported person or persons to have legal representation, IHV discourages this practice. Should the reported person reserve the right to be legally represented, then they must bear all ensuing legal costs, including those of IHV, affiliated association, affiliate organisation or IHA.
- 10.2 The person or persons reported or charged may use the services of an advocate to represent them, or by a parent if under 18 years of age.
- 10.3 A referee or game official providing evidence to the Tribunal may, if they wish, have a referee advocate present.

11. Conduct of the Tribunal

- 11.1 If a Notice to Admit is submitted to the Tribunal Chairperson, then the Tribunal shall proceed to determine the penalty to be imposed on the basis of the evidence presented.
- 11.2 If “no” Notice to Admit or a “Not Guilty” is submitted, then the Tribunal is to proceed and the Tribunal Chairperson shall conduct the proceedings according to his/her discretion in accordance with Section 12 of this regulation. 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.
- 11.3 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 can not 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.
- 11.4 Video evidence (in any format) is not permissible and will not be considered by the Tribunal under any circumstances.
- 11.5 The Tribunal shall also ensure that each member of the Tribunal has copies of all relevant correspondence and documents.
- 11.6 After any cross-examination has taken place, the person having given the evidence may be re-examined to explain matters arising from the cross-examination.

12. Tribunal Process

- 12.1 The Tribunal should proceed according to the following sequence of events:
 - 12.1.1 The Tribunal Chairperson will outline the charges being brought against the reported person by the IHV.
 - 12.1.2 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.
 - 12.1.3 The reported person or persons shall then be asked if they plead guilty or not guilty. They may reserve their plea, in which case the Tribunal Chairperson will note that an informal plea of “NOT GUILTY” has been entered.
 - 12.1.4 If the reported person enters a plea of “GUILTY” to the charges against them, then the Tribunal may proceed with sentencing.

- 12.1.5 If the reported person enters a plea of "NOT GUILTY" then the Tribunal will proceed as detailed below.
- 12.1.6 The Tribunal Chairperson will then ask for evidence in support of the charge to be presented to the Tribunal. This evidence may be provided by the referee or game officials, the person who made the charge, or a representative of the IHV as appropriate to the circumstances of the charge or charges that have been made. Witnesses can be called if those providing evidence deem it necessary;
- 12.1.7 This evidence is then examined by the Tribunal, and may be cross-examined by the reported person or persons or their Advocate.
- 12.1.8 The reported person or persons may then give evidence in their own defense, and may call any witness or advocate supporting their evidence.
- 12.1.9 The reported person's evidence may be cross-examined by the Tribunal and any person providing evidence in support of the charge(s).
- 12.1.10 After any cross-examination of the reported person or persons, no further examination should take place, except with express consent of the Tribunal Chairperson.
- 12.1.11 After all evidence is presented, the Tribunal Chairperson will sum up the case against the charged person or persons.
- 12.1.12 The reported or charged person(s) or their advocate has the right to sum up their case, including making the Tribunal aware of any mitigating circumstances which the Tribunal should consider before reaching its decision.
- 12.1.13 The Tribunal will then ask all parties to leave the room while they consider the case and record a finding based on what it believes to be the facts.
- 12.1.14 If guilty as charged, the IHV Suspension Regulations pertaining to the offence is the minimum plus any additional penalty as deemed necessary by the Tribunal.
- 12.1.15 A summary of the proceedings of the Tribunal is to be recorded by the Tribunal Chairperson on a Tribunal Hearing Report (Annex D).

13. Decision of the Tribunal

- 13.1 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.
- 13.2 Having reached a determination of guilty, the Tribunal may reprimand, suspend or disqualify the person or persons against whom the report or charge has been made. 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 the Appeal.
- 13.3 The decision of the Tribunal is to be recorded on the Tribunal Hearing Report (Annex D) which is to be signed by each of the Tribunal members.
- 13.4 The person cited before a Tribunal is to receive written confirmation of the decision of the Tribunal within 72 hours of the conclusion of the Tribunal. A suggested format for the Tribunal Result Advice as to the result of a Tribunal. (Annex E).

14. Suspended Sentences

- 14.1 Where it is considered by the Tribunal that a suspended sentence should be included in a punishment to act as a deterrent to further offences, then the suspended sentence must be given in conjunction with the **minimum** suspension for the relevant offence. For example, if the penalty schedule provides for a minimum suspension of 1 week up to a maximum of 10 weeks, then the Tribunal may award a one week suspension plus up to a further 9 weeks suspended sentence. The minimum penalty must be served.

15. Appeals

- 15.1 Appeals 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 the IHV Executive for the Tribunal to reopen the matter. New evidence can also include taking evidence from someone outside IHV. As with the original hearing Video evidence is not permissible.
- 15.2 Appeals must be lodged in writing with IHV Tribunal Coordinator within seven (7) days of the determination of the Tribunal.
- 15.2.1 The appeal must clearly outline the basis upon which the appeal is being made
- 15.2.2 A fee of \$330 (inclusive of GST) must accompany said particulars of the appeal
- 15.2.3 The above fee will be refunded if the charge/complaint is upheld or otherwise not considered trivial, frivolous or unsustainable by the Tribunal sitting at the time.
- 15.3 Appeals are to be heard by an Appeals Tribunal established by the Committee of Management .
- 15.4 An Appeal **cannot** be made against:
- 15.4.1 the severity of a punishment awarded by the Tribunal, unless new and mitigating evidence can be presented; or
- 15.4.2 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.
- 15.5 The Appeal Tribunal will consist of any two members of the Committee of Management plus the Disciplinary Tribunal Chairperson.
- 15.6 A Tribunal Coordinator (or Minute Secretary) may be present, but the Tribunal Coordinator (or Minute Secretary) has no vote on the matter before the Appeals Tribunal if they are not an appointed Appeals Tribunal member
- 15.7 The Appeal Hearing is to be held within 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 as per Section 11.
- 15.8 The Appeal Tribunal may uphold the original decision, vary it, or uphold the appeal. The appellant is to be advised in writing of the outcome of the appeal within seven days of the appeal hearing.
- 15.9 Should an appellant not be satisfied with the decision of IHV or other relevant affiliated organization Appeal Tribunal, then that person may request that the matter be referred to an Appeal Tribunal established by the IHA Board of Management.

- 15.10 Appeals referred to the IHA Board of Management are to be submitted to the IHA President in writing within seven days of the decision of the Appeal Tribunal of the member state association or other relevant affiliated organisations. A fee of \$1,000 applies to all such appeals and is to be submitted to IHA at the time the appeal is lodged.
- 15.11 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 this Regulation have been exhausted.
- 15.12 Should a reported person or persons exercise their right to be legally represented at a Disciplinary Tribunal or Appeal Tribunal, then they must also bear any associated legal costs incurred by the IHA, IHV, affiliated association or other relevant affiliated organisations.

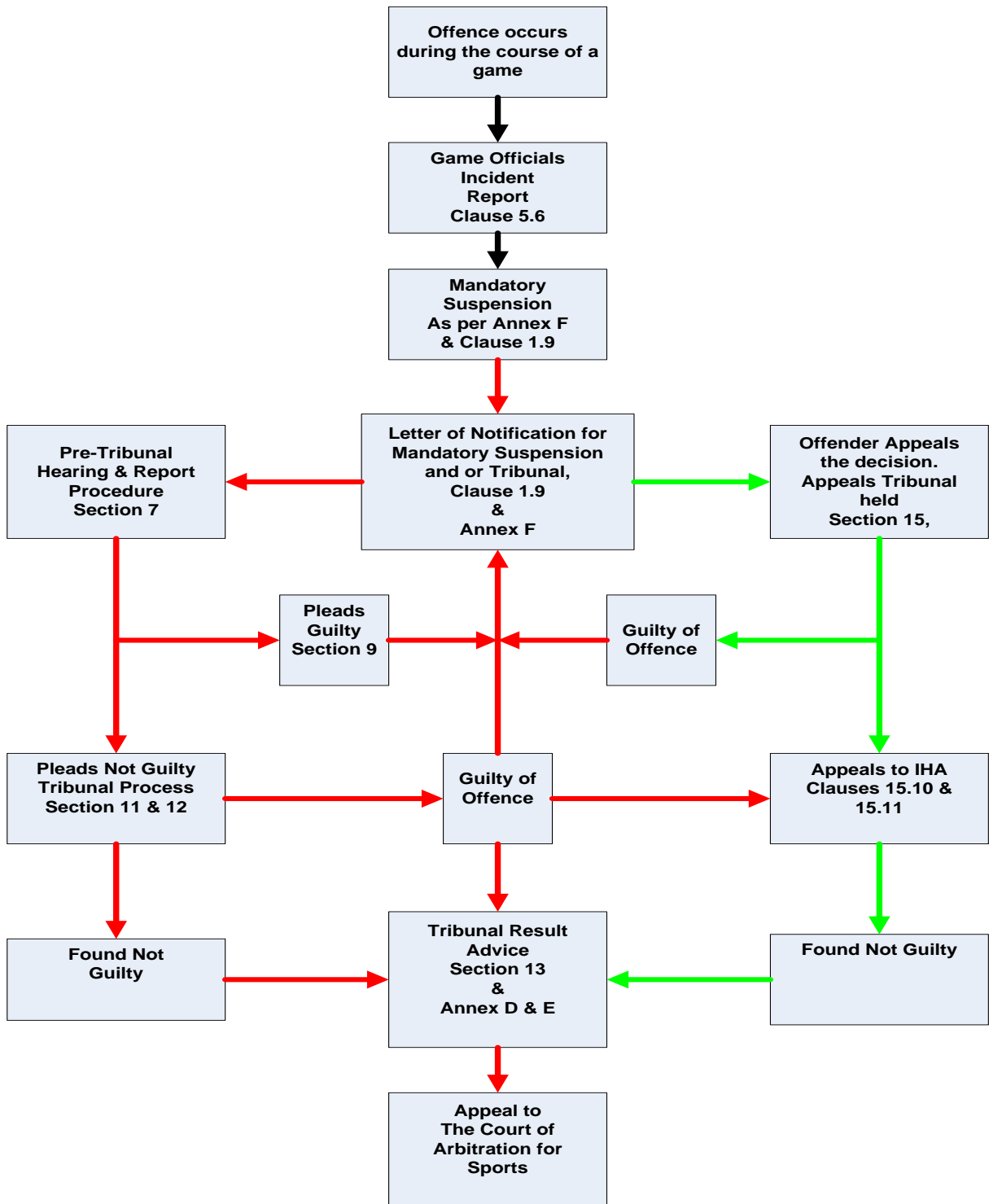
16. Annexures:

- A: IHV Tribunal Process Flow Chart
- B: IHV Officials Incident Report
- C: IHV Notice of Tribunal
- D: IHV Tribunal Hearing Report
- E: IHV Tribunal Result Advice
- F: IHV Suspension Regulations

Annex A. IHV Tribunal Process Flow Chart



IHV TRIBUNAL PROCESS



Annex B: IHV Officials Incident Report

Annex C. IHV Notice of Tribunal

Annex D. IHV Tribunal Hearing Report

Annex E. IHV Tribunal Result Advice

Annex F: IHV SUSPENSION REGULATIONS

In an effort to provide clarity and consistency of procedure, process and meet the expectations of all IHA members, the Ice Hockey Australia (IHA) Suspension Regulations are presented in this document.

IHV endorses and ratifies the Ice Hockey Australia (IHA) Suspension Regulations

The prime objective of Suspension Regulations is to reduce the number of minimum games for first offenders, and to place the onus of responsibility on the players and team officials to alleviate match, major and game misconduct penalties and the subsequent penalty for these actions. The objective also includes alleviating the need for a Tribunal for penalties, and their subsequent suspension, that regardless if they were contested would still prevail. However, this does not remove the right of the penalised person or the Tribunal Committee to request a Tribunal.

Included in the regulations is a table giving definition to the various match, major and game misconduct penalties as they are written in the IIHF's Rule Book. The table also indicates the minimum number of suspended games for these penalties.

It is expected that all IHV affiliated organisation teams involved understand that the IIHF Rule and Case Books are the adopted rules under which all IHA and IHV sanctioned games are played.

Introduction

During the course of 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 IHA member state and affiliate organisation teams can focus on the "playing of the game" rather than the fringe issues that make up the rule book.

To that end, IHV and affiliate organisation teams are to abide by the following rules, with the onus on the coaches to enforce these areas with their IHV and affiliate organisation teams, and that by abiding by these rules, the officials assigned to these games will not have to penalise such infractions. However, should IHV member and affiliate organisation team fail to abide by these rules, officials are required to assess the appropriate penalties as outlined in the rule book.

Players who receive a game misconduct, major or match penalty, and after the first offence continues to re-offend, regardless if it is in regular games in their respective state, national championship or tournament, the length of suspension will double for each additional suspension occurring in the same playing season.

In IHA national championship tournament and affiliate organisation games, any player or team official assessed a second game misconduct or match penalty shall be automatically suspended from any further participation in the championship, tournament or affiliate organisation unless a Tribunal takes place to hear the offence. The allocated number of suspended games will continue to apply. If such suspension (s) cannot be served in the championship, tournament or affiliate organisation, then the remainder of the suspension shall carry over into the player's or team official's scheduled games in their respective state. Discretion may be given to players selected to a national team or seeking a contract with an overseas team by the IHA Board. The suspension(s) awarded in IHA sanctioned games as per the IHA's Suspension Regulations are to be applied by all IHA governing bodies. All match, major and game misconduct penalties shall be reported to the IHA office, IHA referee-in-chief, state association referee-in-chief and the affiliate organisation's referee-in-chief immediately following the game.

Major and Game Misconduct Penalties

Major and game misconduct penalties are considered as "judgment calls". Any player who receives a major and an automatic game misconduct during the first, second or first half of the third period will serve the game misconduct in the current game. Any player who receives a major and an automatic game misconduct during the last half of the third and overtime periods shall be

assessed the minimum automatic game(s) suspension as per the IHA's Suspension Regulations. The suspension does not include the game in which the penalty was assessed, (i.e. Major penalty + Game Misconduct, Game Misconduct, or Match Penalty), but the automatic suspension will be the next game or games.

The nominated IHA, state or affiliate organisation authorities shall have the power to further suspend the player or team official from participating in any further IHA sanctioned games. It is to be understood, that a hearing will not be convened by the proper authorities to discuss a referee's judgment call (i.e. If the call is a Match penalty for spearing, then the number of game suspension (s) will apply).

All major and game misconduct penalties, or incidents requiring the aforementioned discipline actions, are to be entered on the IIHF Referee Game Report Form by the game referee and, shall be reported to the IHA office, IHA referee-in-chief, state association referee-in-chief and the affiliate organisation's referee-in-chief immediately following the game. Dependent on the severity of the incidents, further disciplinary action may be imposed by the appropriate authorities. A formal Letter of Notification will be sent to the offending player advising them of the suspension and the right of appeal to the suspension as per IHA's Competition Tribunal Regulations.

Match Penalties

Where a player receives a match penalty by the game referee for one of the offences listed in the Automatic Suspensions, the corresponding automatic game suspension applies without the need to refer the matter to a Tribunal.

All match penalties, or incidents requiring the aforementioned discipline actions, are to be entered on the IIHF Referee Game Report Form by the game referee and, shall be reported to the IHA office, IHA referee-in-chief, state association referee-in-chief and the affiliate organisation's referee-in-chief immediately following the game. Once the referee's call on a match penalty has been confirmed by the IHA Referee-in-Chief, the minimum suspension shall be put in effect. Dependent on the severity of the incidents, further disciplinary action may be imposed by the appropriate IHA, State or affiliate organisation authorities.

At the same time, the application of an automatic game(s) suspension does not remove the right of the player to request a Tribunal if they disagree with the decision. Where "Tribunal" is listed against an offence, then the matter must go before a Tribunal for decision.

In addition to the suspension imposed under these rules, the proper IHA, state or affiliate organisation 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 penalized by the referee. If an investigation is requested by a club or by an affiliate organisation's team on 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 the IHA Referee-in-Chief, Tournament Directorate and/or IHA Representative shall be the final IHA decision. Decisions that are made in response to an "indefinite suspension" may be appealed to the IHA President. It is to be understood that the time required for the President to respond may take some time.

IIHF Rule Number	OFFENCE	Min No. of Games	
Supplementary Discipline 510	In addition to the suspension imposed under these rules, the Proper 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 penalized by the Referee.		
	a) A player who body checks, elbows, charges or trips an opponent in such a manner that it causes the opponent to be thrown violently into the boards, shall be assessed at the discretion of the Referee, a:		

Boarding 520	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Major Penalty + Automatic Game Misconduct, or • Match Penalty 	1	
	b) A player who injures his opponent as a result of boarding shall be assessed at the discretion of the Referee, a: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Major Penalty + Automatic Game Misconduct, or • Match Penalty 	1 2	
Butt-Ending 521	a) A player who attempts to butt-end an opponent shall be assessed a: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Double Minor Penalty + Misconduct Penalty 		
	b) A player who butt-ends an a opponent shall be assessed at the discretion of the Referee, a: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Major Penalty + Automatic Game Misconduct, or • Match penalty 	2 2	
	c) A player who injures his opponent by a butt-ending shall be assessed a: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Match Penalty 	2	
Charging 522	a) A player who runs, jumps or charges an opponent or who runs, jumps or charges the opposing goalkeeper in his crease shall be assessed at the discretion of the Referee, a: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Major Penalty + Automatic Game Misconduct, or • Match Penalty 	1 1	
	b) A player who injures his opponent as a result of charging shall be assessed at the discretion of the Referee, a: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Major Penalty + Automatic Game Misconduct, or • Match Penalty 	1 2	
Checking from Behind 523	a) A player who runs, jumps, charges or hits in any manner an opponent from behind shall be assessed at the discretion of the Referee, a: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minor Penalty + Automatic Misconduct Penalty, or • Major Penalty + Automatic Game Misconduct, or • Match Penalty 	1 2	
	b) A player who injures an opponent as result of checking from behind shall be assessed a: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Match Penalty 	2	
Clipping 524	a) A player who lowers his own body position to deliver a check on or below an opponents' knees shall be assessed at the discretion of the Referee, a: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Major Penalty • Match Penalty 	1 1	
	b) A player who injures his opponent by a clipping action shall be assessed at the discretion of the Referee, a: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Major Penalty • Match Penalty 	1 2	
Cross Checking 525	a) A player who cross-checks an opponent shall be assessed at the discretion of the Referee, a: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Major Penalty + Automatic Game Misconduct, or • Match Penalty 	1 1	
	b) A player who injures an opponent by cross-checking shall be assessed at the discretion of the Referee, a: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Major Penalty + Automatic Game Misconduct, or • Match Penalty 	1 2	
Elbowing 526	a) A player who uses his elbow to foul an opponent shall be assessed at the discretion of the Referee, a: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Major Penalty + Automatic Game Misconduct, or • Match Penalty 	1 1	
	b) A player who injures an opponent by elbowing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Major Penalty + Automatic Game Misconduct, or • Match Penalty 	1 2	
Excessive Roughness 527	a) Any player who commits an action not permitted by the rules that may cause or causes an injury to an opponent, to a team or game official <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Match Penalty 		
	b) The circumstances shall be reported to the Proper Authorities	2 or Tribunal	
	a) A player who intentionally takes off his glove/s in a fight or altercation shall be assessed at the discretion of the Referee, a: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Misconduct Penalty 		
	b) A player who starts fisticuffs shall be assessed a:		

Fisticuffs or Roughing 528	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> c) A player, having been struck, retaliates with a blow or attempts a blow shall be assessed a: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Match Penalty d) Any player or goalkeeper who is the first to intervene in an altercation already in progress, shall be assessed in addition to any other penalties incurred in the incident a: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minor Penalty e) If a player, after he has been ordered by the Referee to stop, continues the altercation, attempts to continue, or resists a Linesman in the discharge of his duties, shall be assessed at the discretion of the Referee, a: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Game Misconduct Penalty f) A player or goalkeeper who is on or off the ice and is involved in an altercation or with a player or goalkeeper off the playing surface he shall be assessed at the discretion of the Referee, a: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Double Minor Penalty, or • Major Penalty + Automatic Game Misconduct, or • Match Penalty g) A player or goalkeeper who is on or off the ice and is involved in an altercation or with a player or goalkeeper off the playing surface he shall be assessed at the discretion of the Referee, a: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Misconduct Penalty, or • Game Misconduct Penalty, or • Match Penalty h) A team official who is on or off the ice and is involved in an altercation or with a player or team official off of the playing surface he shall be assessed at the discretion of the Referee, a: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Misconduct Penalty, or • Game Misconduct Penalty, or • Match Penalty i) If a player is deemed guilty of unnecessary roughness, shall be assessed at the discretion of the Referee, a: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minor Penalty, or • Double Minor Penalty, or • Major Penalty + Automatic Game Misconduct j) A player who grabs or holds the face mask or helmet or pulls the hair of an opponent, shall be assessed at the discretion of the Referee, a: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minor Penalty, or • Major Penalty + Automatic Game Misconduct k) A goalkeeper using his blocker glove to punch an opponent in the head, neck or face area shall be assessed, a: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Major Penalty + Automatic Game Misconduct • Match Penalty 	1		
			1	
			1	
			2	
			2	
			1	
			2	
			2	
			2	
			2	
Head Butting 529	a) A player who attempts to or deliberately head-butts an opponent shall be assessed a: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Match Penalty 	2		
High Sticking 530	a) A player who carries or holds his stick or any part of it above the height of his shoulders that makes contact with an opponent shall be assessed at the discretion of the Referee, a: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Major Penalty + Automatic Game Misconduct, or • Match Penalty 	1		
	b) A player who carries or holds his stick or any part of it above the height his shoulders that makes contact with an opponent and causes an injury with his stick or any part of it to an opponent shall be assessed at the discretion of the Referee, a: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Major Penalty + Automatic Game Misconduct, or • Match Penalty 	1		
	c) However, if the high sticking action that caused the injury was judged accidental, the offending player shall be assessed a: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Double Minor penalty 	2		
Holding an Opponent 531	a) A player who holds an opponent with his hands or stick or in any other way shall be assessed a: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minor Penalty 			
Holding the Stick 532	a) A player who holds an opponent's stick with his hands or in any other way shall be assessed a: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minor Penalty 			
	a) A player who impedes or seeks to impede the progress of an opponent by hooking him with the stick shall be assessed at the discretion of the Referee, a: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Major Penalty + Automatic Game Misconduct, or • Match Penalty 	1		
		1		

Hooking 533	b) A player who injures an opponent by hooking shall be assessed at the discretion of the Referee, a: • Major Penalty + Automatic Game Misconduct, or • Match Penalty	1 2	
Interference 534	a) A player who interferes or impedes the progress of an opponent who is not in possession of the puck shall be assessed a • Minor penalty b) A player on either the player's bench or penalty bench who, by means of his stick or body, interferes with the movement of the puck or any opponent on the ice during the progress of play, shall be assessed a: • Minor Penalty c) A player who, by means of his stick or body, interferes with or impedes the progress of the goalkeeper while he is in the goal crease, shall be assessed a: • Minor Penalty		
Kicking 535	a) A player who kicks or attempts to kick another player • Match Penalty	4	
Kneeing 536	a) A player who uses his knee to foul an opponent, shall be assessed at the discretion of the Referee, a: • Major Penalty + Automatic Game Misconduct • Match Penalty b) A player who injures an opponent by kneeling shall be assessed at the discretion of the Referee, a: • Major Penalty + Automatic Game Misconduct • Match Penalty	1 1 1 2	
Slashing 537	a) A player who impedes or seeks to impede the progress of an opponent by slashing with his stick shall be assessed at the discretion of the Referee, a: • Major Penalty + Automatic Game Misconduct b) A player who injures an opponent by slashing shall be assessed at the discretion of the Referee, a: • Major Penalty + Automatic Game Misconduct • Match Penalty c) A player who swings his stick at another player in the course of any altercation shall be assessed at the discretion of the Referee, a: • Major Penalty + Automatic Game Misconduct • Match Penalty	1 1 2 1 Tribunal	
Spearing 538	a) A player who attempts to spear an opponent shall be assessed a: • Double Minor penalty + Misconduct Penalty b) A player who spears an opponent shall be assessed at the discretion of the Referee, a: • Major Penalty + Automatic Game Misconduct, or • Match penalty c) A player who injures an opponent by spearing shall be assessed a: • Match Penalty	1 2 2	
Tripping 539	a) A player who shall place his stick, let, foot, arm, hand or elbow in such a manner that it shall cause his opponent to trip or fall, shall be assessed at the discretion of the referee, a: • Major Penalty + Automatic Game Misconduct, or • Match Penalty b) A Player who injures an opponent by tripping shall be assessed at the discretion of the referee, a: • Major Penalty + Automatic Game Misconduct, or • Match Penalty	1 1 1 2	
	a) A player who directs a check or blow, with any part of his body, to the head and neck area of an opposing player or "dives" or "forces" the head of an opposing player into the protective glass on boards, shall be assessed at the discretion of the referee, a:		

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> h) • Minor penalty + Automatic Game Misconduct If an “unidentified” player, who is off the ice, throws a stick or any other object onto the playing surface from the player’s bench, he shall be assessed a: • Bench Minor penalty 	Tribunal	
<p style="text-align: center;">Abuse of Officials And Unsports-Manlike Conduct By Team Officials 551</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) If any team official: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Uses obscene, profane or abusive language to any official or any person. 2. Interferes in any manner with any of the officials of the game. 3. Bangs the boards with a stick or other object at any time. his team shall be assessed a: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bench Minor Penalty b) If he persists, or if he is guilty of any type of misconduct he shall be assessed a: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Game Misconduct Penalty c) A team official who uses or makes any racial remarks or ethnic slur shall be assessed a: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Game Misconduct Penalty d) If any team official, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Holds or strikes an official. 2. Makes a travesty or is detrimental to the conducting of the game. 3. Makes any obscene gesture to any official or person. 4. Spits at a game official. he shall be assessed a: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Match penalty e) If an “identified” team official throws a stick or any object onto the playing surface from the player’s bench, he shall be assessed a: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Game Misconduct penalty and his team a: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bench Minor penalty f) If an “unidentified” team official throws a stick or any object onto the playing surface from the player’s bench, he shall be assessed a: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bench Minor penalty 	1 Tribunal Tribunal	
<p style="text-align: center;">Illegal or Dangerous Equipment 555</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) A player or goalkeeper who, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – wears his equipment or visor in a way that cause an injury to an opponent, or – wears any non approved equipment – uses or wears illegal or dangerous skates, stick or equipment – does not wear his equipment, except gloves, head protection and goalkeepers leg guards, entirely under his uniform, – a player who wears a glove in play from which all or part of the palm has been removed or cut to permit the use of bare hand shall be ruled off the ice and a WARNING shall be issued to his team. For a second violation by any player of the same team for any offence, the referee shall assess a: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Misconduct penalty to the offending player. b) If a player or goalkeeper refuses to surrender or destroys his stick or any part of his equipment for measurement when requested by the Referee, this equipment shall be regarded as illegal and the player or goalkeeper shall be assessed a: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minor Penalty + Misconduct Penalty 		
<p style="text-align: center;">Interference With Spectators 561</p>	<p>A player who physically interferes with a spectator shall be assessed, at the discretion of the referee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Match Penalty 	Tribunal	
<p style="text-align: center;">Players Leaving The Penalty Or Players Bench 562</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Any player, other than as specified in Rule 564 below, who leaves the penalty bench or players bench and incurs a Minor, Major or Misconduct penalty for his actions, shall be automatically assessed a: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Game Misconduct Penalty 	2 + Tribunal	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Except at the end of a period or for entering the game legally, no player or goalkeeper may, at any time, enter the ice surface from the players bench or the penalty bench 		

Players Leaving The Penalty or Players Bench 562	<p>b) Except at the end of a period, a penalized player who leaves the penalty bench before his penalty time has expired shall be assessed a:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minor Penalty <p>c) Any player who, having entered the penalty bench, leaves the penalty bench prior to the expiration of their penalty for the purposes of challenging a game official's ruling, shall be assessed a:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minor Penalty + Game Misconduct. <p>d) The first player to leave the players or penalty bench during an altercation shall be assessed a:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Double Minor penalty + Automatic Game Misconduct <p>e) Any other player(s) who leaves the player bench during an altercation shall be assessed a:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Misconduct penalty <p>f) Any other player(s) who leaves the penalty bench during an altercation shall be assessed a(at the expiry of their previous penalty)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minor penalty + Game Misconduct penalty 	Tribunal	
Team Officials Leaving The Players Bench 565	a) Any team official who goes on the ice during any period without the permission of the Referee shall be assessed a:	Tribunal	
Throwing A Stick or Any Object Out Of The Playing Area 568	Any player or goalkeeper who throws a stick, part of it or any other object out of the playing area shall be assessed, at the discretion of the Referee, a:	1	

Additional

	Ineligible players – as per IHA, State or AIHL Regulations		Tribunal
	Eye Gouging		Tribunal
	Fighting – During / After handshakes		Tribunal
	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 – His team going on the ice for a bench clearing altercation	2	Tribunal
	Deliberate attempt to injure resulting in injury to an opponent	2	Tribunal
	Taking of banned substances	As per ASDA & IHA Policy	
	Stick swinging	2	Tribunal
	Third Man in rule only to the first player of each team to intervene in an altercation.	2	Tribunal
	Pre/Post Game Altercation - any player involved where majors plus game misconduct or match penalties are assessed	2	Tribunal
	Pre/Post Game Altercation - coach of a team that is so		

	penalized	2	Tribunal
	Pre/Post Game Altercation - any team involved in a pre or post game altercation	2	Tribunal
	Coach of a team whose player is penalized as first player / players to leave bench or penalty bench during a fisticuff, fight or roughing altercation	2	Tribunal

Rule 528 – Fisticuffs or Roughing

A – Referee Procedure

1. If a situation that involves pushing and shoving after the whistle, the Referee should issue a warning to the coach or captain of each team.
2. If the situation continues after the warning, the Referee should assess Minor penalties for Roughing. If incidents continue at future stoppages, the Referee may assess Misconduct penalties.
3. If a situation arises that warrants the assessment of multiply Game Misconduct penalties, the Referee should ensure that all assessed Game Misconduct Penalties were recorded on the Official Game Sheet.

B – Interpretations

1. When a Major plus Game Misconduct Penalties are assessed under this rule, it should be recorded and announced as “Roughing”.
2. When a Match penalty is assessed under this rule, it should be recorded and announced as “Fisticuffs”.
3. Fisticuffs or Roughing may be called even though the players still have their gloves on.
4. In a situation involving Fisticuffs, it is possible that one player may be assessed a Match Penalty and the other a Major Plus a Game Misconduct Penalty.
5. A Minor, Double Minor or Major Penalty plus Game Misconduct penalty may be assessed for Roughing.
6. Whenever a Match Penalty is assessed for Fisticuffs, whether one, two or more players receive such penalties, the incident must be classified as a fight. In the case of retaliation by a player, a Major Penalty plus Game Misconduct penalty may be assessed in this case.
7. A Player cannot be assessed a Match Penalty plus a Game Misconduct penalty for continuing to fight.
8. Two players may be assessed Match Penalties for Fisticuffs without having an aggressor or instigator.
9. Where it is obvious that one player is the instigator or aggressor, that player may be assessed a Match penalty and the other player a Major plus Game Misconduct, depending upon the degree of retaliation.
10. The “third man in” rule applies only to the first play of each team to intervene in an altercation. The assessment of only one penalty constitutes an altercation however the ruling requires judgment as to whether the player actually became involved.
11. A Game Misconduct penalty would only be assessed to the first player of each team to intervene in a situation where a Match or Major plus Game Misconduct penalty are to be assessed to one or both players.

When a fisticuff or roughing incident occurs, all other players except the goalkeeper shall immediately retire to the front of their respective benches or to a neutral zone (should the fisticuff, fight or roughing occur in front of a players’ bench) designated by the referee and remain there

until the referee calls them back to resume play. The goaltenders must stay in their goal creases or proceed to a neutral zone designated by the referee. Any player(s) refusing to do so after being instructed by the referee shall be assessed a misconduct penalty, plus any other penalty he/she (they) may incur.