

# 2006 / 2007 IIHF RULE EMPHASIS BULLETIN



## IIHF OFFICIATING STANDARDS

The IIHF has implemented and will continue to implement officiating standard, which have been worked out and set up by IIHF in the past year to reduce the restraining and dangerous fouls in the game of ice hockey.

Games played under this standard and implementation of the rule enforcement in the games by IIHF Game Officials show that players, coaches and game officials can adjust to these standards and the games are become more exiting for the spectators and safety for the players.

The standard does not means the implementation of the principle so-called “Zero tolerance” in the assessment of the penalties, which is practically impossible to achieve. IIHF goal is to work on the continuously implementation by IIHF game officials rules according to IIHF Rule Book in order to eliminated from the games restraining fouls such as hooking, holding and interference, dangerous types of actions such as checking to the head and neck area, checking from behind and low hits such as kneeling and clipping.

The rules that are applied to the game are intended to create a safe atmosphere where players can have the opportunity to use their skills and enjoy the opportunity to compete using legal methods and follow the principle of “ Fair Play & Respect”.

Please be advised that the following IIHF Officiating Standards will be applied in all IIHF Competitions and Events operated under jurisdiction of IIHF.

The main principle of penalty assessment are staying in power:

- **O** Obvious; It is clear that the infraction has been committed
- **B** Benefit; One Team benefits from the infraction
- **I** Injury; An Injury results or could result from the infraction

### Hooking

The stick should be used to propel, shoot or pass the puck or to check an opponent's stick that has control of the puck.

A player cannot use his stick against his opponent's body (puck carrier or not puck carrier) for the purpose:

- To gain positional or distance advantage or slow him down by:
  - *Putting the blade or shaft of his stick in front of or on the side of the puck carrier's body and making no attempt to play the puck*
  - *Extending his stick on the opponent's body in front or aside to force the opponent go around him skating backwards or skating forwards*
  - *Using the stick on the opponent's body from either beside or from behind to get an advantage while one-on-one dash for a loose puck by either player*
- To restrain or impede the progress of the opposing player

# 2006 / 2007 IIHF RULE EMPHASIS BULLETIN



- To reduce the opponent's ability to pass or shot the puck by putting the stick ("Poking", "Tagging" or "Jabbing") on the hands or arms of the puck career
- To reduce his playing skills by hooking the hands of the opposing player

Such actions shall be penalized as hooking.

## **Holding**

A player is not allowed:

- To grab or hold the opponent with the free arm or hands or even with the stick hand that restrain or impede the opponent's movement or reduce his ability to advance
- To hold his opponent at the boards ("pin" or "pinning") with his body, arms, stick or knee restraining his movement and making no attempt to play the puck.
- To grab the opponent's jersey

The illegal tactics shall be penalized as holding.

A player may push away an opponent away with the hand provided there is no grabbing or holding action.

## **Interference**

A player is entitled to the ice he occupies as long as he is able to maintain his own foot speed and body position between the opponent and loose puck.

When a player deflects the pass of a teammate, he can be hit or checked immediately by an opposing player

A player not in control or possession of the puck may not be hit or checked by an opposing player using his body, stick or hand.

Where two players are attempting to attain possession of or racing to a loose puck and contact each other it is a part of the game and no penalty should be call for interference provided the one player does not attempt to take out the opponent.

In many situations the action may occur away from the area of the puck that prevents a player from attempting to reach a loose puck or position himself where he can receive a pass from a teammate or impedes his progress.

## **In Front of the Net**

The player is not allowed to:

- Knock down the opponent not in control of the puck
- Grab the jersey and pull down the opposing player
- Put the stick between the legs "twisting" him or impeding a player's movement
- Cross Check the opponent



# 2006 / 2007 IIHF RULE EMPHASIS BULLETIN



- Slash on opponent's legs ("Chop")

The player is allowed to:

- Use his body strength to move an opponent player
- Use the shaft of the stick to move or direct an opposing player but not in a cross-checking action.

The illegal tactics could be classified as interference, cross-checking, hooking, holding, tripping or slashing depending the type of actions and penalised accordingly.

## **Dangerous Actions**

There are no changes in the IIHF Officiating Guidelines and IIHF policy concerning dangerous types of actions such as:

- Checking to the head and neck area
- Checking from behind
- Low hits

IIHF Game Officials according to IIHF Rule Book will penalize all these actions.

If the player, in the process of checking his opponent drives his shoulder, hand, forearm or a hands with stick in an upwards action in order to make a check to the head or neck area, this action should be classified as CHECKING TO THE HEAD AND NECK AREA and penalized accordingly.

## **Protection of the Goalkeeper**

The guideline concerns the protection of the goalkeeper as well as allowing and disallowing goals are now covered by Rule 470, 471 and 595 of 2006-2010 IIHF Rule Book.

## **Abuse of Officials**

Based on the reports received from IIHF Championships and completions and in accordance with Rule 510 Supplementary Discipline IIHF Disciplinary Committee have rights to implement additional discipline sanctions to the players, coaches, team officials who will verbally and physically abuse IIHF game officials during their work on IIHF Championships and events.

On some of this incidents the IIHF received reports from the Referees, the Linesman and the IIHF Referee Supervisors. From these reports the IIHF acted and disciplinary actions were imposed on the perpetrators. For the upcoming season the IIHF once more focus the attention of all IIHF Game Officials, IIHF Referee Supervisors, IIHF Game Supervisors and IIHF Directorate Chairmen to strictly follow the guidelines concerning the protection of IIHF Game Official describing in the Rule 550 and 551 of the 2006 - 2010 IIHF Rule Book.