



PLAYING RULES

2016-2017 SEASON

1. LINE-UP CARDS:

Completed by both teams (**the visiting team has to circle their starting line-up**) and you need three (3) copies, two to Official Scorekeeper, 30 minutes prior to the game (one goes to the referees) and the third one to the opposite team. Starting goaltenders number must be circled. This starting line-up must be used at the start of the game unless a change is required due to an injury or a minor penalty has been assessed for the Centre Red Line violation during the warm-up. If a minor penalty is assessed the visiting team will be allowed to change its starting line-up. These changes must be provided to the Officials Scorer before the teams return to the ice to start the game. No change can be made to the starting line-up on the ice until play in actually in progress.

2. AFFILIATE PLAYERS

Affiliated Players are required to wear their BNQ Throat Protectors and must also wear a full face mask. Affiliated players must be identified on the scoresheet by A.P. after their names. **Officials must sign the NOHA Player Affiliation Record Form.** This process is for the entire season.

3. PRE-GAME WARM-UP

- (A) A Coach or Manager who is registered and on the game sheet must be on their player's bench before his team goes on the ice. He must remain there until the warm-up has been completed. Any violation must be reported to the Commissioner.
- (B) The Linesmen will be on the ice for the pre-game warm-up. It is the responsibility of the Timekeeper to give the game officials a five-minute warning prior to the start of the warm-up. The Referees must ensure the Linesmen are always on the ice two (2) minutes before the commencement of the pre-game warm-up and all Officials are on the ice two (2) minutes prior to the start of each period of play.
- (C) The home team timekeepers have been instructed to inform the teams when there is one minute remaining in the warm-up and the Linesmen are to blow their whistles with thirty seconds left. All players must be off the ice at the zero mark. When the horn goes to end the warm-up, players must leave the ice surface immediately except for a maximum of four (4) home team players that are responsible for picking up the pucks. If a player(s) do

not abide by these rules he is to be reported to the Referees and a Misconduct will be assessed.

- (D) Players must wear equipment in accordance with the Hockey Canada Playing Rules which includes BNQ Throat protector, Mouth Guard and CSA approved Helmet with a CSA approved ½ visor attached. If any player is not properly dressed, the Linesman must direct him to his players' bench to correct his equipment before returning to the warm-up. If he refuses, it will be reported to the Referees and a Misconduct Penalty will be assessed. The Referees must verbally advise Team Officials of their Player's violation. A report is to be filed with Commissioner of the incident following the game.
- (E) A misconduct penalty will be assessed to any player making contact with or crossing the centre red line during the pre-game warm-up plus any other penalties that may be assessed. The centre red line shall be observed by two officials positioned on each end of the centre red line.
- (F) Fights in Pre-Game. If a fight occurs during the pre-game warm-up, prior to the start of the game, the following shall apply:
**Each team shall be fined \$1,500 plus any other additional fines or suspensions which may be applied.
** Any player involved in a fight during the pre-game warm-up, shall receive a minimum (2) two game suspension plus any other penalties which may be applied.
**If an instigator is identified in the above situations, the following minimum penalties shall be applied:
-Instigating player(s) - 5 game suspension.
- Coach – 3 game suspension.
- \$1,500 team fine.
- (G) No goaltender is allowed to have shots taken against them in the neutral zone.
- (H) No player is allowed to take a shot against the sideboards in the neutral zone. Reason – safety of fans, on and off ice officials. If a player(s) do not abide by this rule he is to be reported to the Referees and a Misconduct Penalty will be assessed.

Except from Hockey Canada Referee's Casebook/Rule Combination

Situation 1 Rule 2.2 (b)

The addition or deletion of players' names to the playing line-up listed on the Official Game Report may be made up to the commencement of the game.

During the pre-game warm-up, a total of 20 players can be dressed and participate in the warm-up. These 20 players do not have to be included on the Official Game Report for the game. If a player is assessed a penalty

during the pre-game warm-up, then this player has to be included on the Official Game Report, as per Hockey Canada Playing Rule 4.1.

4. LINE CHANGE ON ICINGS

Once the back Linesman has made the decision that icing will be called (determination for the correct player's to remain on the ice, will be when the puck leaves the player's stick) the offending team will not be allowed to make a line or player change.

There will be three (3) exceptions to this Rule:

1. To allow the goaltender back into the net when he has been substituted for an extra attacker.
2. To replace an injured player.
3. When a penalty or penalties have been assessed before the puck is dropped. Co-incidental minor penalties affect the on-ice strength to four (4) on four (4) so the change would be allowed.

5. PRE-GAME CEREMONIES/CEREMONIES DURING INTERMISSIONS

1. Any Pre-Game ceremonies must be approved in writing by the League, 48 hours prior to Start of the scheduled Game.
2. Any ceremonies during intermissions must be approved in writing by the League, 48 hours prior to the game.

6. PRE-DETERMINED TIME BETWEEN PERIODS

There will be a break of 15 minutes between the first and second period and a break of 18 minutes (if needed) with Prior League Approval between the second and third period. Time will begin when the Officials leaves the ice surface. The teams will be on the ice and ready to play when the time on the clock hits zero (0.00).

7. CSA APPROVED EQUIPMENT

- (A) All players on their benches or penalty bench shall wear their equipment in accordance with the Hockey Canada Playing Rules.
- (B) A player is allowed to lift his facemask/half visor to wipe his face or have a drink of water and then it must be replaced properly as soon as possible.
- (C) All players in the NOJHL must wear a CSA approved Helmet with a CSA ½ visor attached, Mouth Guard and a BNQ Throat Protector. When a player fails to wear or properly wear a Mouth Guard or Throat Protector at any time on the ice during the game or pre-game warm-up, the team shall receive one warning and any subsequent infractions by the same team will result in a Misconduct. A Post Game report of the incident is to be sent directly to the Commissioner.

8. BACK-UP GOALTENDERS

Back-up goaltenders shall wear their helmet and facemask in accordance with the Hockey Canada Playing Rules while on the bench or in the spectator's area.

9. NATIONAL ANTHEM

All players and coaches must stand still to the completion of the National Anthems. The Commissioner shall have the discretion to investigate reports of Teams and/or Players who are showing disrespect of the National Anthem.

10. CEREMONIAL FACE-OFFS

Any player taking part in a ceremonial face-off shall treat the matter with the proper respect and ensure the home team player picks up the puck and presents it to the honored person who initiated the ceremonial face-off. If any player shows disrespect for the event, he shall be issued a game misconduct and suspended a minimum of one (1) game.

11. PAYMENT OF OFFICIALS

The home team is to compensate the Officials before the conclusion of the second period intermission. If any home team is unable to compensate the Officials at the end of the game due to unforeseen circumstances, the Commissioner must be notified immediately, by email, following the game if the Officials did not receive payment. On-Ice Officials are to be supplied with 8 bottles of water, 4 bottles of MILK 2 GO SPORT prior to the start of the warm-up.

12. FAIR PLAY INITIATIVE

As a result of Hockey Canada's focus on fair play and improved communication between officials, coaches and players, Hockey Canada has implemented the following process: "In all games, the officials shall approach each bench and meet the Coaches. This process should not take more than 15 seconds and will be completed prior to the game, at the end of the pre-game warm-up. Officials are also encouraged to shake hands with the Captains where possible". This process is supported by the Coaching Program, Officiating Program and Hockey Canada's Board of Directors

13. NUMBER OF PLAYERS

The number of players allowed per team is per Hockey Canada Playing Rules (20 players). The League rule that teams shall dress a minimum of fourteen (14) players including one (1) goaltender. This will apply for both the regular season and playoffs excluding teams in Inter-Branch competition and then the Hockey Canada Playing Rules will apply.

14. OVERTIME FORMAT

(A) REGULAR SEASON

- (i) If teams are tied at the end of regulation time, a five (5) minute four (4) on four (4) sudden victory overtime period will be played.

- (ii) Teams will not change ends.
- (iii) At the conclusion of a tied game, ask the Timekeeper to put one minute on the clock before the start of each overtime period.
- (iv) If the teams are still tied at the end of this five (5) minute overtime the following procedure will occur: both teams will play another five (5) minute three (3) on three (3) sudden victory overtime period.
- (v) If no winner, game remains tied.
- (vi) If teams are playing 5 on 4 at the end of regulation time, they will start 4 on 3 in overtime.
- (vii) If it is 5 on 3 at the end of regulation time, it will carry into overtime. On the first stoppage, after the first penalty has been completed, it reverts to 4 on 3.
- (viii) When in overtime, if the teams are playing 3 on 3 and a team is assessed a penalty, the non penalized team will add a player and it will be 4 on 3. On the first stoppage after the penalty is completed, it will revert back to 3 on 3.

(B) PLAYOFFS

Where teams are tied at the end of the game, the following shall take place:

- a) Ice is to be resurfaced
- b) Teams change ends
- c) Teams will play 5 on 5
- d) The puck shall be faced-off at center ice and play shall continue with 20-minute sudden victory overtime period.
- e) If teams are still tied, play shall continue with twenty-minute sudden victory overtime periods until a winner is determined.

15. PLAYOFF FORMAT

NO CROSS-OVER BEFORE FINAL

The NOJHL will operate with two six-team divisions and an unbalanced schedule in 2016-2017. All 12 teams will play 54 regular-season games.

Soo Eagles, Soo Thunderbirds, Blind River Beavers, Elliot Lake Wildcats, Espanola Express and Rayside-Balfour Canadians will make up the West Division.

The East Division will be comprised of the French River Rapids, Powassan Voodoos, Timmins Rock, Iroquois Falls Eskis, Cochrane Crunch and Kirkland Lake Gold Miners.

Five teams in each division will qualify for the playoffs.

The fourth-and-fifth-place regular-season finishers in each division will meet in a best-of-three series to decide the no. 4 playoff seed in both the West and East.

Highest seed Team can choose to play a two-two-one-one-one format for playoff schedule. Disputes will be decided by Commissioner. If no agreement can be made on the schedule the Commissioner will decide.

Round One

East Division: Best-of-three between 4th vs. 5th

West Division: Best-of-three between 4th vs. 5th

Round Two

East A 1st versus Winner of round one
 B 2nd versus 3rd

West C 1st versus Winner of round one
 D 2nd versus 3rd

Round Three

East Winner of A versus Winner of B

West Winner of C versus Winner of D

Round Four

Champions

Winner of West or East

The one with the highest season standing

Versus

Winner of East or West

The one with second highest season standing

DATES

Best of 3 March 10th to March 15th, 2017 (6 days)

ROUND 1 March 17th to March 29th, 2017 (13 days)

ROUND 2 March 31st to April 12th, 2017 (13 days)

ROUND 3 April 14th to April 26th, 2017 (13 days)

DUDLEY HEWITT CUP

Dudley May 2nd to May 6th, 2017, Trenton, Ontario

ROYAL BANK CUP

RBC May 13 - 21, 2017, Cobourg, ON

Revised June 2, 2016