

# B I P H A



British Inline Puck Hockey Association

## **RULE BOOK**

**1 September 2008**

# RULES OF ROLLER IN-LINE HOCKEY

## Table of Contents

Introduction  
General  
Players  
Definitions  
Game Officials

## RULES OF THE GAME

### Section I

- Rule 1 - Rink
- Rule 2 - Goal cages
- Rule 3 - Goal crease
- Rule 4 - Face-off spots
- Rule 5 - Player benches
- Rule 6 - Penalty bench
- Rule 7 - Referee's crease
- Rule 8 - Signal and timing device

### Section II

- Rule 9 - Composition of team
- Rule 10 - Team captain
- Rule 11 - Uniformed players
- Rule 12 - Starting line-up
- Rule 13 - Change of players
- Rule 14 - Injured players

### Section III

- Rule 15 - Sticks
- Rule 16 - Skates
- Rule 17 - Net minder's equipment
- Rule 18 - Protective equipment
- Rule 19 - Dangerous equipment
- Rule 20 - Puck
- Rule 21 - Uniforms
- Rule 22 - Uniform inspection

### Section IV

- Rule 23 - Penalties
- Rule 24 - Minor penalties
- Rule 25 - Major penalties
- Rule 26 - Misconduct penalties
- Rule 27 - Match penalties
- Rule 28 - Penalty shot
- Rule 29 - Net minder penalties
- Rule 30 - Delayed penalties
- Rule 31 - Calling of penalties

### Section V

- Rule 32 - Appointment of officials
- Rule 33 - Referee
- Rule 34 - Goal judges (optional)
  - Duty of a goal judge
- Rule 35 - Penalty timekeeper
- Rule 36 - Official scorer
- Rule 37 - Game timekeeper

**Section VI**

- Rule 38 - Abuse of officials and other misconduct
- Rule 39 - Adjustment to clothing equipment
- Rule 40 - Attempt to injure
- Rule 41 - Boarding
- Rule 42 - Broken stick
- Rule 43 - Charging
- Rule 44 - Cross checking
- Rule 45 - Deliberate injury of opponents
- Rule 46 - Delaying the game
- Rule 47 - Elbowing and kneeling
- Rule 48 - Face-offs
- Rule 49 - Falling on puck
- Rule 50 - Fighting
- Rule 51 - Goal and assists
- Rule 52 - Gross misconduct
- Rule 53 - Handling puck with hands
- Rule 54 - High sticks
- Rule 55 - Holding an opponent
- Rule 56 - Hooking
- Rule 57 - Interference
- Rule 58 - Interference by spectators
- Rule 59 - Fouling from behind
- Rule 60 - Kicking the puck
- Rule 61 - Leaving player or penalty bench
- Rule 62 - Physical abuse of officials
- Rule 63 - Obscene or profane language or gestures
- Rule 64 - Puck out of bounds or unplayable
- Rule 65 - Puck must be kept in motion
- Rule 66 - Puck out of sight and illegal puck
- Rule 67 - Refusing to start play and forfeiture
- Rule 68 - Slashing
- Rule 69 - Spearing and butt ending
- Rule 70 - Start of game and periods
- Rule 71 - Throwing stick
- Rule 72 - Game time and time-outs
- Rule 73 - Tied games & penalty shoot-out
- Rule 74 - Tripping
- Rule 75 - Unnecessary roughness
- Rule 76 - Kicking a player
- Rule 77 - Game abandonment

**Referee's Hand Signals**

- |                |                 |              |
|----------------|-----------------|--------------|
| Boarding       | Butt-Ending     | Charging     |
| Cross Checking | Delayed Penalty | Elbowing     |
| Fighting       | High Sticks     | Holding      |
| Hooking        | Interference    | Kneeing      |
| Match Penalty  | Misconduct      | Penalty Shot |
| Roughing       | Slashing        | Spearing     |
| Tripping       | Wash Out        |              |

**Penalty Index**

- |                                   |                           |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------|
| General                           | Minor – 2 minutes         |
| Bench Minor Penalty               | Major Penalty – 5 minutes |
| Misconduct penalties – 10 minutes | Game Ejection             |
| Game misconduct – Suspension      | Match Penalty             |
| Penalty Shot                      | Gross Misconduct          |
| Removal from Building             |                           |

INTRODUCTION

RULES OF THE GAME

**This Rule Book is intended for use within the United Kingdom, domestic environment, for games played within the jurisdiction of the British Inline Puck Hockey Association**

*These British Inline Puck Hockey Association rules of the game are based upon the Rules of the Game as published by the Federation International de Roller Sports (FIRS), Committee International de Roller In Line Roller Hockey (CIRILH) 2004 edition.*

**The BIPHA thank FIRS, CIRILH for permission to quote from, and adapt where appropriate, script from the above-mentioned Rule Book.**

GENERAL

**NOTE: The NTD, on consultation with the NEC, holds the right to amend these Rules in accordance with the BIPHA Constitution Section 8.**

**NOTE: The NTD, on consultation with NEC, holds the right to publish any additional Rules relating to National Tournaments**

For domestic match play within Great Britain the following rules of the game will apply:

- 1) All players must wear in-line roller skates (see Rule Sixteen) and the game will be played with a puck (see Rule Twenty).
- 2) There shall be various age divisions as follows:  
Senior, Under 21, Under 18, Under 16, Under 14, Under 12 and Under 10.  
The qualifying date being the 1st January of the year the first match of the season is played. The season will start 1st September of each year.
- 3) The game shall be played in two periods of 20 minutes for Seniors and U21, two periods of 15 minutes for U18 & U16, two periods of 12 minutes for U14, & U12, and two periods of 10 minutes for U10 with a five-minute rest permitted between each period, after which the teams will change ends. (See Rule Seventy-Two and Rule Seventy)

**NOTE:** Regions may elect to play THREE periods, however ONLY those Regions playing TWO periods will be included in any current or future National award. (i.e. Top Point Scorer)

**NOTE:** All National Tournaments

The game shall be played in two periods of 15 minutes for Seniors, U21, U18, U16 & U14 and two periods of 12 minutes for U12 and U10 with a three-minute rest permitted between each period, after which the teams will change ends.

One time-out of one-minute duration per team per period will be available. (See Rule Seventy-Two (d))

- 4) A running clock will be used which shall only be stopped for team and referee timeouts.

**NOTE:** A stop clock will operate during the last two minutes of play if teams are tied or within two goals.

- 5) For league competitions, points shall be awarded as follows:
  - 2 points to the winner
  - 1 point for a tie game
  - 0 points to the loser
  - (a) If addition of points brings two or more teams to an equal amount of points, then positions will be determined by applying goals against. The team with least goals against will become higher placed.
  - (b) If addition of points brings two teams to an equal amount of points and goals against are equal, the team's position is determined as follows:

- i) A ten-minute play-off game will be played with the victor being awarded a higher placement; if there is no victor after ten minutes, a three-minute break shall be taken followed by a ten-minute sudden death period. This process shall continue until there is a victor. After each period the teams shall switch ends with a 3-minute rest period between sudden death periods.
  
- (c) If three or more teams are tied and they are in a placement or move-up (to another division) position the teams' position shall be determined as follows:
  - 1) Team captains will draw to determine play-off schedules.
  - 2) Using the game format in 5(b)(i) above a round robin playoff shall be played and points shall be awarded as in 5 above and the team with the most points shall be awarded the highest placement, the team with the next highest points awarded the next highest position and so on down the line.
  - 3) If two or more teams are still tied and goals against are equal, then the procedure described in 5 (b) (i) above will be repeated until the tied situation is resolved.

For National competitions, points shall be awarded as follows:

- Two (2) points to the game winner
- One (1) point for a tie game
- Zero (0) points to the loser
- Minus (-2) points for a forfeit

- (a) In compiling the results of pool play, games within the pool that finish tied, shall remain tied and points for each game awarded as follows:
  
- (b) The placement of teams within each pool shall be according to the most number of points accumulated in round-robin play. If after addition of points, two or more teams are determined to possess an equal amount of points during pool play, the team's position is determined as follows:
- (c) The victor of the head-to-head competition in the round robin shall be awarded the higher placement position.
- (d) If a tie still results, the team with the lowest total number of goals-allowed for the entire play-off round shall be used to determine position for the tied teams.
- (e) If a tie remains, the lowest total of goals-allowed in common wins among the tied teams, during all games in the group competition, will determine the group positions.
- (f) If a tie still results, the highest total of goals scored in common losses among the tied teams will determine their positions.
- (g) If teams are tied after applying the above criteria, a shoot-out will take place as defined in Rule 73(f).

**PLAYERS** – league and tournament match play will be organised within the following age ranges:

Under the age of 10	Under the age of 12	Under the age of 14
Under the age of 16	Under the age of 18	Under the age of 21
Seniors		

Players who are eligible to play in the Under 10 age group are permitted to play in Under 10 and Under 12 age groups in any one season.

An Under 10 may only play in Under 14 age group when there is no Under 12 age group operating within the league or their club cannot field an Under 12 team due to lack of players within the age group.

Written parental consent must be sent to the National Secretary at least 14 days before any Under 10 plays in an Under 14 league. This consent needs to be sent once per season, not per game.

Under NO circumstances may an Under 10 play any higher than Under 14 age group.

Players who are eligible to play in the Under 12 age group are permitted to play in Under 12 and Under 14 age groups in any one season.

An Under 12 may only play in Under 16 age group when there is no Under 14 age group operating within the league or their club cannot field an Under 14 team due to lack of players within the age group.

Written parental consent must be sent to the National Secretary at least 14 days before any Under 12 plays in an Under 16 league. This consent needs to be sent once per season, not per game.

Under NO circumstances may an Under 12 play any higher than Under 16 age group.

## BIPHA Rule Book – September 2008 - 2009

Players who are eligible to play in the Under 14 age group are permitted to play in Under 14, Under 16 and Under 18 age groups in any one season. (May play all 3 age groups).

Under NO circumstances may an Under 14 play any higher than Under 18 age group.

Players who are eligible to play in the Under 16 age group are permitted to play in Under 16, Under 18, Under 21, and Senior age groups in one season. (May play all 4 age groups)

Players who are eligible to play in the Under 18 age group are permitted to play in Under 18, Under 21, and Senior age groups in one season. (May play all 3 age groups)

**NOTE:** National Superleague Tournaments: There will be NO playing up or down allowed at National Superleague Tournaments.

Players may not play down at any time, except under the following circumstances:

At the discretion of each region, the age rules for women and girls are the same as for men and boys, with the exception that an all-female U16 team (including female goalkeeper) may also include older women playing down. These players will be allowed to participate in the National Finals if their team achieves a placing.

At the discretion of each region, girls may play down one age group - female players may play down one age group to help her development, however any female player who plays down is prohibited from playing up. These players will be allowed to participate in the National Finals if their team achieves a placing.

All Players must at all times be dressed in the minimum protective kit as laid down under Rule Eighteen.

**TEAM ORGANISATION** - The maximum number of players is sixteen (16), limited to fourteen (14) floor players and 2 net minders (not 15 floor players and 1 net minder) separately identified by uniform, and registered to the same team.

The minimum team size is 6 floor players and 1 net minder.

**PROTESTS** - A protest made to the Referee will not be valid unless made on the rink by the Captain (or Assistant Captain) of the protesting team, the Referee will immediately inform the Captain of the opposing team. Once the Referee in charge of the match has ruled on an incident occurring during the course of play, this decision will stand unless an official letter of protest seeking to overturn the ruling is filed with a member of the League, Region or National Executive Committee, as appropriate, accompanied by a fee of £30.00 within seventy-two (72) hours of the end of the match. Protests will be handled in accordance with the British Inline Puck Hockey Association (BIPHA) Code of Conduct. If the protest is upheld the fee will be returned. However, if the protest is not upheld the fee will be forfeited.

In the case of administrative protests (bad state of the rink, player's equipment, unqualified or illegal players, etc.) only those made to the referee BEFORE the start of a match are valid. He will then advise the captains of both teams that the match is being played under protest. All protests must be confirmed by official letter filed with a member of the League, Region or National Executive Committee, as appropriate, accompanied by a fee of £30.00, within seventy-two (72) hours of the end of the game. Protests will be handled in accordance with the British Inline Puck Hockey Association (BIPHA) Code of Conduct. If the protest is upheld the fee will be returned. However, if the protest is not upheld the fee will be forfeit.

### DEFINITIONS

**BARRIER** - The railing, walls or boundary markers identifying the outer edge of the playing area.

**CAGE** - (Also referred to as Goal Cage.) The net enclosed framework at each end of the playing area, into which the puck must pass in order to score a goal.

**CENTRE SPOT** - The exact centre from both end and sides of the playing area. (See diagram.)

**FACE-OFF** - Any time the puck is being brought back into play by two opposing players on the decision of the referee during the course of the game, with the referee dropping the puck onto the centre of the face-off spot from approximately waist height. Two players, each standing on their own defensive side of the centre line at the centre spot, with their own sticks held on the floor and on their own side of the centre line. All players shall stay on their defensive side of the centre line until the referee places the puck into play.

**FOUL** - Any personal or technical infraction of any rule as decided by the referee

**NET MINDER** - The player equipped and assigned the position of defending one's own cage from goals.

**SKATING OR PLAYING AREA** - The area between the end barriers and the side barriers of the area within the boundary markers as established by the referee prior to the start of the game. Dimensions of the rink surface may vary between 20 and 30 meters in width (65 to 100 feet) and 40 and 60 meters in length (130 to 200 feet) as long as the 1:2 ratio is observed. The National Championships will be played on a surface as close as possible to the maximum allowed. The surface shall have rounded corners to facilitate keeping the puck in play.

**INSTIGATOR** – The instigator is the player responsible for throwing the first punch or punches to start a fight. He must clearly be the responsible player.

**AGGRESSOR** – The aggressor is the player who responsible for attempting to continue a fight or not stopping when the officials are breaking the altercation up.

**THIRD MAN IN** – Any and all players who join an ongoing altercation, no matter what intent.

**NATIONAL TOURNAMENT** – Any and all tournaments organised by the NEC.

**GROSS MISCONDUCT** – Serious misconduct of players, coaches or managers who bring the game into disrepute by such behaviour. Typically this may cover various forms of fighting, abusive language and other related incidents on or around the benches and also in the vicinity of the rink itself.

#### **GAME OFFICIALS**

There will be two referees used in each game. They will share responsibilities; however, one will be designated Chief Referee to rule on violations that may involve controversy. Other required officials include a timekeeper and two penalty keepers. A goal judge, scorekeeper and a person who will calculate shots on goal and other statistical data are optional.

**CHIEF REFEREE** - A qualified referee who will be in complete charge of game, players, all other officials, spectators and premises, responsible only to the jurisdictional authority of the BIPHA National Technical Director whose decisions shall be final.

**REFEREE** - A qualified referee appointed to assist the Chief Referee.  
***A qualified referee is one who has attended a BIPHA/FIRS/CIRILH approved referee-training course and holds an appropriate and valid, warrant, certificate or letter of appointment.***

**TIMEKEEPER** - Shall time all playing periods as instructed by the Chief Referee. Shall keep record of all scores, fouls and any other information required by the National Executive Committee (NEC) on each player and team participating, if no scorekeeper is available.

**PENALTY TIMEKEEPER** - Keeps time penalties and monitors the penalty box.

**GOAL JUDGE** - Shall call only goals and carry out any other duties as assigned by the Chief Referee (Optional).

**SCOREKEEPER** - Shall keep record of all scores, fouls and any other information required by the National Executive Committee (NEC) on each player and team participating (Optional).

**SECTION I**

**RULE ONE – RINK**

- (a) Roller in-line hockey shall be played on wooden, asphalt, cement, or sport tiled floor, which shall be in good repair.
- (b) The rink shall be marked according to the diagram included with these rules taking into consideration the proportional dimensions indicated herein.  
There are no playing surface zone markings needed, such as blue or red lines, because in the FIRS and therefore in the BIPHA Inline Roller Hockey Rules of the Game the skating surface is not divided into zones marked by blue lines and a red line. Therefore no penalties or play interruptions exist in these rules pertaining to shots crossing multiple zones or players being "off-side" other than the required team line-up on face-offs as denoted in Rule Forty Eight.
- (c) Dimensions of the rink surface may vary between 20 and 30 meters in width (65 to 100 feet) and 40 and 60 meters in length (130 to 200 feet) as long as the 1:2 ratio is observed.
- (d) The National Championships will be played on a surface as close as possible to the maximum allowed. The surface shall have rounded corners to facilitate keeping the puck in -play.

**RULE TWO - GOAL CAGES**

- (a) The goal cage consists of an iron rectangular cage with an inside height between of 107cm to 121cm (42" to 48") and inside width of between 170cm to 182cm (67" to 72") as shown in the diagram.
- (b) The frame must be made with iron or steel galvanised tubing with a diameter of 7.6cm (3") or similar. The top, posts and internal face of the goal cage must be covered with a very resistant netting yarn, which must be hard enough to resist the strongest shots. Metallic netting will not be allowed.
- (c) A drop net may be suspended from the near inside top of the cage with a depth of 45cm measured from the top crossbeam of the goal. This cotton netting, thinner than the outside (external) one, has a maximum width of 180cm (71") and height of 110cm (43.5"), must be suspended inside the cage to prevent the puck rebounding from the inside of the goal. This net must be white in colour and should be attached at the top only, allowing it to hang freely to the ground parallel to the posts of the cage.
- (d) The posts and front bar must be in a circular basis, with 7.5cm (3") diameter (external measure) painted in a fluorescent orange colour while all other framing parts should be painted in white.
- (e) The goal cages are placed opposite at each end of the rink with the openings facing each other. The distance from the score line to the extreme of the rink is 2.7m (8' 10") minimum and 3.3m (10' 10") maximum.

**RULE THREE - GOAL CREASE**

- (a) In front of each goal, a "Goal Crease" area shall be marked by a red line 5cm (2") wide.
- (b) This line shall end at a right angle from a point on the goal line, 30cm (1') from the outside of each goal post for a distance of 1.2m (4'). A line parallel to the goal line shall join the ends of these two lines. It shall be understood that the area covered by the goal crease on the floor shall extend to all the space above the crease.

**RULE FOUR - FACE-OFF SPOTS**

- (a) One face-off spot shall be at the exact centre of the floor. The game will be started with a face off from this centre spot, also the beginning of the second and third period of the game and after each and every scored goal and before sudden death play-offs.
- (b) At both ends of the floor along an imaginary line, 4.5m (15') out from each goal line and parallel to it at a point 3m (10') from side barrier, black face-off circles with a radius of 23cm (9") will be drawn on the floor.

- (c) At the floor centre line two additional face-off spots shall be added either side of the Centre Spot, 3m (10') distance from the side barrier.

**RULE FIVE - PLAYER BENCHES**

- (a) Each rink should have seats or a bench for the use of each team, to be known as the "Player Benches". Each player bench shall accommodate at least sixteen persons and shall be placed immediately alongside the playing surface as near as possible to the centre of the rink and convenient to the dressing rooms.
- (b) Only players in uniform and full kit (as stated in rule 18), the manager, coach and trainers "who are registered members of the BIPHA" shall be permitted to occupy the player benches. A maximum of three non-playing officials may occupy the bench, as cited on the team sheet.
- (c) During the game, coaches, managers and trainers shall be restricted to the use of the area the length of their player benches, including their team gates. The penalty for violation of this rule is a Bench Minor Penalty.
- (d) All players and team officials who by virtue of date of birth are registered to the U18 or below age groups must wear their full-face protection whilst on the player or penalty bench. A bench minor penalty will be imposed and recorded against the offending player/team official for violation of this rule

**NOTE:** A player, whilst on the penalty or player bench, may lift the face cage of their helmet to have a drink and remove sweat, but must immediately replace the face cage on completion of these actions.

**NOTE:** The minimum age for Bench Officials is 16, supervised by an adult, or 18 unsupervised.

**RULE SIX - PENALTY BENCH**

Each rink will have seats or benches to be known as the "Penalty Bench". It is to be used for the seating of penalised players, Penalty Timekeeper and Game Timekeeper. The penalty bench should be located adjacent to centre floor and at a substantial distance from the player benches.

**RULE SEVEN - REFEREE'S CREASE**

A black line or chalk line (temporarily) in the shape of a semicircle and with a 3m (10') radius shall be marked on the floor immediately in front of the Penalty Timekeeper's bench. Players are restricted from entering this area during stoppage of play without permission from the referee.

**RULE EIGHT - SIGNAL AND TIMING DEVICE**

Each rink must have a suitable sound device to be used by the Game Timekeeper.

## SECTION II

### RULE NINE - COMPOSITION OF TEAM

- (a) A team on the floor shall not consist of more than five (5) players (see also Rule Thirteen). To officially start the game a team must have four (4) skaters and a net-minder on the floor ready to play.
- (b) A squad will consist of a number of players eligible to play for a single team, but limited to seventeen (17) players and three (3) net minders), from which the team roster for individual games, will be selected. Once the event organiser has accepted the squad list, no additions or substitutions will be permitted.  
The maximum number of players per game is sixteen (16), limited to fourteen (14) floor players and 2 net minders (not 15 floor players and 1 net minder) separately identified by uniform, and registered to the same team.

#### Minimum Team size

U06 to U12 age groups = minimum team size is 6 players and 1 netminder

U14 age group = minimum team size is 5 players and 1 netminder

U16 to senior age groups = minimum team size 4 players and 1 netminder

Additional team players can enter the game at any time prior to the start of the final period of normal time as long as they are listed on the game sheet and the referees have been notified

### RULE TEN - TEAM CAPTAIN

- (a) One Captain shall be appointed by each team, and that player alone shall have the privilege of discussing with the Referee any question relating to interpretation of rules which may arise during the progress of a game. The Captain shall wear the letter 'C,' approximately 8cm (3") in height and in contrasting colour, in a conspicuous position on the front of the jersey.
- (b) Each team should have a Captain on the floor at all times. If a Permanent Captain is not on the floor, Alternate Captains (not more than two) shall be accorded the privileges of the Captain. Alternate Captains shall wear the letter 'A,' approximately 8cm (3") in height and in a contrasting colour, in a conspicuous place on the front of their jerseys.
- (c) The Referee and Official Scorer shall be advised prior to the start of each game, the name of the Captain of the team, also the identity of the players who will serve as Alternate Captains when the Permanent Captain is off the floor.
- (d) No net minder shall be entitled to exercise the privileges of Captain or Alternate Captain on the floor.
- (e) Only the Captain or Alternate Captain on the floor at the time of the stoppage of play (but not both) shall have the privilege of discussing with the Referee any point relating to the interpretation of rules. Any Captain, Alternate Captain or player who comes off the bench and makes any protest or intervention with the Referee for any purpose must be awarded a misconduct penalty.
- (f) The team captain or coach must sign the game score sheet at the end of each game to verify the accuracy of the score sheet.

**NOTE:** A COMPLAINT ABOUT A PENALTY IS NOT A MATTER "RELATING TO THE INTERPRETATION OF THE RULES" AND A MISCONDUCT PENALTY SHALL BE ASSESSED AGAINST ANY CAPTAIN, ALTERNATE CAPTAIN OR OTHER PLAYER MAKING SUCH A COMPLAINT.

### RULE ELEVEN - UNIFORMED PLAYERS

- (a) At the beginning of each game the manager or coach of each team shall list the players and net minders who shall be eligible to play in the game.
- (b) A list of the names and numbers of all eligible players must be handed to the Referee or Official Scorer before the start of the game. No change in the list or additions thereto shall be permitted after the

## BIPHA Rule Book – September 2008 - 2009

commencement of the game except when a net minder has been injured or becomes ill. The name of another net minder may be designated on the list in substitution for the injured or ill net minder. However, only a player already on the list can make such a substitution.

- (c) Each team shall be allowed one net minder on the floor at one time. The net minder may be removed and another "player" substituted (five (5) outfield players with net minder removed). Substitutes shall not be permitted the privileges of the net minder.
- (d) Any substitute net minder entering the game for any reason shall not be permitted a warm-up.

### **RULE TWELVE - STARTING LINE UP**

- (a) To start a game a team must have a net minder and four (4) skaters on the floor at the Referee's whistle to start the game. If this requirement cannot be met then a forfeit shall be declared by the Referee against the team not able to field a net minder and four skaters. (See also Rule Sixty-Seven)

### **RULE THIRTEEN - CHANGE OF PLAYERS**

- (a) Players may be changed at any time from the player benches, provided that the player or players leaving the floor shall always be within 3m (10') of the bench before substitutions may come on the floor
- (b) A player serving a penalty on the penalty bench, who is to be changed after the penalty has been served, must proceed at once by the way of the floor and be at his own player bench before any change can be made.
- (c) If in the course of making a substitution, either the player entering the game or leaving the game intentionally plays the puck with his stick, skates or hands or makes physical contact with an opposing player while the player (either leaving or entering the game) is actually on the floor, then a Minor Penalty for "too many men on the surface" shall be assessed.  
However, in the course of leaving or entering the game, the player is accidentally struck by the puck, no penalty shall be assessed and play shall not be stopped.
- (d) When a net-minder leaves the goal area and proceeds to the player's bench for substitution, this must be done within 3m (10') of the bench area before the substitute may enter the game. If the team substituting has possession of the puck and the substitution is made prematurely, the official shall stop play immediately and a face-off will take place at either the centre face-off spot or end zone face-off spot (whichever location gives advantage to the non-offending team). If the team does not have possession of the puck and makes an illegal substitution, the referee shall assess a Minor Penalty.
- (e) A Bench Minor Penalty shall be assessed for violations of any of the above sections of Rule Thirteen. The player who committed the infraction shall serve the penalty.
- (f) If in the last two minutes of regular playing time, there is a DELIBERATE illegal substitution, which provided a team with too many players on the floor, a Penalty Shot shall be awarded to the non-offending team.

### **RULE FOURTEEN - INJURED PLAYERS**

- (a) When a player, other than a net minder is injured or compelled to leave the floor during a game, he may retire from the game and be replaced by a substitute, but play must continue without the teams leaving the floor.

**NOTE** - Play will be stopped when the puck hits the helmet of the netminder, unless this is deemed as deliberate. If a puck is directed into the net from the netminders helmet the goal will be awarded.

- (b) If a net minder sustains an injury or becomes ill he/ she must be ready to resume play immediately or be replaced by a substitute net minder, and NO additional time shall be allowed by the Referee for the purpose of enabling the injured or ill net minder to resume his position. No warm-up shall be given to the replacement net minder. (See also item (d) below.)
- (c) The Referee shall report to the Region or National Technical Director, as appropriate, for disciplinary action any delay in making a net minder substitution. The substitute net minder shall be subject to the regular rules governing net minders and shall be entitled to the same privileges.

- (d) When a substitution for the regular net minder has been made, the regular net minder shall not resume his position until the first stoppage of play thereafter.
- (e) If an injured player receives a minor penalty the penalised team shall place a substitute player on the penalty bench, and no other replacement for the penalised player shall be permitted to enter the game except from the penalty bench. For violation of this rule a Bench Minor Penalty shall be imposed. The penalised player who has been replaced on the penalty bench shall not be eligible to play until his penalty has expired.
- (f) When a player is injured so that he cannot continue play or go to his bench, the play shall not be stopped until the injured player's team has secured possession of the puck. If the player's team is in possession of the puck at the time of injury, play shall be stopped immediately, unless his team is in a scoring position.
- (g) A player other than the net minder whose injury appears serious enough to warrant a stoppage of play may not participate further in the game until the completion of the ensuing face-off.
- (h) If a player is bleeding or if an official believes the player needs medical attention, the player must be removed from the bench accordingly. The player may be allowed to return to the bench only after permission from the official.
- (i) Bloodstained shirts are prohibited on the pad for reasons of Health & Safety.

**NOTE:** In a case where it is obvious that a player has sustained a serious injury the referee may stop the play immediately regardless of who is in possession of the puck.

### SECTION III

#### RULE FIFTEEN - STICKS

- (a) The sticks shall be ice hockey style made of wood or other ice hockey approved material and must not have any projections. White adhesive tape may be wrapped around the blade for the purpose of reinforcement or to improve control of the puck.
- (b) No stick shall exceed 1.5m (60") in length from the heel to the end of the shaft, nor more than 32 cm (12.5") from the heel to the end of the blade. The stick blade should be curved, with no sharp angles. The curvature of the blade of the stick shall be restricted to one inch (1").
- (c) The blade of the floor players' stick must be a minimum of 5 cm (2") and may not exceed 9 cm (3.5") in width at any point.
- (d) The blade of the net minder's stick may not exceed 13 cm (5") in width at any point except at the heel where it must not exceed 14 cm (5.5") in width; nor shall the net minder's stick exceed 39 cm (15.5") in length from the heel to the end of the blade.  
The widened portion of the net minder's stick extending up the shaft of the blade shall not extend more than 61 cm (24") from the heel and shall not exceed 13 cm (5") in width.
- (e) All sticks shall be fitted with a butt end to prevent the end of the stick causing injury to a player. This may be of a purpose made variety or manufactured from stick tape and be a minimum of 4cm (1.5") in width. **NOTE:** As a rough guide, the end of the stick should not pass through the largest gaps of a face cage.
- (f) A minor penalty shall be assessed any player, including the net minder, for using a stick which does not conform to the provisions of this rule.

#### RULE SIXTEEN - SKATES

- (a) Skates to be used will be in-line skates only and may consist of either three or four wheels. Net minders may use five wheel skates. All wheels must be in place. All wheel bolts and axles must be covered with protective material so as not to injure other players or mar the skating surface.
- (b) No brakes shall be fitted to either the front or back of the skate.
- (c) Any player found on the floor breaking any of the above rules will receive a minor penalty, and may not return to play until the fault is corrected.

#### RULE SEVENTEEN - NET MINDER'S EQUIPMENT

- (a) With the exception of skates and sticks, all equipment worn by the net minder must be constructed solely for the protection of the head or body, and must not include any garment or contrivance which would give the net minder undue assistance in keeping goal.
- (b) The net minder must at all times during the game wear a protective cup (or pelvic protection for females), a throat protector or Perspex neck guard, a chest protector which conforms to the body, regulation net minder's gloves (ice hockey, non-modified), net minder's pads not exceeding 30 cm (12") in width, and a HECC/CSA helmet designed for a net minder (or a helmet with face cage (HECC/CSA) and Perspex neck guard attached or a net minder's throat protector). If the net minder wears forearm guards they must be soft and pliable and conform to his forearms.

**NOTE:** The lacing or webbing or other material joining the thumb and index finger of the net minder's glove or any cage, pocket or pouch created by this material, must not exceed the minimum amount of material necessary to fill the gap between the thumb and the index finger when they are fully extended and spread.

- (c) Protective padding attached to the back of, or forming part of, the net minder's gloves shall not exceed 20 cm (8") in width or 40 cm (16") in length.
- (d) Abdominal aprons extending down the thighs or the outside of the pants are prohibited.

- (e) Net minder's pads shall not exceed 30 cm (12") in extreme width as measured on the net minder, and shall not be altered in any way.
- (f) All equipment, with the exception of puck and skates will be regulation hockey equipment.
- (g) All net minders are required to wear HECC/CSA approved full head protection helmet with a full facemask. **NOTE:** HECC/CSA approved Cats Eyes helmets/facemasks are permitted in BIPHA. Non-Certified Cats Eyes helmets/facemasks are not permitted in BIPHA.
- (h) A minor penalty shall be assessed a net minder guilty of using or wearing illegal equipment. (Refer to Rule Twenty-Four).

#### **RULE EIGHTEEN - PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT**

- (a) All protective equipment except gloves, headgear or net minder leg pads must be entirely under the uniform. Leather elbow patches on the outside of the jersey are prohibited. After one warning by the Referee, a minor penalty shall be imposed on the offending player for violation of this rule.
- (b) All players must wear HECC/CSA approved helmets and with a chinstrap properly fastened.

Full-face protection is mandatory for all players who, by virtue of date of birth, are eligible to play in the Under 18 or below age groups.

A Half Visor or full-face protection is mandatory for all players, who by virtue of date of birth, are eligible to play in the Under 21 age group (**except the net minder**).

**Please note:** players playing up to the Under 21 age group from younger age groups must adhere to the Under 18 or below age group mandatory protective equipment regulations.

Players who, by virtue of date of birth, may only play in the Senior age group may wear full-face protection, half visors or dispense with face protection entirely (**except the net minder**).

**Please note:** players playing up from the Under 18 or below age groups must adhere to the Under 18 or below age group mandatory protective equipment regulations; players playing up from the Under 21 age group must adhere to the Under 21 age group mandatory protective equipment regulations.

- (c) All players must wear approved ice or roller hockey gloves.
- (d) All players must wear full-length shin guards and elbow pads, entirely under the uniform.
- (e) All players (male/female) must wear pelvic protection (box) at all times during the game.
- (f) All players must wear upper body protection (U21's and Seniors excepted).
- (g) All players may wear neck guards. These are optional, but highly recommended.
- (h) All players must wear approved padded shorts or girdles or long padded coveralls.
- (i) All eyeglass wearers must wear full-face cage/visor or half visor depending on age. As per Rule 18 (b)
- (j) With the exception of a plain band wedding ring all jewellery and any facial piercing should be removed prior to play. If this is not possible, then these should be covered by tape.

**NOTE:** The NEC strongly advises all players to refrain from playing in cases where removal and covering with tape is not possible (i.e. tongue piercing).

- (k) A minor penalty shall be awarded for any violation of protective equipment.

**NOTE:** Upper body protection and full facemasks are optional, but highly recommended, for players who by virtue of date of birth are in the U21 or Senior age group.

#### **RULE NINETEEN - DANGEROUS EQUIPMENT**

## BIPHA Rule Book – September 2008 - 2009

- (a) The use of pads or protectors made of metal or any other material likely to cause injury to a player is prohibited.
- (b) A glove from which all or part of the palm has been removed or cut to permit the use of bare fingers shall be considered illegal equipment and if any player wears such a glove in play a minor penalty shall be imposed on him.
- (c) Any player wearing any protective device prescribed by a physician must have the permission of BIPHA prior to playing.

### **RULE TWENTY - PUCKS**

- (a) The puck shall be the puck approved by the BIPHA National Technical Director, on behalf of the BIPHA National Executive Committee.
- (b) The home team or host shall be responsible for providing an adequate supply of official pucks. Supply of pucks shall be kept at the penalty bench under the control of one of the regular minor officials or a special attendant.

### **RULE TWENTY-ONE - UNIFORMS**

- (a) Uniforms will require identical long-sleeve shirts and preferably full-length pants. Net minder jerseys will be the same colour and design as other team members.
- (b) All players participating in contests will have two jerseys of different colours, one of which should be predominately white in colour.
- (c) All players shall wear upon the backs of their jerseys identifying numbers not less than 20 cm to 25 cm (8" to 10") in height.
  - 1) All numbers assigned must be whole numbers only between 00 and 99 (no fractions decimals etc.).
  - 2) No two members of the same team will be assigned or permitted to wear the same number.
  - 3) Individual player's numbers may not be changed or substituted after the start of the game.
  - 4) The team Captain shall have a "C" and up to two Alternate Captains shall have an "A" approximately 8cm (3") in height in a contrasting colour, in a conspicuous place on the front of their jerseys.
  - 5) Players may optionally have their proper name displayed on the backs of their jerseys, nicknames will not be acceptable, and the displayed name must be the same as the name declared on the squad and team list.
- (d) The entire uniform: "jersey and pants" must match in style and colour for all National (i.e. Great Britain) teams.
- (e) It will be the responsibility of the home team to change its jerseys if the colours of the competing team conflict. The decision in this matter shall be left to the Referee in charge of the game. The home team is to wear a predominately white jersey.

### **RULE TWENTY-TWO - UNIFORM INSPECTION**

- (a) All players may be asked to report to the Referee before the start of the team's first game for uniform and equipment inspection. The Referee is required to refuse participation to any player who refuses to comply with this rule.
- (b) Should a player report for play wearing insufficient protective clothing (see rule 18) the Referee is required to bar the player from the game until correctly dressed.
- (c) Should a player report for play wearing a uniform bearing illegal inscriptions, the Referee is required to request that the offending inscription to be removed. If refused, the offender shall be barred from the game or contest, or in any matter participating in the event and the matter must be reported to the Region or National Technical Director, as appropriate.

**BIPHA Rule Book – September 2008 - 2009**

- (d) The coach and manager of the team are responsible for ensuring their players are wearing the correct kit/equipment.

**SECTION IV**

**RULE TWENTY-THREE - PENALTIES**

- (a) Penalties shall be actual playing time and shall be divided into the following classes:
- 1) Minor Penalties (2 mins)
  - 2) Bench Minor Penalties (2 mins)
  - 3) Major Penalties (5 mins)
  - 4) Misconduct Penalties (10 mins)
  - 5) Match Penalties (5 mins)
  - 6) Game Penalties (10 mins)
  - 7) Penalty Shot
- (b) COINCIDENTAL MINOR/ MAJOR PENALTIES are penalties that do not cause either team to be short-handed (i.e. 4 on 4 or 3 on 3), and occur when players from both teams simultaneously receive equal length penalties. When coincident penalties are assessed, the penalised players take their places on their respective penalty benches, and both teams are able to make immediate substitutions for these penalised players.  
The penalised players are required to serve the full amount of assessed time and must remain in the penalty box until the first stoppage of play after the expiration of time.  
If one team is already short of a player because of an earlier penalty, coincidental penalties will not change the number of players on the floor.
- (c) Players may not leave the penalty bench until their penalty has expired, end of periods or the end of the game. The player may not leave for any other reason, except for medical attention. In this case, a substitute will sit the penalty imposed.

**NOTE:** When play is not actually in progress and any player commits an offence, the same penalty shall apply as though play were actually in progress.

**NOTE:** When a penalised player's time has expired or has been terminated by scoring of a goal, that player must return to the playing surface prior to being substituted.

**RULE TWENTY FOUR - MINOR PENALTIES**

- (a) For a "Minor Penalty," any player, other than a net minder, shall be ruled off the floor for two minutes, this time will be spent on the penalty bench during which time no substitute shall be permitted. The player may return to play immediately on expiration of the penalty.

For the third penalty in the same game, to the same player, including the net minder, the player shall receive an additional ten-minute misconduct penalty.

Any subsequent (fourth) penalty incurred within the same game will result in that player being assessed an additional two-minute minor unsportsmanlike penalty (2 minutes for infraction plus 2 minutes for unsportsmanlike conduct), any subsequent (fifth) penalty assessed against the same player in the same game shall result in an additional game ejection penalty being assessed

**NOTE:** An immediate substitution is permitted, with a floor player serving the penalty without charge and no replacement for the penalised player shall be permitted to enter the game except from the penalty bench. The offending player will serve the entire penalty.

Any subsequent Major penalty assessed against the same player in the same game shall result in a game misconduct penalty being assessed.

- (b) A "Bench Minor" penalty involves the removal from the floor of one player of the team against which the penalty is awarded for a period of two minutes. Any player on the floor may be designated to serve the penalty by the manager or coach through the playing Captain and such player shall take his place on the penalty bench promptly and serve the penalty as if it was a minor penalty imposed upon him. A bench minor penalty will NOT be recorded against the player serving the penalty but recorded against the team.

## BIPHA Rule Book – September 2008 - 2009

- (c) If while a team is "short-handed" by one or more minor or bench minor penalties the opposing team scores a goal, the first of such penalties shall automatically terminate. Penalties shall not reduce the floor strength of the teams below three floor players. Such penalties shall become delayed until such time as they can be served (see Rule Thirty).

**NOTE:** "Short-handed" means that the team must be below the numerical strength of its opponents on the floor at the time the goal is scored. The minor or bench minor penalty, which terminates automatically when the team is scored against, is the one, which initially caused the team scored against to be "short-handed" (first penalty). However, coincident minor penalties to both teams do NOT cause either side to be "short-handed", because although each team has a player in the penalty box, the number of floor players is not affected. Therefore the penalty time awarded for coincidental penalties is never shortened by a goal being scored.

**NOTE:** This rule shall also apply when a goal is scored on a penalty shot, which was awarded in lieu of another penalty.

- (d) When a player receives a major penalty and a minor penalty at the same time, the major penalty shall be served first by the penalised player except under Rule Thirty in which case the minor penalty will be recorded and served first.

**NOTE:** This applies in the case where BOTH penalties are imposed on the SAME player. (See also the note to Rule Thirty).

- (e) A coincidental penalty shall not deprive a team of its player advantage during the final minutes of the game when an opposing team has only two (2) floor players eligible for play (not including the net minder). Should such an opposing team provoke a coincidental penalty that cannot be fully served because of insufficient time remaining in the game; the other team will retain its player advantage. Rule Thirty states that a team shall not receive more than two simultaneous penalties, which would give the short-handed team an incentive for provoking a concurrent penalty during the final minutes of play, with only the strong-sided team eligible to lose a player. A player on the short-handed team who creates such a penalty situation must leave the game, to be replaced by a teammate.

### RULE TWENTY-FIVE - MAJOR PENALTIES

- (a) For the first 'Major Penalty' in any one game, the offender, except the net minder, shall be ruled off the floor for five minutes, during which time no substitute shall be permitted. The player may return to play immediately on expiration of the penalty.

**NOTE:** A goal scored does not terminate this penalty.

- (b) For the second major penalty in the same game, to the same player, including the net minder, the player shall receive a five-minute major penalty and an automatic game misconduct.

**NOTE:** An immediate substitution is permitted, with a floor player serving the major penalty without charge and no replacement for the penalised player shall be permitted to enter the game except from the penalty bench. The offending player will have both penalties recorded to his name.

- (c) When coincident major penalties are imposed against an equal number of players on each team, the penalised players shall all take their places on the penalty benches and such penalised players shall not leave the penalty bench until the first stoppage of play following the expiration of their respective penalties. Immediate substitutions shall be made for the players so penalised, and their penalties shall not be taken into account for the purpose of the delayed penalty, Rule Thirty.

- (d) When coincident penalties of equal duration, including a major penalty are imposed upon a player of each team, the penalised players shall take their places on the penalty bench and such players shall not leave the penalty bench until the first stoppage of play, following the expiration of their respective penalties. Immediate substitution shall be made for the players so penalised and their penalties shall not be taken into account for the purpose of the delayed penalty Rule Thirty or Rule Twenty Seven.

- (e) When coincident penalties of unequal duration (each including one major penalty) are imposed upon a player of each team the penalised players shall take their places on the penalty bench and such players shall not leave the penalty bench until the first stoppage of play following the expiration of their respective penalties.

- (f) The penalties that created the disparity in total penalty time between the players penalised shall be served first in the normal way by the players penalised. Immediate substitution shall be permitted for the major penalties of each player.
- (g) Account shall be taken of the penalties which created the disparity in the total penalty time awarded to the players affected for the purpose of the delayed penalty, Rule 30 and for Rule Twenty Four (c) (a goal scored against a short-handed team).

#### **RULE TWENTY-SIX - MISCONDUCT PENALTIES**

- (a) "Misconduct Penalties" to all players except the net minder, involve removal from the game for a period of ten minutes each. A substitute player is permitted to immediately replace a player serving a misconduct penalty. A player whose misconduct penalty has expired shall remain in the penalty box until the next stoppage of play.
- (b) When a player receives a minor penalty and a misconduct penalty at the same time, the penalised team shall immediately place a substitute player on the penalty bench and he shall serve the minor penalty without charge and no replacement for the penalised player shall be permitted to enter the game except from the penalty bench. The offending player will have both penalties recorded to his name.
- (c) When a player receives a major penalty and a misconduct penalty at the same time, the penalised team shall immediately place a substitute player on the penalty bench and he shall serve the major penalty without charge and no replacement for the penalised player shall be permitted to enter the game except from the penalty bench. The offending player will have both penalties recorded to his name. Any violation of this provision shall be treated as an illegal substitution under Rule Thirteen calling for a bench minor penalty.
- (d) A 'Game Misconduct Penalty' involves the suspension of a player for the balance of the game and he shall have ten minutes charged in the record to his name. A substitute is permitted to replace immediately, without charge, the player so removed. His case shall be reported to the National/Regional Technical Director (as appropriate) who shall have full power to impose such further penalty as deemed fitting.
- (e) A Game Misconduct to a player shall result in an automatic one game suspension (immediate next game in the age group the penalty was assessed).
- (f) A second Game Misconduct to a player in the same tournament shall result in an automatic match penalty.
- (g) Any player incurring three (3) stick penalties will be assessed an additional **game ejection penalty** (removed from that game only), unless covered under rules. A substitute must serve any time penalty that the ejected player was assessed. Stick infractions are: slashing, high sticking, crosschecking, butt ending and spearing.

#### **RULE TWENTY SEVEN - MATCH PENALTIES**

- (a) A 'Match Penalty' involves the suspension of a player for the balance of the game, the offender shall be ordered to the dressing room immediately and shall have ten minutes charged in the record to his name. A substitute player must be placed on the penalty bench to serve a five-minute penalty without charge and no replacement for the penalised player shall be permitted to enter the game except from the penalty bench, and may not return onto the floor regardless of goals scored.

**NOTE:** Regulations regarding additional penalties and substitutions are specifically covered in individual Rules Forty - Fifty and Fifty-Nine; any additional penalty shall be served by a player designated by the manager or coach of the offending team through the playing captain.

**NOTE:** When coincident match penalties have been imposed under Rule Forty Five or Rule Fifty Nine to a player on both teams, Rule Twenty Five (d) - (f) covering coincident major penalties will not be applicable.

## BIPHA Rule Book – September 2008 - 2009

- (b) A player incurring a match penalty shall be reported and investigated promptly by the National or Regional Technical Director (as appropriate) who shall have full power to impose such further penalty as deemed fitting.
- (c) A match penalty shall disqualify that player for the remainder of the tournament.

**NOTE:** A match penalty during a national tournament is immediate removal from the tournament plus an automatic additional 3 match ban in the league/home region at that age group (plays no other age group until ban has been served and this carries over in to following season), plus compulsory disciplinary where further game bans of between 4 games to 12 months may be imposed (expulsion in the case of physical assault of official). In the event of Rule 50 (h) being imposed the disciplinary panel reserve the right to suspend the player from BIPHA NEC organised events for a period of ONE YEAR.

**NOTE:** A match penalty during the league/home region is immediate removal from the game plus an automatic additional 3 game ban at that age group (plays no other age group until ban has been served and this carries over in to following season), plus compulsory disciplinary where further game bans of between 4 games to 12 months may be imposed (expulsion in the case of physical assault of official).

**NOTE:** If a player receives a match penalty or any number of game penalties and moves up an age group while that penalty is being served the penalty remains in force, i.e. An U16 player receives a match penalty during the last game of the season, the player then moves up to U18. The player will serve the ban as stipulated above in the U18 age group.

**NOTE:** Any player serving a match penalty will not be permitted to take part in any regional or national tournaments until the suspension has been expunged.

### RULE TWENTY-EIGHT - PENALTY SHOT

- (a) Any infraction of the rules which calls for a "Penalty Shot" shall be taken as follows: The Referee shall clearly announce the name of the player designated by him or selected by the team entitled to take the shot (as appropriate).
- (b) The time required for the taking of a penalty shot will not be included in the regular playing time or any overtime.
- (c) All other players shall retire to their respective player benches.
- (d) The Referee shall place the puck on the centre face-off spot and the player taking the shot will, on the whistle of the Referee, play the puck from there and shall attempt to score on the net minder,
- (e) The net minder must stay in the crease until the referee sounds the whistle. The player taking the shot must keep the puck in motion towards the opponents' goal line and once it is shot the play shall be considered complete. No goal can be scored on a rebound of any kind and any time the puck crosses the goal line the shot shall be considered complete.
- (f) The net minder may attempt to stop the shot in any manner except by throwing his stick or any other object, in which case a goal shall be awarded.

**NOTE:** See Rule Seventy-One.

- (g) In cases where a penalty shot has been awarded under Rule Sixty One (h) (for illegal entry into the game), under Rule Seventy One (a) (for throwing a stick) and under Rule Fifty Nine (c) (for fouling from behind), the Referee shall designate the player who has been fouled as the player who takes the penalty shot.
- (h) In cases where a penalty shot has been awarded under Rule Forty Nine (failing on the puck in the crease), or Rule Fifty Three (d) (picking up the puck from the crease area), the penalty shot shall be taken by a player selected by the Captain of the non-offending team from the players on the floor at the time when the foul was committed. Such selection shall be reported to the Referee and cannot be changed.
- (i) If by reason of injury, the player designated by the Referee to take the penalty shot is unable to do so within a reasonable time, a player selected by the Captain of the non-offending team from the players

on the floor when the foul was committed may take the shot. Such selection shall be reported to the Referee and cannot be changed.

- (j) Should the player in respect to whom a penalty shot has been awarded himself commit a foul in connection with the same play or circumstances, either before or after the penalty has been awarded, be designated to take the shot, he shall first be permitted to do so before being sent to the penalty bench to serve the penalty.
- (k) If at the time a penalty shot is awarded and the net minder of the penalised team has been removed from the floor to substitute another player, the net minder shall be permitted to return to the floor before the penalty shot is taken.
- (l) If a goal is scored from a penalty shot, the puck shall be faced at centre floor in the usual way. If a goal is not scored the puck shall be faced at either of the end face-off spots in the end in which the penalty shot has been tried.
- (m) Should a goal be scored from a penalty shot, a further penalty to the offending player shall not be applied unless the offence for which the penalty shot was awarded was such as to incur a major or match penalty, in which case the penalty prescribed, for the particular offence, shall be imposed.
- (n) If the offence for which the penalty shot was awarded was such as would normally incur a minor penalty, then regardless of whether the penalty shot results in a goal or not, no further minor penalty shall be served.
- (o) If the offence upon which the penalty shot is based occurs during actual playing time, the penalty shot shall be awarded and taken immediately in the usual manner notwithstanding any delay occasioned by a slow whistle by the Referee to permit the play to be completed which delay results in the expiration of the regular playing time in any period.
- (p) If an opposing player other than the net minder interferes with a player taking a penalty shot, a goal will be automatically awarded whether or not goal was made.

#### **RULE TWENTY-NINE - NET MINDER PENALTIES**

**NOTE:** All penalties imposed on a net minder regardless of who serves the penalty or any substitution, shall be charged in the records against the net minder.

- (a) A net minder who incurs a minor penalty shall not be sent to the penalty bench but shall have two minutes charged in the record to his name and the penalty shall be served without charge by a player who was on the floor when the offence was committed, the player to be designated by the manager or coach of the offending team through the playing Captain and no substitute will be permitted.
- (b) A net minder who incurs a major penalty shall not be sent to the penalty bench but shall have five minutes charged in the record to his name and the penalty shall be served without charge by a player who was on the floor when the offence was committed, the player to be designated by the manager or coach of the offending team through the playing Captain and no substitute will be permitted.
- (c) A net minder who incurs a misconduct penalty shall not be sent to the penalty bench but shall have ten minutes charged in the record to his name and the penalty shall be served without charge by a player who was on the floor when the offence was committed, the player to be designated by the manager or coach of the offending team through the playing Captain. A substitute player is permitted to immediately replace the player serving a misconduct penalty. When the misconduct penalty has expired the player shall remain in the penalty box until the next stoppage of play.
- (d) A net minder who incurs a game misconduct penalty shall be suspended for the balance of the game and shall have ten minutes charged in the record to his name.
  - 1) His place will be taken by the teams' substitute net minder, if one is available, or by any other member of his team. Any such other player will be allowed a ten-minute period to change into the net minder's full equipment.
  - 2) The incident shall be reported to the National/ Regional Technical Director (as appropriate) who shall have full power to impose such further penalty as deemed fitting.

## BIPHA Rule Book – September 2008 - 2009

- 3) A Game Misconduct to a net-minder shall result in an automatic one game suspension (immediate next game in the age group in which the penalty was assessed).
  - 4) A second Game Misconduct to a net-minder in the same tournament shall result in an automatic match penalty.
- (e) A net minder who incurs a match penalty shall be suspended for the balance of the game and shall have ten minutes charged in the record to his name.
- 1) His place will be taken by the teams' substitute net minder, if one is available, or by any other member of his team. Any such other player will be allowed a ten-minute period to change into the net minder's full equipment.
  - 2) A player from the floor must additionally be placed on the penalty bench to serve a five-minute penalty without charge and no replacement player shall be permitted to enter the game except from the penalty bench, and may not return onto the floor regardless of goals scored.
  - 3) Any additional penalties as specifically called for by the individual rules covering match penalties, will apply, and the offending team shall be penalised accordingly; such additional penalty to be served by another member of the team on the floor at the time the offence was committed, the said player is to be designated by the manager or coach of the offending team through the playing Captain (see Rules Forty, Forty Five and Fifty Nine).
  - 4) The incident shall be reported to the National or Regional Technical Director (as appropriate) who shall have full power to impose such further penalty as deemed fitting.
  - 5) A match penalty shall disqualify that player for the remainder of the tournament.
- (f) When a net minder leaves the immediate vicinity of his goal crease and takes part in any altercation he shall be given a game misconduct penalty.
- (g) If a net minder participates in the play in any manner when he is beyond the centre line a minor penalty shall be imposed on him.
- (h) Any player (including net minder) who deliberately displaces the goal post to prevent a breakaway scoring opportunity by the opposing team or deliberately displaces the goal post during an ideal scoring opportunity by the opposing team will result in a penalty shot awarded to the opposing team. If the infraction takes place while the net minder has been replaced in the game for an extra attacker, an automatic goal shall be awarded.

### **RULE THIRTY - DELAYED PENALTIES**

- (a) If a third player of any team shall be penalised while two players of the same team are serving penalties, the penalty time of the third player shall not commence until the penalty time of one of the two players already penalised shall have elapsed. Nevertheless, the third player penalised must, at once, proceed to the penalty bench but may be replaced by a substitute until such time as the penalty time of the penalised player shall commence.
- (b) When any team shall have three players serving penalties at the same time and because of the delayed penalty rule, a substitute for the third offender is on the floor, none of the three penalised players on the penalty bench may return to the floor until play has been stopped. When play has been stopped, the player whose full penalty has expired may return to the play and the substitute player shall return to the team bench.
- (c) In the case of delayed penalties, the Referee shall instruct the Penalty Timekeeper that penalised players whose penalties have expired shall only be allowed to return to the floor when there is a stoppage of play. When the penalties of two players of the same team will expire at the same time the Captain of that team will designate to the Referee which of such players will return to the floor first, and the Referee will instruct the Penalty Timekeeper accordingly.
- (d) When a major and a minor penalty are imposed at the same time on players of the same team the Penalty Timekeeper will record the minor as being the first of such penalties.
- (e) When a delayed penalty is going to be assessed to a team that is already short-handed by reason of a minor, bench minor penalty and the non-offending team scores a goal that team shall have the current time penalty terminate and the delayed penalty shall be assessed and that team will serve the assessed penalty.

**NOTE:** This applies to the case where the two penalties are imposed on DIFFERENT players of the same team (see also NOTE to Rule Twenty Four).

### **RULE THIRTY-ONE - CALLING OF PENALTIES**

- (a) Should an infraction of the rules which would call for a minor, major, misconduct or match penalty be committed by a player of the side in possession of the puck, the Referee shall immediately blow his whistle and give the penalties to the deserving players.
- (b) The resulting face-off shall be made at the face-off spot nearest where the play stopped or at centre floor so as not to disadvantage the non-offending team.
- (c) Should an infraction of the rules which would call for a minor, major, misconduct, or match penalty be committed by a player of the team not in possession of the puck, the Referee shall signify the calling of a delayed penalty by raising his right arm straight above his head and point with his left hand at the offending player. On completion of the play by the team in possession, or loss of possession to the offending team, the Referee will immediately blow his whistle and assess the penalty to the offending player.
- (d) The resulting face-off shall be made at the nearest face-off spot to where the play stopped or at centre floor so as not to disadvantage the non-offending team.
- (e) If the penalty to be imposed is a minor penalty, and a goal is scored on the play by the non-offending team the minor penalty shall not be imposed, but major, misconduct, match and game penalties shall be imposed in the normal manner regardless of whether a goal is scored or not. (The Timekeeper or Scorekeeper as appropriate shall record the penalty).
- (f) Should the same offending player commit other fouls on the same play either before or after the Referee has blown his whistle, the offending player shall serve such penalties consecutively.

**NOTE:** "Completion of the play by the team in possession." This rule means that the puck must have come into the possession and control of an opposing player or has been "frozen". This does not mean a rebound off the net minder, the goal cage or any accidental contact with the body or equipment of an opposing player.

**NOTE:** If after the Referee has signalled a penalty but before the whistle has been blown the puck shall enter the goal of the non-offending team as the direct result of the action of a player of that team, the goal shall be allowed and the penalty signalled shall be imposed in the normal manner.

**NOTE:** If when a team is "short-handed" by reason of one or more minor or bench minor penalties the Referee signals a further minor penalty against the "short-handed" team and a goal is scored by the non-offending side before the whistle is blown then the delayed penalty shall be served and the first of the minor penalties already being served shall automatically terminate under Rule Twenty Four (c).

**NOTE:** If a player amasses 30 minutes (or more) of penalties in any one age group he/she will automatically receive a ONE game ban. This ban must be served in the immediate next game in the age group the player amassed the penalty minutes. The player will be free to play in other age groups.

**NOTE:** Penalty minutes and all other statistics, except for serious infractions resulting in multiple game bans, are NOT transferred between National and Regional events.

**NOTE:** With the exception of a ONE game ban occurring for amassed penalty minutes and/or under Rule 26(e) any member of the BIPHA who is subject to multiple game bans will serve that ban in the age group the ban was issued at and remain suspended from all other age groups until that ban has been served and will not be permitted to take part in any regional or national tournaments until the suspension has been expunged.

**NOTE:** If, during the game where the player reaches the 30-minute penalty limit, that player ALSO receives a penalty under Rule 26(e), that player will serve an automatic two game suspension (immediate next two games in the age group the penalty was assessed).

**League Season**

Game Misconduct penalties, Match Penalties, Gross Misconduct penalties and Multi match bans, resulting from any one game, may only be appealed against in writing to the RTD in that Region for League matches. If an appeal is lodged then the player in question will be suspended until the appropriate appeal committee as outlined in the BIPHA Code of Conduct hears the appeal

**National Tournaments**

Game Misconduct penalties, Match Penalties, Gross Misconduct penalties and Multi match bans, resulting from any one game, may only be appealed against in writing to the NTD. If an appeal is lodged then the player in question will be suspended until the appropriate appeal committee as outlined in the BIPHA Code of Conduct hears the appeal.

All members of the BIPHA have the right to appeal against any disciplinary committee decision. The procedures to appeal are written in the BIPHA Code of Conduct.

If an appeal is lodged then the player in question will be suspended until the appropriate appeal committee as outlined in the BIPHA Constitution hears the appeal

**SECTION V**

**RULE THIRTY-TWO - APPOINTMENT OF OFFICIALS**

- (a) The Regional or National Technical Director (on behalf of the Regional or National Executive Committee) as appropriate, shall appoint the best officials available.

**NOTE:** All referees operating within the jurisdiction of the BIPHA must be affiliated to the association and hold a current referee warrant, letter of appointment or similar document, either issued by or recognised by the National Technical Director, on behalf of the National Executive committee.

- (b) Referees and minor officials must be treated with courtesy at all times by all players and team officials. Any infraction of this rule will be reported to the Chief Referee and a minor penalty will be imposed on the offending player or a bench minor in the case of a team official. All such instances will be reported to the National or Regional Technical Director who may assess further penalties as the infraction warrants.
- (c) Two Referees will be used in all games, one of which will be named as the Chief Referee. They shall have similar duties, but in areas of controversy the decision of the Chief Referee will be final.
- (d) A Chief Referee shall have full authority and final decision in all matters of dispute. His/ her decision shall be final on all questions of fact and not subject to appeal.

**NOTE:** The National or Regional Director (for the National or Regional Executive Committee) can appoint additional officials for events at his discretion.

**RULE THIRTY-THREE - REFEREE**

- (a) The Referees are the official representatives of the BIPHA. They shall be in full control of players on and off the floor. Referees, minor officials and the officials connected with the competing clubs, shall have the full backing of the BIPHA National Executive Committee in all legitimate circumstances.
- (b) The Referees shall see that the teams are called to the floor at the appointed time for the commencement of each game, and at the start of each regulation and overtime period. The Referees shall remain on the floor at the conclusion of each period, and any overtime, until the players have proceeded to their benches or dressing room.
- (c) The Referees shall require the team officials to carry out a kit check of their players prior to the start of each game.

**NOTE:** On any reasonable request by the manager or coach of either team, requested through the playing captain or assistant captain (but not both), the referee shall carry out a kit check of an identified player. A bench minor penalty shall be imposed on the team for requesting such a kit check if the identified player being checked is found to be wearing correct equipment.

- (d) The Referees shall assess all penalties as prescribed by the rules for the infractions thereof.
- (e) The Chief Referee shall have the final decision on all goals, disputed or not. The Referee may consult with the goal judge (if used) before giving his final decision. The Chief Referee will be identified as the first name on the score sheet.
- (f) Before starting the game, the Referees shall see that the appointed game timekeeper, penalty timekeepers, official scorer and goal judges are in their respective places.
- (g) The Referees shall announce to the official timekeeper the duration of the penalties and the rule infractions involved, and also to whom the goals and assists are to be credited.
- (h) After each game, the Referees shall check that all the game score sheets bear the signatures of the team captains (or coach) before adding their own signature to confirm that the score sheet is a true record of events.
- (i) If the Referees cannot appear for the match the meet director shall appoint a referee.

## BIPHA Rule Book – September 2008 - 2009

- (j) If the regularly scheduled appointed officials appear during the progress of the game they shall replace the temporary officials immediately.
- (k) The Referees in charge shall be a thoroughly disinterested party.
- (l) All Referees shall wear an approved protective helmet and be dressed in dark blue or black trousers and a striped shirt or attire approved by the National Technical Director. FIRS referees will be identified by wearing referees' orange armbands.
- (m) Referees are required to report on the official game report all misconduct and gross misconduct and match penalties immediately following the game involved giving full details to the Regional Technical Director who will then forward the details to the National Technical Director (for National Executive Committee). Such reports are to be confidential.

### **RULE THIRTY-FOUR - GOAL JUDGES (optional)**

- (a) There shall be one goal judge behind each goal. They shall not be members of either competing team nor shall they be replaced during the progress of the game unless it becomes apparent that either goal judge on account of partisanship or any other cause is guilty of giving unjust decisions. In such cases the Chief Referee may appoint another goal judge to act in his place.
- (b) Each goal judge must be stationed in the designated area behind the goal for the duration of the game and shall not change ends at any time after the game begins. Their jurisdiction is limited to that game only.
- (c) In the event of a goal being claimed, the goal judge of that goal shall decide whether or not the puck has passed between the goal posts and entirely over the goal line. His decision will simply be goal or no goal. **NOTE:** See Rule Thirty-Three (e)
- (d) The use of goal judges and their positioning will be at the discretion of the meet director.

### **DUTIES OF A GOAL JUDGE**

- (a) To extend both hands in the air above his head when the puck has completely passed over the goal line between the goal posts.
- (b) He must keep an accurate count of saves by the net minder.  
**NOTE:** A save is only when a goal would be scored except the net minder stopped it.
- (c) The goal judge should assist the Referee on a decision as to whether an opposing player was in the crease before the puck entered the crease.
- (d) Check the net to make sure there are no holes that the puck can get through.
- (e) See that at all times the goal cage is kept in its correct position of the floor.
- (f) When the net minder has frozen the puck and it becomes unplayable the goal judge should extend one arm above his head to signal to the Referee.
- (g) When a shot is made on goal and it does not score, the goal judge shall extend his arms straight out from his sides.

### **RULE THIRTY-FIVE - PENALTY TIMEKEEPER**

- (a) The penalty timekeeper shall keep the time served by each penalised player during the game and upon request inform the penalised player of the unfinished time of his penalty.
- (b) If a player leaves the penalty bench before his time has expired the penalty timekeeper shall note the time and signal the Referee who will stop the play as soon as possible.
- (c) Where public address systems are used, the penalty timekeeper shall announce or have announced the name of each penalised player the nature of the offence and the penalty assessed.

**RULE THIRTY-SIX - OFFICIAL SCORER**

- (a) The official scorer or timekeeper (as appropriate) shall enter into the official game report a correct record of the goals scored, who scored, and to whom credit is given for assists if any. The scorer or timekeeper (as appropriate) shall also keep a correct record of all penalties assessed stating the names and numbers of the penalised players, the duration of each penalty, the infraction and the time the penalty was assessed.
- (b) At the completion of each game the official scorer or timekeeper (as appropriate) shall sign the official game report and have the team captain (or coach) and both Referees sign it. He shall then forward the game report to the designated National or Regional Executive Committee member.
- (c) Prior to the start of the game, the official scorer or timekeeper (as appropriate) shall obtain from the manager or coach of each team the complete line-up, verified and signed by the team official in charge. Captain and Alternate Captains of each team shall be duly noted on the official game report.
- (d) The official scorer or timekeeper (as appropriate) shall submit the complete line-up of the competing teams to the Referee prior to the start of the game, and shall draw to the Referee's attention any circumstances that he believes does not comply with the rules.
- (e) The official scorer or timekeeper (as appropriate) shall advise the Referee when the same player has received his second or third penalty or his second misconduct penalty in the same game.
- (f) Where a public address system is used, the official scorer or timekeeper (as appropriate) shall announce, or have announced, immediately following the scoring of each goal, the name of the player who scored the goal, and the name of each player who received an assist.

**RULE THIRTY-SEVEN - GAME TIMEKEEPER**

- (a) The game timekeeper shall record the time of the starting and finishing of each game, and all actual playing time during the game.
- (b) The game timekeeper shall signal the Referee for the commencement of the game, the start of each period, and for each overtime period.  
If the rink is not equipped with an automatic buzzer, gong or siren or if this equipment should fail to operate, the game timekeeper shall, by means of a whistle or other device, signal the end of each period, each overtime period, and the end of the game.
- (c) The game timekeeper shall announce or have announced when TWO MINUTES of actual playing time remains in each regulation or overtime period.
- (d) The game timekeeper shall record the times of all scores and penalties. All times shall be recorded in minutes and seconds.
- (e) The game timekeeper will also assume the role of official scorer in all games where an official scorer is not available

**NOTE:** In the event of a fight/mass brawl on the pad it is the duty of all game officials to make every attempt to record shirt numbers of players involved. The referees will use this information when assessing penalties. In the event of a disciplinary hearing and/or appeal all game officials will be asked to submit a written report.

SECTION VI

**RULE THIRTY EIGHT - ABUSE OF OFFICIALS AND OTHER MISCONDUCT**

**NOTE:** In the enforcement of this rule the Referee has, in many instances, the option of imposing a "Misconduct Penalty" or a "Bench Minor Penalty".

If you can identify the player who is responsible for the "Abuse" then a minor penalty for Unsportsmanlike Conduct may be assessed to that player instead of a Bench Minor. If you are unable to identify the player or bench personnel responsible, then assess a Bench Minor.

In principle the Referee is directed to impose a "Bench Minor Penalty" in respect to the violations that occur on or in the immediate vicinity of the player bench but also off the playing surface, and in all cases affecting non-playing personnel or players.

A "Misconduct Penalty" should be imposed for violations, which occur on the playing surface or in the penalty bench area and where the penalised player is readily identifiable. **NOTE:** The Referee may assess further penalties under this rule or Rule Twenty Four (b) if deemed warranted.

- (a) A misconduct shall be imposed on any player who uses obscene, profane or abusive language or gestures to any person or who persists in disputing or shows disrespect for the ruling of any official during a game or who intentionally knocks or shoots the puck out of the reach of an official who is retrieving it.
- (b) A misconduct penalty shall be imposed on any player who, in RAGE, bangs any area of the rink with their sticks or any other equipment.
- (c) A misconduct penalty shall be imposed on any penalised player who does not proceed directly and immediately to the penalty box and take his place on the penalty bench, unless Rule 38 d applies.
- (d) Any player who (following a fight or other altercation in which he has been involved is broken up, and for which he is penalised) fails to proceed immediately to the penalty bench shall receive a game misconduct. Any player who persists in continuing or attempting to continue the fight or altercation shall receive a match penalty. Any player who resists a Referee in the discharge of his duties shall incur a game misconduct penalty.
- (e) A game misconduct penalty shall be imposed on any player who, after warning by the Referee, persists in any course of conduct (including threatening or abusive language or gestures or similar actions) designed to incite an opponent into incurring a penalty.
- (f) In the case of any club executive, manager, coach or trainer being guilty of such misconduct, he is to be removed from the building and his actions reported to the National/ Regional Director.
- (g) If any manager, coach or trainer is removed from the bench by order of the Referee, he must not sit near the bench of his team, nor in any way direct or attempt to direct the play of his team.
- (h) A misconduct penalty shall be imposed against the offending team if any player, manager, coach or trainer uses obscene, profane or abusive language to any person or uses the name of any official coupled with any vociferous remarks.
- (i) A misconduct penalty shall be imposed against the offending team if any player, manager, coach or trainer in the vicinity of the player bench or penalty bench throws anything on the floor during the progress of the game or during stoppage of play.
- (j) A misconduct penalty shall be imposed against the offending team if any player, manager, coach or trainer interferes in any manner with any game official including Referee, timekeeper or goal judge in the performance of their duties.
- (k) A misconduct penalty shall be imposed on any player or players who, except for the purpose of taking their positions on the penalty bench, enter or remain in the Referees crease while he is reporting to or consulting with any game official including timekeeper, penalty timekeeper, official scorer or announcer.

**RULE THIRTY-NINE - ADJUSTMENT TO CLOTHING AND EQUIPMENT**

- (a) Play shall not be stopped, nor the game delayed by reason of adjustment of clothing, equipment, shoes, skates or sticks.
- (b) For an infringement of this rule, a minor penalty shall be given.
- (c) The responsibility of maintaining clothing and equipment in proper condition shall be upon the player. If adjustments are required, the player shall retire from the floor and play shall continue without interruption using a substitute.

**NOTE:** In the event a player loses his helmet in the "process of a play" he will be allowed to continue "that play" but immediately following "that play" he must retrieve that helmet and immediately fasten that helmet onto his head. A violation will result in a two-minute minor penalty for improper equipment.

**NOTE:** In the event of a player losing a glove in the "process of play" he will be allowed to continue "that play" but immediately following "that play" he must retrieve that glove and immediately refit the glove. A violation will result in a two-minute minor penalty for improper equipment.

- (d) However, a net minder, after a stoppage of play, with the permission of the Referee, may be allowed to make adjustments or repairs to clothing, equipment, shoes or skates.
- (e) A net minder may also be permitted by the Referee to replace his mask but no time shall be allowed for repair or fitting a mask.
- (f) For an infraction of a rule by a net minder, a minor penalty shall be imposed.

#### **RULE FORTY - ATTEMPT TO INJURE**

- (a) A match penalty shall be imposed on any player who deliberately attempts to injure an opponent, official, manager, coach or trainer in any manner, and the circumstances shall be reported to the Regional or National Technical Director (for Regional or National Executive Committee) for further action.
- (b) A substitute player must be placed on the penalty bench to serve a five-minute penalty without charge and no replacement for the penalised player shall be permitted to enter the game except from the penalty bench, and may not return onto the floor regardless of goals scored.

#### **RULE FORTY-ONE - BOARDING**

Body or board checking will not be permitted

- (a) A minor or major penalty, at the discretion of the Referee based upon the degree of violence of the impact with the boards, shall be imposed on any player who body checks, cross checks, elbows, charges or trips an opponent in such a manner that caused the opponent to be thrown violently into the boards.

**NOTE:** Unnecessary contact with a player carrying the puck which results in that player being knocked into the fence is "boarding" and must be penalised as such. In other instances where there is no contact with the fence it should be treated as 'charging.'

"Rolling" an opponent (if he is the puck carrier) along the fence where he is endeavouring to go through too small an opening is not boarding. However, if the opponent is not the puck carrier, then such action should be penalised as boarding, charging, interference, or if the arms or stick are employed it should be called holding or hooking.

#### **RULE FORTY-TWO - BROKEN STICK**

- (a) A player whose stick is broken may participate in the game provided he immediately drops his stick. A minor penalty shall be imposed for an infraction of this rule.

**NOTE:** A broken stick is one, which, in the opinion of the Referee, is unfit for normal play.

- (b) A net minder may continue to play with the paddle portion of a broken stick until stoppage of play or until he has been legally provided with a stick.

- (c) A player whose stick is broken may not receive a stick thrown on the floor from any part of the rink, but must obtain one from the player bench.  
A net minder whose stick is broken may not receive a stick thrown on the floor from any part of the rink but may receive a stick from a teammate without proceeding to his player bench.
- (d) A minor penalty plus a misconduct penalty shall be imposed on the player or net minder receiving a stick illegally under this rule.

**RULE FORTY-THREE - CHARGING**

- (a) A minor or major penalty shall be imposed on a player who runs or jumps into or charges an opponent.
- (b) A major penalty shall be imposed on a player who charges a net minder while the net minder is within his goal crease.

**NOTE:** A net minder is NOT "fair game" just because he is outside the goal crease area. A penalty for inference or charging (minor or major) should be called in every case where an opposing player makes unnecessary contact with a net minder.

**RULE FORTY FOUR - CROSS CHECKING**

- (a) A minor or major penalty at the discretion of the Referee, shall be imposed on a player who "cross checks" an opponent.
- (b) A major penalty shall be imposed on a player who cross checks a net minder while the net minder is within his goal crease.
- (c) A major penalty shall be imposed on any player who injures an opponent by cross checking.

**NOTE:** Crosscheck shall mean a check delivered with both hands on the stick and no part of the stick on the floor.

**RULE FORTY-FIVE - DELIBERATE INJURY OF OPPONENTS**

- (a) A match penalty shall be imposed on a player who deliberately injures an opponent in any manner.
- (b) A substitute player must be placed on the penalty bench to serve a five-minute penalty without charge and no replacement for the penalised player shall be permitted to enter the game except from the penalty bench, and may not return onto the floor regardless of goals scored
- (c) All such instances shall be reported to the Regional or National Technical Director, for further investigation.

**RULE FORTY-SIX - DELAYING THE GAME**

- (a) No player or net minder shall delay the game by deliberately shooting or batting the puck outside the playing area.
- (b) The Referee shall impose a minor penalty, immediately and without warning, against any player or net minder who throws the puck outside the playing area.
- (c) A minor penalty shall be imposed on any player (including net minder) who delays the game by deliberately displacing a goalpost from its normal position or deliberately displaces the puck from the face-off circle.
- (d) Any player (including net minder) who deliberately displaces the goal post to prevent a breakaway scoring opportunity by the opposing team or deliberately displaces the goal post during an ideal scoring opportunity by the opposing team will result in a penalty shot awarded to the opposing team. If the infraction takes place while the net minder has been replaced in the game for an extra attacker, an automatic goal shall be awarded.

- (e) A bench minor penalty shall be imposed upon any team which, after warning by the Referee to its Captain or Alternate Captain to place the correct number of players on the floor and commence play, fails to comply with the Referee's direction and thereby causes any delay by making additional substitution, or in any other manner.
- (e) The Referee shall impose a minor penalty on any player who intentionally strikes the puck following any stoppage of play.

**RULE FORTY-SEVEN - ELBOWING AND KNEEING**

- (a) A minor penalty shall be imposed on any player who uses his elbow or knee in such a manner as to in any way foul an opponent.
- (b) A major penalty shall be imposed on any player who injures an opponent as the result of a foul committed by using his elbows or knees.

**RULE FORTY-EIGHT - FACE-OFFS**

- a) Players facing-off will stand facing their opponent's end of the rink on their own defensive side of the centre line at the centre spot, with their own sticks held on the floor and on their own side of the centre line. All players shall stay on their defensive side of the centre line until the referee places the puck into play.

Sticks of both players facing-off shall have the full blade on the floor. All other players must be at least 3m (10') away from the player's facing-off and they must be on their defensive side of the centre line until the referee places the puck into play.

**NOTE:** If after warning by the Referee either of the players fails to take his proper position for the face-off promptly, the Referee shall replace the offending player or players with another player on the floor. If either player or players still fail to take their proper position the Referee may assess a delay of game penalty against the offending player or players.

- (b) In the conduct of any face-off anywhere on the playing surface, no player shall make any physical contact with his opponent's body by means of his own body or by his stick except in the course of playing the puck after the face-off has been completed. For violation of this rule the Referee shall impose a minor penalty or penalties on the player(s) whose action(s) caused the physical contact.

**NOTE:** "Conduct of any face-off" commences when the Referee designates the place of the face off.

- (c) If a player facing-off fails to take his proper position immediately when directed by the Referee, the Referee may order him replaced for that face-off by any teammate then on the floor.
- (d) A second violation of any of the provisions or sub-selection(s) hereof during the same face-off shall be penalised with a minor penalty to the player who commits the second violation of the rule.
- (e) When an infringement of a rule has been committed or any player of the attacking side has caused a stoppage of play the ensuing face-off shall be made at the centre spot.

**NOTE:** This includes stoppage of play caused by a player of the attacking side shooting the puck on to the back of the defending team's net without any intervening action by the defending team.

- (f) When an infringement of a rule has been committed by players of both sides in the play resulting in the stoppage, the ensuing face-off will be made at the place of such infringement or, in the case of a delayed penalty, at the place where play is stopped unless otherwise expressly provided by these rules.
- (g) When stoppage occurs between the end of face-off spots and near the end of the rink the puck shall be faced-off at the end face-off spot on the side where the stoppage occurs unless otherwise expressly provided by these rules.
- (h) When a goal is illegally scored as a result of the puck being deflected off the Referee directly into the net, the face-off shall be at either of the face-off spots in that zone.

## BIPHA Rule Book – September 2008 - 2009

- (i) When the game is stopped for any reason not specifically covered in the official rules the puck must be faced-off where it was last played.
- (j) The Referee is under no obligation to wait for the players to get to the face-off spot. It is the players' responsibility to get there as quickly as possible. If one team is lined up and the other team is procrastinating the Referee can start the play by dropping the puck.

**NOTE:** Once a team is in face-off position, the puck could be put into play within five seconds.

### **RULE FORTY-NINE - FALLING ON PUCK**

- (a) A minor penalty shall be imposed on a player other than the net minder who deliberately falls on or gathers a puck into the body.

**NOTE:** Defence men who drop to their knees to block shots should not be penalised if the puck is shot under them or becomes lodged in their clothing or equipment but any use of the hands to make the puck unplayable should be penalised promptly.

- (b) A minor penalty shall be imposed on a net minder who (when his body is entirely outside the boundaries of his own crease area and when the puck is behind the goal line) deliberately falls on or gathers the puck into his body, or holds or places the puck against the boards/floor.
- (c) No defending player except the net minder will be permitted to fall on the puck or hold the puck or gather the puck into the body or hands when the puck is within the goal crease.  
For infringement of this rule play shall immediately be stopped and a penalty shot shall be ordered against the offending team but no other penalty shall be given.

**NOTE:** This rule shall be interpreted so that a penalty shot will be awarded only when the puck is in the crease at the instant the play is stopped. However in cases where the puck is outside the crease Rule Forty Nine (a) may still apply and a minor penalty may be imposed even though no penalty shot is awarded.

### **RULE FIFTY - FIGHTING**

- (a) A major penalty shall be imposed on any player who starts fighting.

**NOTE:** Fighting is defined as the actual throwing of punches with a closed fist by a player who makes actual contact with an opponent.

Pushing, shoving or grappling while on skates are punishable offences, but do not constitute fighting under this rule (see Rule Seventy Five Roughing).

- (b) A minor penalty shall be imposed on a player who having been struck shall retaliate with a blow or attempted blow. However, at the discretion of the Referee, a major or double minor penalty may be imposed if that player continues the altercation.

**NOTE:** The Referee is provided very wide latitude in the penalties that he may impose under this rule. This is done intentionally to enable him to differentiate between the obvious degrees of responsibility of the participants either for starting the fighting or persisting in continuing the fighting, discretion provided should be exercised realistically.

**NOTE:** Referees are directed to employ every means provided by these rules to stop 'brawling' and should use Rule Thirty Eight (c) for this purpose unless the coincidental major penalty rule is involved.

- (c) 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.
- (d) A game misconduct penalty shall be imposed on any player or net minder on or off the floor who intervenes in an altercation then in progress.
- (e) Any player or official leaving the player or penalty bench to participate in an ongoing altercation shall be penalised in accordance with Rule Sixty One.

- (f) Any player assessed a major penalty for fighting will be automatically suspended for the remainder of that game and the next game played by his team.
- (g) Any player who is guilty of being the instigator or aggressor in a fight will be also assessed an additional minor penalty for his or her actions.

**NOTE:** The penalised team will place a man in the penalty box and play short-handed for the duration of the major penalty.

- (h) During the **final match** that a team plays at any BIPHA NEC organised event, the **instigator** of a closed-fist punch that leads to a fight on the rink, will result in **the instigator being assigned a match penalty** should this fight require the insertion of referees between the affected players in order to stop it.

Under the foregoing conditions, the **attacked player** from the other team **will also get a match penalty if he persists in retaliating** after attempts for restraint or a warning by the referee. It is unrealistic to think that a person, who has been punched, will not attempt to retaliate in self-defence. This is noted in Rule 50(b) of the BIPHA Playing Rules.

If the **instigating** player acts in retaliation for a foul that preceded the fight, it is the responsibility of the referee to promptly punish this occurrence, be it major or minor penalties, but otherwise does not excuse **instigating** a fist-fight.

**NOTE: If Rule 50 (h) has been imposed - No National Final Championship, Superleague or Personal Award medal/trophy will be awarded to a team member that receives a Match Penalty, regardless of how the team finishes in the competition.** Organisers of BIPHA NEC events are restricted under these circumstances to assign medals only to those players who remain in good standing and are present at the award presentation. To prevent later distribution, all surplus medals will be collected and retained by the organisers. If a brawl had produced this situation, (more than one simultaneous fight), the team coach and team manager will also be denied medals, should the team achieve a placement, they will also be held culpable.

#### **RULE FIFTY-ONE - GOAL AND ASSISTS**

- (a) A goal shall be scored when the puck has been put between the goal posts by the stick of a player of the attacking side from in front, and below the cross bar and entirely across the line the width of the diameter of the goal posts drawn on the floor from one goal post to the other.
- (b) A goal shall be scored if a player of the defending side puts the puck into the goal in any way. The player of the attacking side who last played the puck shall be credited with the goal but no assist shall be awarded.
- (c) If an attacking player kicks the puck and any player of the defending side except the net minder deflects it into the net, the goal shall be allowed. The player who kicked the puck shall be credited with the goal but no assist shall be awarded.
- (d) If the puck has been deflected into the goal by a shot of an attacking player by striking any part of the person or a player of the same side, a goal shall be allowed. The player who deflected the puck shall be credited with the goal. The goal shall not be allowed if the puck has been knocked, thrown, kicked or otherwise deliberately directed into the goal by any means other than a stick.
- (e) If a goal is scored as a result of a puck being deflected directly into the net from an official, the goal shall not be allowed.
- (f) Should a player legally propel a puck into the goal crease of the opponents' team and the puck should become loose and available to another player of the attacking side, a goal scored on the play shall be legal.
- (g) Any goal scored other than as covered by the official rules shall not be allowed.
- (h) A goal shall be credited in the scoring records to a player who shall have propelled the puck into the opponents' goal.

## BIPHA Rule Book – September 2008 - 2009

- (i) When a player scores a goal, an assist shall be credited to the player who made the pass leading to a direct goal in the offensive zone, also when head-manning (a forward pass to a team mate in the direction of the goal) the puck leading to a breakaway.
- (j) A goal may be scored if the player lifts the puck onto the blade of his stick and propels it legally (see above) into the goal, providing the blade of his stick is lower than the height of the goal.

**NOTE:** A goal may only be scored when the puck has entered the crease before the attacking players' stick or skate.

### **RULE FIFTY TWO - GROSS MISCONDUCT**

- (a) The Referee may suspend from the game and order to the dressing room for the remainder of the game any player, manager, coach or trainer guilty of gross misconduct of any kind.
- (b) If a player so dismissed is taking part in the game, he shall be charged with a gross misconduct penalty, and a substitute shall be permitted. A total of ten minutes will be charged to his record.
- (c) The Referee in charge is to decide on any violation and report the incident to the National/ Regional TD for further action.
- (d) If a player, coach or manager persists after warning from the Referee in continuing his gross misconduct, he shall be subject to suspension for a period of one year or more as determined by the National Technical Director.
- (e) If a player is involved in a fight with any non-playing personnel or fighting with another player off the surface, a gross misconduct shall be assessed. This will be reported to the NTD/RTD for further disciplinary action.

**NOTE:** A player who incurs a gross misconduct penalty shall receive an automatic three (3) match suspension.

### **RULE FIFTY-THREE - HANDLING PUCK WITH HANDS**

- (a) If any player, except the net minder, closes his hand intentionally on the puck, the play shall be stopped and a minor penalty shall be imposed on him.
- (b) A net minder who holds the puck with his hands for longer than three seconds shall be given a minor penalty, if there are no attacking players in the immediate vicinity.
- (c) A net minder shall not deliberately hold the puck in any manner which in the opinion of the Referee causes a stoppage of play, or deliberately drops the puck into his pads or onto the goal net, nor deliberately piles up obstacles at or near his net, that in the opinion of the Referee would tend to prevent the scoring of a goal.

**NOTE:** The object of the entire rule is to keep the puck moving continuously and any action taken by the net minder that causes an unnecessary stoppage must be penalised without warning.

- (d) The penalty for infringement of this rule by the net minder shall be a minor penalty.

**NOTE:** In the case of a puck thrown forward by the net minder being taken by an opponent, the Referee shall allow the resulting play to be completed, the play shall be stopped for a forward hand pass by the net minder with a face-off resulting.

- (e) A minor penalty shall be imposed on any player, or the net minder who is outside their crease, while play is in progress, who picks up the puck off the floor with his hands.
- (f) If a player, except the net minder, picks up the puck from the floor in the crease area with his hand while play is in progress, the play shall be stopped immediately and a penalty shot shall be awarded to the non-offending team.
- (g) A player shall be permitted to stop or "bat" a puck in the air with his open hand, or push it along the floor with his hand, and the play shall not be stopped unless in the opinion of the Referee he has

## BIPHA Rule Book – September 2008 - 2009

deliberately directed the puck to a team-mate, in which case the play shall be stopped and the puck faced-off at the spot where the offence occurred.

**NOTE:** The object of this rule is to ensure continuous action and the Referee should NOT stop play unless he is satisfied that the directing of the puck to a team-mate was in fact DELIBERATE.

- (h) The puck may not be batted with the hand directly into the net at any time, but a goal shall be allowed when the puck has been legally batted and is deflected into the goal off a defending player except the net minder.

### **RULE FIFTY FOUR - HIGH STICKS**

- (a) The carrying of the blade of the sticks above the normal height of the shoulder is prohibited.
  - 1) A minor penalty, at the discretion of the Referee, shall be assessed on any player who makes contact with or intimidates an opponent while carrying the blade of his stick above the shoulder of his opponent.
  - 2) If injury results, a major penalty shall be assessed.
  - 3) When a stick is swung above the shoulder at a puck near another player, that player shall be called for high sticking and a minor penalty assessed
- (b) When a player carries or holds any part of his stick above the height of his shoulder so that injury to the face or head of an opposing player results, the Referee shall have no alternative but to impose a major penalty.
- (c) A goal scored from a stick carried above the height of the cross bar of the goal cage shall not be allowed, except by a player of the defending team.
- (d) Using the stick to bat the puck above the nominal height of the shoulder is prohibited and when it occurs there shall be a whistle and ensuing face-off at the spot where the offence occurred unless:
  - 1) The defending player batted the puck to an opponent in which case the play shall continue, or
  - 2) A player of the defending side batted the puck into his own goal in which case the goal shall be allowed.
- (e) When either team is below the numerical strength of its opponent and a player of the team of greater numerical strength causes a stoppage of play by striking the puck with his stick above the height of his shoulder, the resulting face-off shall be made at one of the end face-off spots adjacent to the goal of the team causing the stoppage.
- (f) If the blade of a stick is swung above shoulder height near an opponent, this will result in a minor penalty.  
At the beginning and ending of a slap shot, the blade may be above shoulder level.

**EXCEPTION:** No penalty should be assessed when the stick is shifted from one hand to the other over the head so the player can play the puck, unless it endangers another player.

**NOTE:** No contact on an opponent need occur to call a high sticking penalty, however an opposing player must be in the immediate vicinity to justify a penalty being called.

### **RULE FIFTY-FIVE - HOLDING**

- (a) A minor penalty shall be imposed on a player who holds an opponent with hands, legs, feet or stick or in any other way.
- (b) A major penalty shall be imposed if the action of holding results in injury to the player being held.

### **RULE FIFTY SIX - HOOKING**

- (a) A minor penalty shall be imposed on a player who impedes or seeks to impede the progress of an opponent by hooking with his stick.
- (b) A major penalty shall be imposed on any player who injures an opponent by hooking.

**NOTE:** When a player is checking another in such a way that there is only stick-to-stick contact, such action is NOT either hooking or holding. He may turn the stick down over the opponent's stick, but NOT between the player's hands.

#### **RULE FIFTY-SEVEN - INTERFERENCE**

- (a) A minor penalty shall be imposed on a player who interferes with or impedes the progress of an opponent who is not in possession of the puck, or who deliberately knocks a stick out of an opponent's hand or who prevents a player who has dropped his stick from regaining possession of it or who knocks or shoots any abandoned or broken stick or illegal puck or other debris towards an opposing puck carrier in a manner that could cause him to be distracted.

**NOTE:** The last player to touch the puck, other than a net minder, shall be considered the player in possession. In interpreting this rule the Referee should make sure which of the players is the one creating the interference. Often it is the action and movement of the attacking player who causes the interference since the defending players are entitled to "stand their ground" or "shadow" the attacking players. Players of the side in possession shall not be allowed to "run" deliberate interference for the puck carrier.

- (b) A minor penalty shall be imposed if any player on the player bench or on the penalty bench who by means of his stick or his body interferes with the movement of the puck or of any opponent on the floor during the progress of play. If the referee is unable to identify the player who created the interference a bench minor penalty shall be imposed on the offending team.
- (c) A minor penalty shall be imposed on a player who, by means of his stick or his body, interferes with or impedes the movements of the net minder by actual physical contact, while he is in his goal crease area unless the puck is already in that area.
- (d) Unless the puck is in the goal crease area, a player of the attacking side not in possession may not stand on the goal crease line or in the goal crease or hold his stick in the goal crease area, and if the puck should enter the net while such a condition prevails, a goal shall not be allowed, and the resultant face-off shall be taken at the face-off circle nearest the attackers zone.
- (e) If a player of the attacking side has been physically interfered with by the action of any defending player so as to cause him to be in the goal crease, and the puck should enter the net while the player so interfered with, is still within the goal crease, the goal shall be allowed.
- (f) If when the net minder has been removed from the floor any member of his team not legally on the floor including the manager, coach or trainer interferes by means of his body or stick or any other object with the movement of the puck or an opposing player, the Referee shall immediately award a goal to the non-offending team.
- (g) A minor penalty shall be served on any player who prevents/impedes a penalised player, who has served his penalty minutes, from re-entering the playing surface from the penalty box.

**NOTE:** A penalty for interference should be called in every case where an opposing player makes unnecessary contact with the player in possession.

**NOTE:** The attention of Referees is directed particularly to three types of offensive interference, which should be penalised:

- 1) When the defending team secures possession of the puck in its own end and the other players of that team run interference for the puck carrier by forming a protective screen against fore checkers;
- 2) When a player facing-off obstructs his opposite number after the face-off when the opponent is not in possession of the puck;
- 3) When the puck carrier makes a drop pass and follows through so as to make bodily contact with an opposing player.

**NOTE:** All offensive or defensive players may attempt to establish positional territory in front of either goal. The incidental contact that occurs in so doing shall not be considered interference or unnecessary roughness. However, should a player from either team run at his opponent, or make a

body check, the Referee, at his discretion, may assess a minor penalty for interference, charging or unnecessary roughness.

#### **RULE FIFTY-EIGHT - INTERFERENCE BY SPECTATORS**

- (a) In the event of a player being held or interfered with by a spectator, the Referee shall blow the whistle and play shall be stopped, unless the team of the player interfered with is in possession of the puck at the time, then the play shall be allowed to be completed before blowing the whistle, and the puck shall be faced-off at the spot where last played at the stoppage.

**NOTE:** The Referee shall report to the Regional or National Technical Director, as appropriate, for disciplinary action, all cases in which a player becomes involved in an altercation with a spectator but no penalty should be imposed.

- (b) In the event that objects are thrown on the floor that interferes with the progress of the game the Referee shall blow the whistle and stop the play, and the puck shall be faced-off at the spot the play is stopped.

#### **RULE FIFTY NINE - FOULING FROM BEHIND**

- (a) A Major Penalty or a Game Misconduct shall be assessed on any player who intentionally pushes, body-checks or hits an opposing player from behind, any where on the skating surface. A substituted floor player must be placed on the penalty bench to serve the five-minute major penalty without charge and he may not return onto the floor regardless of goals scored.

- (b) Where a player is high-sticked, cross-checked, body-checked, hit or propelled in any manner from behind into the boards or goal cage in such a way that the player is unable to defend himself, a Match Penalty shall be assessed.

A substitute player must be placed on the penalty bench to serve a five-minute penalty without charge and no replacement for the penalised player shall be permitted to enter the game except from the penalty bench, and may not return onto the floor regardless of goals scored.

**NOTE:** Referees are instructed not to substitute other penalties when a player is checked from behind in any manner. This rule must be strictly enforced.

- (c) When a player, in control of the puck in the attacking zone, and having no other opponent to pass than the net minder, is tripped or otherwise fouled from behind preventing a reasonable scoring opportunity a penalty shot shall be awarded to the non-offending side. Nevertheless the Referee shall not stop the play until the attacking side has lost possession of the puck to the defending side.

**NOTE:** The intention of this rule is to restore a reasonable scoring opportunity that has been lost by reason of a foul from behind when the foul is committed in the attacking zone.

**NOTE:** "Control of the puck" means the act of propelling the puck with the stick. If, while it is being propelled, the puck is touched by another player or his equipment or hits the goal or goes free, the player shall no longer be considered to be "in control of the puck".

- (d) If, when the opposing net minder has been removed from the floor, a player in control of the puck is tripped or otherwise fouled with no opposition between him and the opposing goal, thus preventing a reasonable scoring opportunity, the Referee shall immediately stop the play and award a goal to the attacking team.

#### **RULE SIXTY - KICKING THE PUCK**

- (a) Kicking the puck shall be permitted in all zones, but a goal may not be scored by the kick of an attacking player except if an attacking player kicks the puck and any player of the defending side, except the net minder, deflects it into the net.

#### **RULE SIXTY-ONE - LEAVING PLAYER OR PENALTY BENCH**

## BIPHA Rule Book – September 2008 - 2009

- (a) No player, manager, coach or other club official may leave the player bench at any time to enter an altercation, but substitutions shall be permitted provided the player so substituted does not enter the altercation.  
Likewise no player on or near the penalty bench (not on the floor) shall participate in any fight or other altercation with any opposing player on the floor.
- (b) A misconduct penalty shall be imposed on each player violating the rule. The Referee shall report all such infractions to the National or Regional Technical Director who shall have full power to impose such further penalty as deemed fitting.
- (c) Except at the end of each period, expiration of penalty or for first aid to be administered, no player may at any time leave the penalty bench.
- (d) A penalised player who leaves the penalty bench before his penalty has expired, whether play is in progress or not, but does not enter an altercation, shall incur an additional minor penalty, after serving the unexpired time.
- (e) Any penalised player leaving the penalty bench during the stoppage of play, and entering an altercation shall incur a minor penalty plus a ten-minute misconduct penalty, after serving the unexpired time.
- (f) If a player leaves the penalty bench before his penalty is fully served, the penalty timekeeper shall note the time and signal the Referee who will immediately stop the play.
- (g) In the case of a player returning to the floor before his time has expired through an error by the penalty timekeeper, he is not to serve an additional penalty, but must serve his unexpired time.
- (h) If a player of an attacking side in possession of the puck shall be in such a position as to have no opposition between him and the opposing net minder, and while in such position he shall be interfered with by a player of the opposing side who shall have illegally entered the game, the Referee shall award a penalty shot against the side to which the offending player belongs.
- (i) If when the opposing net minder has been removed from the floor, a player, who shall have entered the game illegally, interferes with a player of the side attacking the unattended goal, the Referee shall immediately award a goal to the non-offending team
- (j) Any non-playing coach, trainer or manager who gets on the floor after the start of the game without permission of the Referee shall automatically be suspended from the game.
- (k) If a penalised player returns to the floor from the penalty bench before his penalty has expired by his own error or the error of the penalty timekeeper, any goal scored by his own team while he is illegally on the floor shall be disallowed, but all penalties imposed on either team shall be served as regular penalties.
- (l) If a player illegally enters the game from his own player bench, any goal scored by his own team while he is illegally on the floor shall be disallowed, but all penalties imposed against either team shall be served as regular penalties.

### **RULE SIXTY-TWO – PHYSICAL ABUSE OF OFFICIALS**

- (a) Any player who touches or holds a Referee, or any game official, with his hand or stick or trips or body checks any such officials, shall automatically receive a minimum ten minute penalty for misconduct for the first offence, and a minimum game misconduct penalty for a second offence, in the same game. Depending upon the incident a match penalty may be called.
- (b) Any player who holds or strikes an official shall constitute a match penalty and shall be suspended from the remainder of the tournament. A substitute player must be placed on the penalty bench to serve a five-minute penalty without charge and no replacement for the penalised player shall be permitted to enter the game except from the penalty bench, and may not return onto the floor regardless of goals scored.  
Striking an official will automatically lead to a disciplinary hearing and the player in question will be suspended till the hearing has concluded. **Expulsion of that player from BIPHA is a possibility.**

- (c) Any manager, coach or trainer who holds or strikes an official, shall be automatically suspended from the game, ordered to the dressing room, and disciplinary action shall be taken by the Regional or National Technical Director.  
Striking an official will automatically lead to a disciplinary hearing and the manager, coach or trainer in question will be suspended till the hearing has concluded. **Expulsion of that manager, coach or trainer from BIPHA is a possibility.**

**RULE SIXTY-THREE - OBSCENE OR PROFANE LANGUAGE OR GESTURES**

- (a) Players shall not use obscene or profane language or gestures on the floor or anywhere in the rink. For violation of this rule a misconduct penalty shall be imposed except when the violation occurs in the vicinity of the player bench in which case a bench minor penalty shall be imposed.
- (b) Managers, coaches and trainers shall not use obscene or profane language or gestures anywhere in the rink. For violation of this rule a bench minor penalty shall be imposed.

**NOTE:** It is the responsibility of all game officials and all team officials to send a confidential report to the Regional or National Technical Director (as appropriate) setting out the full details concerning the use of obscene gestures by any player, coach or other official. The Regional or National Technical Director (on behalf of the Regional or National Executive Committee) shall take further disciplinary action as deemed appropriate.

**RULE SIXTY FOUR - PUCK OUT OF BOUNDS OR UNPLAYABLE**

- (a) When the puck goes outside the playing area at either end, or either side of the rink or strikes any obstacles above the playing surface other than the boards, glass or wire it shall be faced-off from where it was shot or deflected, unless otherwise expressly provided in these rules.
- (b) When the puck becomes lodged in the netting on the outside of either goal so as to make it unplayable, or if it is frozen between opposing players intentionally or otherwise, the Referee shall stop the play and face-off the puck at either of the adjacent face-off spots unless in the opinion of the Referee, the stoppage was caused by a player of the attacking team, in which case the resulting face-off shall be conducted at the nearest face-off spot adjacent to the goal of the offending player or centre line face-off spots.

**NOTE:** This includes stoppage of play caused by the player of the attacking side shooting the puck onto the back of the defending team's net without any intervening action by the defending team. The defending team and/or the attacking team may play the puck off the net at any time. However should the puck remain on the net for longer than three seconds play shall be stopped and a face-off shall take place in the end face-off zone except when the stoppage is caused by the attacking team, then the face-off shall take place on the centre face-off spot.

- (c) A minor penalty shall be imposed on a net minder who deliberately drops the puck on the goal netting to cause a stoppage of play.
- (d) If the puck comes to rest on top of the boards surrounding the playing area it shall be considered to be in play and may be played legally by hand or stick.

**RULE SIXTY-FIVE - PUCK MUST BE KEPT IN MOTION**

- (a) 1) The puck must be kept in motion at all times.  
2) A player may lift the puck on to the blade of his stick and skate with it providing the blade of his stick is well below shoulder height and does not pose a danger to any other player around him. The puck must be kept in motion with respect to the floor.
- (b) Except to carry the puck behind the goal a team in possession of the puck in its own defence area shall always advance the puck towards the opposing goal except when prevented from so doing by players of the opposing side or if the offensive team is short handed.  
For the first infraction of this rule play shall be stopped and a face-off will be taken at the spot adjacent to the goal of the team causing the stoppage and the Referee shall warn the Captain or Alternate Captain or the offending team of the reason for the face-off.  
For a second violation by any player of the same team in the same period a minor penalty shall be imposed on the player violating the rule.

- (c) A minor penalty shall also be imposed on any player who deliberately holds the puck against the boards in a manner unless an opponent is checking him.
- (d) For an infringement of this rule the face-off shall be at the nearest end face-off spot adjacent to the offender's goal.

#### **RULE SIXTY-SIX - PUCK OUT OF SIGHT AND ILLEGAL PUCK**

- (a) Should a scramble take place or a player accidentally fall on the puck and the puck is out of sight of the Referee, the Referee shall immediately blow his whistle and stop play. There will be a face-off at the nearest face-off spot.
- (b) If at any time while play is in progress a puck other than the one legally in play shall appear on the playing surface the play shall not be stopped but shall continue with the legal puck until the play in progress is completed by change of possession.  
At the Referee's discretion if the legal puck is interfered with in play, the Referee shall stop the play immediately.

#### **RULE SIXTY-SEVEN - REFUSING TO START PLAY AND FORFEITURE**

##### **NOTE: Applicable to both League and National tournaments**

If forfeiture is requested by any team and the circumstances leading to the request are beyond the control of the team then that forfeiture will be allowed and the team will not be penalised under the forfeiture rule. Each request for forfeiture must be considered by the tournament or league officials on its merits prior to applying the ultimate penalty of ejection from the National, Regional or League tournament.

- (a) If when both teams are on the floor one team for any reason shall refuse to play when ordered to do so by the Referee, he shall warn the Captain or Alternate Captain and allow the team so refusing fifteen seconds within which to begin the game or resume play. If at the end of that time the team shall still refuse to play the Referee shall impose a two-minute penalty on a player of the offending team to be designated by the manager or coach of that team through the Captain.
- (b) Should there be a repetition of the same incident the Referee shall have no alternative but to declare that the game is forfeited to the non-offending team and the case shall be reported to the National/Regional TD for further action.
- (c) If a team when ordered to do so by the Referee through its manager or coach fails to go on the floor and start within five minutes, the game shall be forfeited and the case shall be reported to the National/Regional TD for further action.
- (d) A forfeiture of a domestic league game shall be declared for the following reasons:
  - 1) At the start of a game (referee's whistle to put puck in play) a team does not have four skaters and a net minder on the floor in full and required uniform.
  - 2) By the team captain submitting in writing and accepted by meet director that the team will not be able to play a particular game. In this event the opposing team does not need to suit up or make appearance at the game, but shall still be awarded the victory.
  - 3) Due to injury, illness or penalties including game bans, during the game a team cannot field two skaters and a net minder to continue this game.
- (e) In the event of a domestic league game forfeit then the following scoring statistics shall be awarded:
  - 1) In the event of a team forfeiting a game the non forfeiting team will be awarded a **5 (five) - 0 (nil) win and 2 points**
  - 2) The Captain of the victorious team shall be awarded one goal. (This may not be substituted to any other player.) There shall be no assists awarded.
  - 3) The net minders of either team shall not be assessed with a shot, save or goal against.
  - 4) In the event that a game has been forfeited under Rule 67 (d) (3) all penalty minutes recorded against any player or team official shall be kept on record.
  - 5) Any game bans or disciplinary action that is required from any forfeited game shall be imposed as if the game had been played to its completion.

- (f) A team may forfeit one league game per season without recourse to that team's status for the season. If the same team forfeits a second league game during the league season, that team **may** be disqualified for the remainder of any league season games.
- (g) In the event of the removal of a team from the league season (by forfeiture of two games), the following statistical change shall take place.
- 1) All statistics of the removed team and team players shall be removed from the official statistics. This is to include all team points, all goals scored, assists, saves, goals against, and all other pertinent statistics except penalty minutes.
  - 2) Any and all teams that have already played the forfeiting team must also have their statistics, except penalty minutes, erased as though the game had not been played.
  - 3) All penalty minutes recorded against any player or team official of the removed team shall be kept on record.
  - 4) All penalty minutes recorded against any player or team official of teams who have already played the removed team shall be kept on record.
  - 5) Any game bans or disciplinary action that is required from any forfeited or removed game shall be imposed as if the game had been played to its completion.
- (h) Any team who deliberately forfeits a game in their league season, to secure a place at the National Finals, will be instructed by the NTD (for the NEC) to reschedule the game, at full cost to themselves, to be played at least six (6) weeks before the date of the National Finals. Failure to reschedule or further forfeit by the same team will result in the following scoring statistics.
- 1) In the event of a team forfeiting a game the non forfeiting team will be awarded a **5 (five) - 0 (nil) win and 2 points**
  - 2) The Captain of the victorious team shall be awarded one goal. (This may not be substituted to any other player.) There shall be no assists awarded.
  - 3) The net minders of either team shall not be assessed with a shot, save or goal against.
  - 4) The forfeiting team shall be automatically disqualified from the National Finals
  - 5) In the event that a game has been forfeited under Rule 67 (d) (3) all penalty minutes recorded against any player or team official shall be kept on record.
  - 6) Any game bans or disciplinary action that is required from any forfeited game shall be imposed as if the game had been played to its completion.

**NOTE:** The Regional or National Technical Director (as appropriate) shall issue instructions pertaining to records, for any forfeit games.

**NOTE: NATIONAL TOURNAMENTS**

If a team fails to attend, refuses to start play, or forfeits any game that team shall be ejected from the tournament except where the request for forfeiture is beyond the control of the team (see note above).

- (i) A forfeiture of a National Tournament game shall also be declared for the following reasons:
- 1) At the start of a game (referee's whistle to put puck in play) a team does not have four skaters and a net minder on the floor in full and required uniform.
  - 2) Due to injury, illness or penalties including game bans, during the game a team cannot field two skaters and a net minder to continue this game.

In the event of removal from the tournament the following statistical change shall take place.

- 1) All statistics of the removed team and team players shall be removed from the official statistics. This is to include all team points, all goals scored, assists, saves, goals against, and all other pertinent statistics except penalty minutes.
- 2) Any and all teams that have already played the removed team must also have the statistics, except penalty minutes, erased as though the game had not been played.
- 3) In the event that a game has been forfeited under Rule 67 (i) (2) all penalty minutes recorded against any player or team official shall be kept on record.
- 4) Any game bans or disciplinary action that is required from any forfeited game shall be imposed as if the game had been played to its completion

### **RULE SIXTY-EIGHT - SLASHING**

- (a) A minor or major penalty at the discretion of the Referee shall be imposed on any player who impedes or seeks to impede the progress of an opponent by "slashing" with his stick. Any stick to body contact enacted by the pursuing player will be considered slashing
- (b) A major penalty shall be imposed on any player who injures an opponent by slashing. When a major penalty is imposed under this rule for a foul resulting in injury to the face or head of an opponent, an automatic major penalty shall be imposed.

**NOTE:** Referees should penalise as slashing any player who swings his stick at any opposing player (whether in or out of range) without actually striking him or where a player on the pretext of playing the puck makes a wild swing at the puck with the object of intimidating an opponent.

- (c) Any player who swings his stick at another player in the course of any altercation shall be subject to a match penalty to be imposed by the Referee.  
This is considered a deliberate attempt to injure and therefore must be dealt with according to Rule Forty (Attempt to Injure). A substitute player must be placed on the penalty bench to serve a five-minute penalty without charge and no replacement for the penalised player shall be permitted to enter the game except from the penalty bench, and may not return onto the floor regardless of goals scored
- (d) Any player not in possession of the puck cannot have any stick contact upon the net minder or it will be considered a slashing penalty.

**NOTE:** The Referee shall impose the normal appropriate penalty provided in the other sections of this rule and shall in addition report promptly to the Regional or National Technical Director (as appropriate) all infractions under this section.

### **RULE SIXTY-NINE- SPEARING AND BUTT-ENDING**

- (a) A double minor penalty shall be imposed on a player who spears or attempts to spear or butt ends an opponent.

**NOTE:** "Attempt to spear" shall include all cases where a spearing gesture is made regardless of whether bodily contact is made or not.

- (b) A match penalty shall be imposed on any player who injures an opponent by spearing or butt ending. This should be treated as a deliberate attempt to injure under Rule Forty Five. A substitute player must be placed on the penalty bench to serve a five-minute penalty without charge and no replacement for the penalised player shall be permitted to enter the game except from the penalty bench, and may not return onto the floor regardless of goals scored.

**NOTE:** "Spearing" shall mean stabbing an opponent with the point of the stick blade while the stick is being carried with one hand or with both hands.

### **RULE SEVENTY - START OF GAME AND PERIODS**

- (a) The game shall be commenced at the time scheduled by a 'face-off' in the centre of the rink and shall be renewed promptly at the conclusion of each intermission in the same manner.  
No delay shall be permitted by reason of any ceremony, exhibition, demonstration or presentation unless consented to reasonably in advance by the meet director.
- (b) Home clubs shall have the choice of goals to defend at the start of the game. Where both player benches are on the same side of the rink, the home club shall start the game defending the goal nearest to its own bench. The teams will change ends for each succeeding regular or over time period.
- (c) During the pre-game warm-up and before the commencement of play in any period, each team shall confine its activity to its own end of the rink.
- (d) All players must be in full uniform to take the floor for warm-ups.

**NOTE:** All players must be dressed and ready to play 30 MINUTES prior to their scheduled playing time, or game will be forfeited.

### **RULE SEVENTY-ONE - THROWING STICK**

- (a) When any player of the defending side, including the net minder, deliberately throws his stick or any part thereof or any other object, at the puck in his defending zone, the Referee shall allow the play to be completed and if a goal is not scored a penalty shot shall be awarded to the non offending side. The penalty shot shall be taken by the player designated by the Referee as the player fouled. If, however, the goal is unattended and the attacking player has no defending player to pass and has a chance to score on an open net, a goal shall be awarded to the attacking side.
- (b) A major penalty shall be imposed on any player who throws his stick, of any part thereof or any other object, in any area except when such an act has been penalised by the award of a penalty shot or a goal.

**NOTE:** When a player discards the broken portion of a stick by tossing it to the side of the floor (and not over the boards) in such a way as will not interfere with play or an opposing player, no penalty will be imposed for doing so.

The Referee shall report promptly to the Regional or National Technical Director (as appropriate) for disciplinary action every case where a stick or any part thereof is thrown outside the playing area.

### **RULE SEVENTY-TWO - GAME TIME AND TIME OUTS**

- (a) For games where a tie is not desirable, should the score be equal at the end of regular time a sudden death play-off will take place as described in rule Seventy Three (below).
- (b) One team time-out of one-minute duration per team per period will be available; such time-outs may be called at any time by a player in possession of the puck, or by the Captain or Alternate Captain when the puck has been whistled dead. Players may return to their respective player benches and may remove helmets and gloves, but no other equipment. Play will resume at the nearest face-off spot to where the time-out was called.
- (c) Time-outs in the last two (2) minutes of the game may only be called if the score is tied or within one goal.
- (d) The Referee may call a game time out at any time during the game.
- (e) No time-outs shall be permitted during an overtime game or sudden death play. Any violations of the above rule will result in a two (2) minute minor penalty.

### **RULE SEVENTY THREE - TIED GAMES**

- (a) If, at the end of the game, the score is tied, the game shall be called a "TIE" and each team shall be credited with one point in the standings, except for single game matches where ties are not desirable at the end of regular playing time, then Rule Seventy Three (b) will be used.
- (b) Games where a tie is not desirable (pre-quarter finals, quarter-finals, semi-finals and finals or other types of single elimination competitions), a tie will be decided as follows:  
  
At the conclusion of the tied match, a three (3) minute rest will be allowed, and the teams will begin a sudden death play-off, with the announcement that the first team to score will be declared the winner. If no team has scored after ten (10) minutes, the teams will be given a three (3) minute rest, and begin another ten (10) minute period. This shall continue until a winner is determined.
- (c) Any sudden death period shall be considered a part of the game and all unexpired penalties shall remain in force.
- (d) No time-outs shall be permitted during an overtime game or sudden death play.
- (e) When additional game time is not available for sudden death play-off, a shoot-out can be used to break ties for teams having equal accumulated points and equal goals against.
- (f) Shoot-outs will take place using **four shooters** from each team, with each team alternately participating, in conformity with procedures as outlined in Rule Twenty Eight for penalty shots. Team

captains will use a coin toss prior to the start of the shoot-out to determine which team will initiate the alternating sequence of shots. Each net minder will defend his own goal and a common goal cage is not to be employed. The highest number of successful goals obtained from the four attempts will determine the victor in the shoot-out. If after the first round, a tie still exists, additional shots will be attempted by each team under a sudden death format, allowing each team the same total number of attempts. No player from a participating team may shoot again until all players on the active roster, excluding net minders, have participated.

#### **RULE SEVENTY FOUR - TRIPPING**

- (a) A minor penalty shall be imposed on any player who shall place his stick, knee, foot, arm, hand or elbow in such a manner that is shall cause his opponent to trip or fall.

**NOTE:** If in the opinion of the Referee a player is unquestionably hook-checking the puck, and obtains possession of it thereby tripping the puck carrier, no penalty shall be imposed.

- (b) When a player, in control of the puck in the attacking zone, and having no other opponent to pass than the goalkeeper, is tripped or otherwise fouled from behind preventing a reasonable scoring opportunity a penalty shot shall be awarded to the non-offending side. Nevertheless the Referee shall not stop the play until the attacking side has lost possession of the puck to the defending side.

**NOTE:** The intention of this rule is to restore a reasonable scoring opportunity that has been lost by reason of a foul from behind when the foul is committed in the attacking zone. "Control of the puck" means the act of propelling the puck with the stick. If, while it is being propelled, the puck is touched by another player or his equipment or hits the goal or goes free, the player shall no longer be considered to be "in control of the puck".

- (c) If, when the opposing goalkeeper has been removed from the floor, a player in control of the puck is tripped or otherwise fouled with no opposition between him and the opposing goal, thus preventing a reasonable scoring opportunity, the Referee shall immediately stop the play and award a goal to the attacking team.

#### **RULE SEVENTY-FIVE - UNNECESSARY ROUGHNESS**

- (a) At the discretion of the Referee, a minor penalty may be imposed on any player deemed guilty of unnecessary roughness.
- (b) A Major Penalty shall be assessed if the action of roughing results in an injury to the player being roughed.

**NOTE:** It is not intended that there be no body contact between two opposing players who are actively in pursuit of the puck. The act of riding an opponent off the puck, or meeting the opponent head-on, WHILE ATTEMPTING TO PLAY THE PUCK, shall not be considered roughness. However, this does not imply that players NOT in possession of the puck may throw their bodies into an opponent in order to achieve possession.

**NOTE:** Penalty for unnecessary roughness (roughing) should be called in every case when an opposing player makes unnecessary contact with the player in possession.

#### **RULE SEVENTY-SIX - KICKING A PLAYER**

- (a) A match penalty shall be imposed on any player who kicks or attempts to kick another player. A substitute player must be placed on the penalty bench to serve a five-minute penalty without charge and no replacement for the penalised player shall be permitted to enter the game except from the penalty bench, and may not return onto the floor regardless of goals scored
- (b) All such instances shall be reported to the Regional or National Technical Director, for further investigation.

#### **RULE SEVENTY-SEVEN - GAME ABANDONMENT**

If in the opinion of the Chief referee, the players, team officials and/or spectators are behaving in such a manner that puts the safety of the players or match officials in jeopardy the game shall be abandoned.

- a) In the event of a league game being abandoned the following will apply:
- 1) If, at the point of abandonment, the score reflects a win for the instigating team a one goal win will be awarded to the non-offending team.
  - 2) If, at the point of abandonment, the score reflects a loss for the instigating team the scores shall stand.
  - 3) If blame cannot be apportioned neither team will be awarded points or goals and the game will not be re-scheduled.
  - 4) The RTD will, at the end of the league season, calculate total points, goals against and then all penalty minutes against each team. The team with the lowest penalty minutes will be awarded the victory and two (2) points
  - 5) Any game bans or disciplinary action that is required from any abandoned game shall be imposed as if the game had been played to its completion
- b) **In the event of a National Tournament game being abandoned the following will apply:**
- 1) If, at the point of abandonment, the score reflects a win for the instigating team a one goal win will be awarded to the non-offending team.
  - 2) If, at the point of abandonment, the score reflects a loss for the instigating team the scores shall stand
  - 3) During any round robin stages, if blame cannot be apportioned neither team will be awarded points or goals and the game will not be re-scheduled.
  - 4) During any play off game, for positions, if blame cannot be apportioned both teams will be ejected from the tournament.
  - 5) Any game bans or disciplinary action that is required from any abandoned game shall be imposed as if the game had been played to its completion.

**General**

Abuse of Officials	Rule 38	Interference by Players	Rule 57
Adjustment of Clothing/ Kit	Rule 39	Interference by Spectator	Rule 58
Attempt to Injure	Rule 40	Kicking a player	Rule 76
Boarding	Rule 41	Kicking the Puck	Rule 60
Broken Stick	Rule 42	Kit, Net minder	Rule 17
Butt-Ending	Rule 69	Kit, Players	Rule 18, 19
Charging	Rule 43	Kneeing	Rule 47
Cross Checking	Rule 44	Leaving the Benches	Rule 61
Dangerous Equipment	Rule 19	Misconduct	Rule 26
Delay of Game	Rule 46	Misconduct, Gross	Rule 52
Deliberate Injury of Opponents	Rule 45	Obscene Language	Rule 63
Elbowing	Rule 47	Physical Abuse of Officials	Rule 62
Face-off	Rule 48	Penalty Shot	Rule 28
Falling on Puck	Rule 49	Puck to be kept in Motion	Rule 65
Fighting	Rule 50	Puck Out of Bounds or Unplayable	Rule 64
Forfeit Game	Rule 67	Puck Out of Sight & Illegal Pucks	Rule 66
Fouling from the Behind	Rule 59	Puck, Picking up in crease	Rule 53d
Goals & Assists	Rule 51	Refusing to Start Play	Rule 67
Gross Misconduct	Rule 52	Roughing	Rule 75
Handling Puck	Rule 53	Shoot-Out	Rule 73
High Stick	Rule 54	Skates, Illegal	Rule 16
Holding	Rule 55	Slashing	Rule 68
Hooking	Rule 56	Spearing	Rule 69
Protective Kit, Player	Rule 18	Stick, Illegal	Rule 15
Protective Kit, Net minder	Rule 17	Throwing Stick	Rule 71
Illegal Player	Rule 61h	Time Outs, Duration & Breaks	Rule 72
Illegal Puck	Rule 66	Tripping	Rule 74
Illegal Substitution	Rule 61		

**GUIDELINES – FOR REFERENCE ONLY.**

**These guidelines cover the more common penalties and are not to be used instead of the rulebook.**

**MINOR PENALTIES - 2 Minutes**

Abuse of Officials	Rule 38	Interference by Spectator	Rule 58
Adjustment of Clothing/ Kit	Rule 39	Kicking the Puck	Rule 60
Boarding	Rule 41	Kit, Net minder	Rule 17
Broken Stick	Rule 42	Kit, Players	Rule 18, 19
Butt-ending (double minor)	Rule 69	Kneeing	Rule 47
Cross Checking	Rule 44	Leaving the Benches	Rule 61
Charging	Rule 43	Obscene Language	Rule 63
Delay of Game	Rule 46	Protective Kit, Player	Rule 18
Elbowing	Rule 47	Protective Kit, Net minder	Rule 17
Face-off	Rule 48	Puck to be kept in Motion	Rule 65
Falling on Puck	Rule 49	Puck Out of Bounds or Unplayable	Rule 64
Fighting	Rule 50	Puck Out of Sight & Illegal Pucks	Rule 66
Handling Puck	Rule 53	Refusing to Start Play	Rule 67
High Stick	Rule 54	Roughing	Rule 75
Holding	Rule 55	Skates, Illegal	Rule 16
Hooking	Rule 56	Slashing	Rule 68
Illegal Puck	Rule 66	Spearing (double minor)	Rule 69
Illegal Substitution	Rule 61	Stick, Illegal	Rule 15
Interference by Players	Rule 57	Time Outs, Duration & Breaks	Rule 72
		Tripping	Rule 74

**BENCH MINOR**

Abuse of Officials, by unidentified Persons (see above)	Rule 38	Delay of game	Rule 46d
		Illegal Change of Players	Rule 13

## BIPHA Rule Book – September 2008 - 2009

### MAJOR PENALTIES - 5 Minutes

Attempting to Injure	Rule 40	High Stick	Rule 54
Boarding	Rule 41	Holding	Rule 55
Charging	Rule 43	Hooking	Rule 56
Cross Checking	Rule 44	Kneeing	Rule 47
Elbowing	Rule 47	Roughing	Rule 75
Fighting	Rule 50	Slashing	Rule 68
Fouling from Behind	Rule 59	Throwing Stick	Rule 71

### MISCONDUCT PENALTIES - 10 Minutes

Abuse of Officials	Rule 38	Obscene Language	Rule 63
Leaving Player/Penalty bench	Rule 61	Physical Abuse of Officials	Rule 62
Accumulation of three minor penalties in one game to same player		Fifth minor penalty to same player in same game	

### GAME EJECTION PENALTIES - Suspension from this game

Misconduct	Rule 26g	Leaving Player/Penalty bench	Rule 61j
5 <sup>th</sup> minor same game, same player	Rule 24(a)		

### GAME MISCONDUCT - Suspension - This game plus automatic one match ban

Abuse of Officials (10 minutes)	Rule 38	Fouling from Behind (10 minutes)	Rule 59
Fighting (10 minutes)	Rule 50	Physical Abuse of Officials (10 mins)	Rule 62
2 <sup>nd</sup> Major same game, same player			

### MATCH PENALTIES - Suspension - This game plus tournament ban

Attempt to Injure (10 minutes)	Rule 40	Kicking a player	Rule 76
Butt-Ending	Rule 69	Physical abuse of officials	Rule 62
Deliberate Injury (10 minutes)	Rule 45	Slashing (10 minutes)	Rule 68c
Fouling from behind (10 minutes)	Rule 59	Spearing	Rule 69

### PENALTY SHOT

Displacing the Goal	Rule 46d	Illegal Player	Rule 61h
Falling on puck in the crease	Rule 49c	Picking up the puck in goal crease	Rule 53f
Fouling from behind	Rule 59b	Tripping	Rule 74b
		Throwing Stick	Rule 71

### GROSS MISCONDUCT - Suspension - This game plus automatic three match ban

Rule 52

### REMOVAL FROM THE BUILDING

Non playing Team Officials	Rule 38f
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**BRITISH INLINE PUCK HOCKEY ASSOCIATION  
BIPHA CODE OF CONDUCT**

The contents of this document are applicable to all BIPHA leagues, tournaments, competitive matches, friendly matches and any other event organised by or on behalf of the British Inline Puck Hockey Association.

**This document is for guidance only.**

The Official BIPHA Rulebook will take precedence if there is a conflict between this document and Rulebook.

**PLAYERS**

1. Any player who receives a match penalty shall be suspended for the immediate next game, and will be called to a disciplinary hearing where a ban of up to an additional three matches may be imposed.

**NOTE:** A match penalty during a national tournament is immediate removal from the tournament plus an automatic additional 3 match ban in the league/home region at that age group (plays no other age group until ban has been served and this carries over in to following season), plus compulsory disciplinary where further game bans of between 4 games to 12 months may be imposed (expulsion in the case of physical assault of official). In the event of Rule 50 (h) being imposed the disciplinary panel reserve the right to suspend the player from BIPHA NEC organised events for a period of ONE YEAR.

**NOTE:** A match penalty during the league/home region is immediate removal from the game plus an automatic additional 3 game ban at that age group (plays no other age group until ban has been served and this carries over in to following season), plus compulsory disciplinary where further game bans of between 4 games to 12 months may be imposed (expulsion in the case of physical assault of official)

**NOTE:** If a player receives a match penalty or any number of game penalties and moves up an age group while that penalty is being served the penalty remains in force, i.e. An U16 player receives a match penalty during the last game of the season, the player then moves up to U18. The player will serve the ban as stipulated above in the U18 age group

**NOTE:** Any player serving a match penalty will not be permitted to take part in any regional or national tournaments until the suspension has been expunged.

2. If a player amasses 30 minutes (or more) of penalties in any one age group he will automatically receive a **ONE** game ban. This ban will be served in the age group in which the amassed penalty minutes occurred. The player will be free to play in other age groups
3. Any player amassing thirty (30) penalty minutes or **receiving a penalty under Rule 26(e)** in any National tournament shall be suspended for the immediate next game during that tournament. If the player amasses thirty (30) penalty minutes during the last game of the Tournament the game ban shall be served at the next National tournament that player participates in. The player will be free to play in other age groups.
4. Any player who is the aggressor in an altercation off the playing surface shall be served with a game misconduct penalty.
5. Any teams, which de-bench shall deem the game abandoned and the points/game awarded to the non-offending team, in the event that both team de-bench the game shall be abandoned and no points awarded to either team. The term de-bench shall be used if more than one player from either team enters the playing area.

**COACHES/OFFICIALS**

1. Any bench official who is the aggressor in an altercation outwith the course of play shall be served with a match penalty and be suspended for the immediate next three (3) games, and will be called to a disciplinary hearing where an indefinite suspension may be imposed
2. No bench official shall, during the course of the game, enter on to the pad without express permission of the referees in charge of the game. Violation of this will be served as a bench penalty for an illegal player.

**CLUB OFFICIALS AND SUPPORTERS**

This section applies to club officials, club members and team supporters and applies to both home and visiting teams.

1. Any club official, member or team supporter who encroaches on the pad whilst the pad is under the control of the match officials, shall render the game abandoned and the points awarded to the non-offending team.
2. Any club official, member or team supporter who assaults or attempts to assault a match official shall render the game abandoned and the points awarded to the non-offending team. The club/team involved shall be called to a disciplinary hearing where an additional penalty of up to expulsion from the league may be imposed. This applies to both during and outwith the course of play.
3. Any club official, member or team supporter who assaults or attempts to assault a player from the opposing team shall render the match abandoned and the points awarded to the non-offending team. The club/team involved shall be called to a disciplinary hearing where an additional penalty of up to expulsion from the league may be imposed.

**BRITISH INLINE PUCK HOCKEY ASSOCIATION  
DISCIPLINARY HEARING COMMITTEE**

*For all players, coach and club disciplinary action, the following format will be adopted by all regions.*

A disciplinary hearing is to comprise of the following persons.

**Regional Chairperson** – Who shall chair the meeting and have no voting rights or take part in the decision making process.

**Regional Technical Director** – Who shall be present to clarify any points on the rules for all parties concerned with the disciplinary hearing as with the Chair the RTD shall have no voting rights or take part in the decision making process.

**An appointed recorder** who shall record the events at the hearing – They shall have no voting rights or take part in the decision making process

The Disciplinary Committee shall consist of three people who are independent from all parties involved and who are appointed to deal with the issues in hand. They shall have the opportunity to review all written reports prior to the hearing (a suggested time would be one hour before the hearing is to take place), and shall listen to a verbal record of events from all parties at the hearing.

The hearing shall be conducted as an open forum with all questions and responses being directed through the chair, each person present at the hearing shall be given the opportunity to present their case in a proper manner. Once the committee have read and heard all the evidence to be presented, then, all other parties shall leave the room to allow the committee to reach their decision. Upon reaching a unanimous decision all parties will return to the room to hear the decision of the committee. All parties shall be notified of the decision in writing within fourteen days of the hearing (excluding Saturday and Sunday) with a copy of all disciplinary hearings and decisions being forwarded to the National Technical Director.

**RIGHT OF APPEAL**

All members of the BIPHA shall have the right of appeal to any disciplinary action taken; this appeal shall be lodged in writing with the National Technical Director or the National Secretary within fourteen days (excluding Saturday and Sunday) of receipt of the written notification of the hearing decision. The National Technical Director or the National Secretary shall set up an appeal committee, which shall consist of an independent Chairperson and Recorder, National Technical Director (or an NEC appointed representative TD) and three other independent persons. This shall be done within fourteen days (excluding Saturday and Sunday) of receipt of the appeal by the National Technical Director or National Secretary. The decision of the appeal shall be notified in writing within fourteen days (excluding Saturday and Sunday) from the appeal.

The decision of the appeal shall be final and binding by all parties, and no further correspondences shall be entered into.

Appealing against a decision incurs a charge of £30. This amount is to be lodged with the NEC prior to any appeal hearing. If the candidate is successful in their appeal the fee will be refunded.

**MEMBERS RIGHTS**

All members who are the subject of a disciplinary hearing may be present at the said hearing.

All members under the age of sixteen, who are to be the subject of or present at a disciplinary hearing must be accompanied by a parent/guardian.

All members over the age of sixteen, who are to be the subject of a disciplinary hearing, are advised to be accompanied by a parent/guardian or other representative.

## **BIPHA BYELAWS 2006**

### **1 REGIONAL ASSOCIATIONS**

- 1.1 Each club shall normally be considered to be allocated to the Regional Association in which the club is based. Clubs wishing to be allocated to a Regional Association outside the region in which the club is based must notify both Regional Associations in writing, stating a satisfactory reason and subject to NEC approval in the case of a dispute.
- 1.2 A club based in a region where there is no Regional Association must elect to be allocated to a neighbouring Regional Association.
- 1.3 Regional Associations shall be responsible for all leagues, competitions and tournaments played within that region, other than those administered by the BIPHA NEC.
- 1.4 Regional Associations shall have the power to impose disciplinary sanctions as defined in the BIPHA Rule Book and Code of Conduct.
- 1.5 National and Regional Executive Committees shall have the power to take action for any behaviour considered to be bringing the game into disrepute. This includes, but is not limited to, any form of fighting, verbal or physical abuses. The National and/or Regional Executive Committee must advise the offending person or team concerned that a Disciplinary Hearing is to be called and such player or team is suspended from play or attendance at BIPHA sanctioned events until such hearing is held.
- 1.6 Disciplinary action taken against any member of the BIPHA shall be recognised by all other Regional and National Executive Committees.

### **2 LEAGUES**

- 2.1 Leagues played within a Region shall be affiliated to the Regional Associations with representation on the Regional Executive Committee.
- 2.2 Leagues shall publish a League Fixture List so that each team within each division plays every other team within the division at least twice during the season.
- 2.3 Leagues shall have the power to obtain reimbursement from teams not ready to play (or forfeiting) for the cost of hall hire, officials and travelling expenses of the non-offending team.
- 2.4 An appointed League Official shall be responsible for calculating a league table each week, as soon as possible after the weekly League games have ended.
- 2.5 Official Score Sheets shall be used for all BIPHA sanctioned games. The top copy of the Score Sheet for each league game played must be sent to the National Statistician at the end of each calendar month
- 2.6 Failure to comply with 2.5 could affect the National Qualification for the teams registered to play in that region.

### **3 TEAMS**

- 3.1 A Team is a group of players, all of whom are members of the same club.
- 3.2 Team names must be acceptable to the BIPHA and must not include the words "British", "English", "Welsh", "Scottish", "UK", "National" or any other word which could be construed to imply selection by the Governing Body. The BIPHA reserves the right to approve any Team name, and to demand change to avoid duplication or for other reason.
- 3.3 All Team members must be fully paid up members of the BIPHA.
- 3.4 Clubs must be registered to play in one League only at any one age group.
- 3.5 Teams shall abide by their respective League Fixture List
- 3.6 All matches are to be played under the official rules as printed in the BIPHA Rule Book.
- 3.7 National Teams (for representation at International Events) shall be selected by open trials.
- 3.8 Teams Managers and Club Committees are responsible for the behaviour of their members and supporters at all times.
- 3.9 A player can only play for one team within his/her own age group.
- 3.10 Teams may only enter a particular age group in a different region other to their own if their own region does not cater for the age group they wish to play.

### **4 PLAYERS/CLUB MEMBERS**

- 4.1 Players are considered to be club bound, unless that club or the Regional Association does not cater for the players' age group.
- 4.2 Players are free to become new members at any time during the season, however only those players

## BIPHA Rule Book – September 2008 - 2009

registered prior to 1<sup>st</sup> February and who have played at least 40% of games in the qualifying age group will be eligible to play in the National Finals.

- 4.3 Players are free to transfer clubs at any time during the season, however only those players who transfer before the 1<sup>st</sup> February and who have played at least 40% of games in the qualifying age group will be eligible to play in the National Finals.
- 4.4 Players who become new members or transfer clubs after 1<sup>st</sup> February are not allowed to participate in any league games during the season.
- 4.5 Players must be registered to a club 72 hours before participating in any league or National game.
- 4.6 Any member of the BIPHA who is subject to a disciplinary hearing will be suspended from all age groups and participation until the hearing has taken place.
- 4.7 With the exception of a ONE game ban occurring under sections 4.9 and 4.10 any member of the BIPHA who is subject to multiple game bans will serve that ban in the age group the ban was issued at and remain suspended from all other age groups until that ban has been served and will not be permitted to take part in any regional or national tournaments until the suspension has been expunged.
- 4.8 Transfer players are cup-bound (i.e. if a player has played in a round of a cup or trophy tournament for one team they may not transfer to another team who have also played for the same cup or trophy tournament).
- 4.9 If a player amasses 30 minutes (or more) of penalties in any one age group he will automatically receive a ONE game ban. This ban will be served in the age group in which the amassed penalty minutes occurred. The player will be free to play in other age groups
- 4.10 If a player receives a ONE game suspension under Rule 26(e) the suspension will be served in the age group that penalty was assessed. The player will be free to play in other age groups
- 4.11 Players over the age of 16 must provide a signed declaration stating that in their opinion they are fit to play.  
Players under the of 16 must produce a letter signed by their parent or legal guardian and the team coach that in their opinion the player is fit to play and that they give their permission for the child to resume playing.

### **5 TOURNAMENTS AND COMPETITIONS**

- 5.1 All tournaments or competitions arranged by both the National and Regional Executive Committees will adhere to the BIPHA Rule Book, Byelaws and Code of Conduct.
- 5.2 The BIPHA NEC will be responsible for making a National Superleague Tournament a priority on its aims and objectives, if viable and feasible.

### **6 DISCIPLINARY ACTION**

- 6.1 All disciplinary action taken by both the Regional and National Executive Committees will adhere to the procedures as set out in the BIPHA Code of Conduct.
- 6.2 All members who are subject to a disciplinary hearing must be informed in writing within 14 days (excluding Saturday and Sunday) of the offence being committed, by first class recorded delivery mail or any other traceable mechanism.
- 6.3 Failure of a member to attend a disciplinary hearing will result in the hearing going ahead.
- 6.4 All members who are subject to a disciplinary hearing must be informed of the disciplinary hearing decision in writing within 14 days (excluding Saturday and Sunday) of the hearing, by first class recorded delivery mail.
- 6.5 All members subject to a disciplinary hearing have the right to appeal as set out in the BIPHA Code of Conduct.

### **7 TEAMS TRAVELLING ABROAD**

- 7.1 As the Governing Body of Inline Puck Hockey in Great Britain, the BIPHA is ultimately responsible for all matches involving its members. Restrictions therefore have to be imposed regarding teams travelling abroad.
- 7.2 All international events must be arranged through the Governing Body of both/all countries involved.
- 7.3 Teams invited to travel must apply to the BIPHA for permission
- 7.4 All members travelling abroad must be fully paid up members of the BIPHA and provide the BIPHA with a copy of their Sports Travel Insurance Policy, which is required in addition to their normal UK insurance.

### **8 PENALTIES**

- 8.1 Any member NOT complying with or in accordance with the Rules, Byelaws and Code of Conduct of the

BIPHA, shall not be recognised by the BIPHA, and shall not be eligible to participate in, or for inclusion in, events or competitions under the auspices of the BIPHA.

**BRITISH INLINE PUCK HOCKEY ASSOCIATION**

**CONSTITUTION**

**1. Name**

The Association shall be called the British Inline Puck Hockey Association herein after referred to as the ('BIPHA').

**2. Objectives**

- 2.1 The BIPHA shall be the governing body of the sport of Inline Puck Hockey (hereinafter referred to as 'the game') in the United Kingdom, inclusive of the Channel Islands, Isle of Man, Northern Ireland and any of the UK dependant territories who apply to be members under section 3 of the constitution and it's objectives shall be to advance and safeguard the interests of 'the game' and those of the BIPHA in particular.
- 2.2 To advance, organise, promote and encourage the growth of 'the game'.
- 2.3 To encourage open access to 'the game' and participation by all persons irrespective of age, gender, race or ethnic origin.
- 2.4 To encourage the membership and establishment of Clubs within the geographical regions of the United Kingdom mainland, the Channel Islands, Isle of Man, Northern Ireland and the UK dependant territories.
- 2.5 To organise National and Inter-National Tournaments, Competitions and Championship Games inclusive of all player age groups as may be designated by the BIPHA. All competitions organised by the National Executive Committee will be based within the geographical boundaries of the United Kingdom mainland.
- 2.6 To enable Regions or Clubs or Teams and Associate Regional Associations to organise Regional and Inter-Regional Tournaments or Competitions under the sanction of the NEC.
- 2.7 To employ the funds of the Association for the purposes and objectives of the BIPHA in such a manner as may be considered and advisable, from time to time, and to charge all or any such investments to secure the re-payment of any temporary advance of money made to BIPHA.
- 2.8 To be a member of the British Roller Sports Federation Limited (the BRSF) and to have two elected representatives of the NEC on the board of the National Governing Body.
- 2.9 To act as an advisory body for Inline Puck Hockey to the BRSF.
- 2.10 To be affiliated to and to have one representative at all meetings of the Federation de Internationale Roller Skating (FIRS')
- 2.11 To seek recognition from Sport UK and other similar funding institutions and to abide by their rules of membership.
- 2.12 To act as an advisory body to Leisure & Sports Development Authorities and other similar Institutions in all matters relative to the promotion and development of 'the game'.
- 2.13 To take such measures and to seek and obtain finances as the Association sees fit to achieve the above objectives.

**3. Membership and Affiliation**

- 3.1 The membership of BIPHA shall consist of Affiliated playing members, Affiliated non-playing members, Affiliated club members, and Affiliated Regional Associations. Associate membership is available to members residing in any of the UK dependant territories

- 3.2 All Affiliated playing members, Affiliated non-playing members, Affiliated club members, and Affiliated Regional Associations shall be bound by the terms and conditions of the BIPHA Constitution, Bye Laws, Code of Conduct and Rulebook and be resident within the geographical boundaries of the United Kingdom mainland inclusive of the Channel Islands, Isle of Man, Northern Ireland
- 3.3 The Associate membership of BIPHA will consist of Associate playing members, Associated non-playing members, Associated club members and Associated Regional Associations based in any of the UK dependant territories. All Associated members shall be bound by the terms and conditions of the BIPHA Constitution, Code of Conduct and Rulebook
- 3.3 The procedure for joining and registering to the BIPHA will be as follows: -
- (a) Register of interest is received and an introductory joining letter is sent
  - (b) Return of Registration Forms with appropriate fees within 30 days
  - (c) In extenuating circumstances the period to register within may be extended
  - (d) Clubs will not be permitted to enter a Regional League until all registration monies have been received
  - (e) Associate members will not be permitted to advertise their Association with BIPHA until all registration fees, membership forms, and written agreement to abide by the BIPHA Constitution, Code of Conduct and Rulebook have been returned to the National Office and acknowledgement of receipt has been received

There are six types of BIPHA Membership:

- 3.4 **Affiliated Membership** - Any individual player, coach, manager, or game official or other persons having direct connection with 'the game' and who is resident within the geographical boundaries of the United Kingdom mainland inclusive of the Channel Islands, Isle of Man, Northern Ireland may become an Affiliated member of the Association upon payment of the current and appropriate fee.
- 3.5 **Affiliated Club Membership** - Any Club, which is based within the geographical boundaries of the United Kingdom mainland inclusive of the Channel Islands, Isle of Man, Northern Ireland, may become an Affiliated member of the BIPHA upon payment of the current and appropriate Affiliation fee.
- 3.6 **Affiliated Regional Association Membership** - Any Regional Inline Puck Hockey Association, which is based within the geographical boundaries of the United Kingdom mainland inclusive of the Channel Islands, Isle of Man, Northern Ireland, may Affiliate to BIPHA subject to the following;
- (a) The Regional Executive Committee of that Regional Association must confirm, in writing, its' agreement to abide by the BIPHA Constitution, the Code of Conduct, Bye Laws and Rulebook.
- 3.7 **Associated Membership** - Any individual player, coach, manager, or game official or other persons having direct connection with 'the game' and who is resident in any of the UK dependant territories may become an Associated member of the Association upon payment of the current and appropriate fee.
- 3.8 **Associated Club Membership** - Any Club, which is based within any of the UK dependant territories, may become an Associated member of the BIPHA upon payment of the current and appropriate Association fee.
- 3.9 **Associated Regional Association Membership** - Any Regional Inline Puck Hockey Association, which is based within any of the UK dependant territories, may Associate to BIPHA subject to the following;
- a) The Associated Executive Committee of that Association must confirm, in writing, its' agreement to abide by the BIPHA Constitution, the Code of Conduct, Bye Laws and Rulebook.
- 3.8 All registered Affiliated members attaining the age of 16 years at the date of an Annual General Meeting of the BIPHA shall receive one vote at that meeting.
- 3.9 No registered Affiliated member under the age of 18 years may be eligible for a position on any Regional Executive Committee, League Committee or the NEC.

- 3.10 No registered Associated member shall be entitled to a vote at an Annual General Meeting
- 3.11 No registered Associated member may be eligible for a position on any Regional Executive Committee and League Committee, except in their own UK dependant territory.
- 3.12 No registered Associated member may be eligible for a position on the National Executive Committee
- 3.13 The NEC shall have the absolute discretion to refuse any application for membership or impose any conditions to Affiliate or Associate membership of the BIPHA in its' sole discretion, where it is deemed necessary and appropriate in the interests of the 'BIPHA' and 'the game'. Provided that the reasons for such a refusal are set out in writing for the benefit of the applicant, be it an individual member, team, Club, or Regional Association.
- 3.14 Every Affiliate or Associate member and Executive Committee of BIPHA shall abide by this Constitution and there shall be no other Constitution in BIPHA except at Club level.

#### **4 Membership Fees**

Affiliate Membership and Associate Membership fees shall be determined and reviewed annually prior to the start of the membership year at the BIPHA Annual General Meeting.

- 4.1 The membership year shall commence on 1<sup>st</sup> September and finish on 31<sup>st</sup> August of the following year.
- 4.2 Annual membership subscriptions shall be submitted no later than the 15<sup>th</sup> September
- 4.3 The BIPHA is an open-minded Association and welcomes teams and individuals from other Roller Sports Disciplines. Following a trial period to be mutually agreed by the NEC, the team or Club or individual will be offered the opportunity to register to become either an Affiliate or Associate member of the Association. Upon payment of the current and appropriate fee the individual, Club or Regional Association, hereby agrees to abide by the BIPHA Constitution and its associated articles.

#### **5. Management**

The Association shall be invested with a governing body or National Executive Committee (hereinafter referred to as the NEC) for the Sport of Inline Puck Hockey (hereinafter referred to as 'the game') in Great Britain, inclusive of the Channel Islands, the Isle of Man and Northern Ireland and any of the UK dependant territories who apply to be members under section 3 of the constitution

The National Executive Committee (NEC) shall have the necessary powers to attain the objectives of the Association. In order to make general application of this Constitution the terms National, Regional and League shall be interchangeable.

- 5.1 The members of the NEC shall comprise of the following officers:

- National Chairperson
- National Vice-Chairperson
- National Secretary
- National Treasurer
- National Competitions Manager
- National Membership Secretary
- National Technical Director
- National Development Officer
- National Statistician
- National Child Protection Officer
- National Coach
- National Assistant Coach
- Elected BRSF Representative

## BIPHA Rule Book – September 2008 - 2009

- 5.2 The voting members of the NEC shall comprise of the Officers of the Association and one nominated representative from each Affiliated Regional Association. Associate Regional Associations have the right to be at the meeting with no vote
- 5.3 The Officers of the Association shall be elected annually at the BIPHA Annual General Meeting or at an Extraordinary General Meeting by a simple show of hands majority taken from those members present.
- 5.4 The NEC shall have the power to appoint other Officers of the BIPHA as and when required in accordance with the objectives of the Association.
- 5.5 All co-opted appointments shall be considered temporary until confirmed by a majority vote and the term of a Co- Opted appointee shall not exceed one year.
- 5.6 Appointees who are co-opted members shall have full voting rights at all meetings of the membership but may only serve on the NEC until the next consecutive Annual General Meeting.
- 5.7 No elections of Officers of the NEC shall take place other than at a properly convened AGM or EGM. No postal votes or proxy votes for nominations for any position on the NEC shall be accepted.
- 5.8 Officers of the NEC shall be elected to a term of office not exceeding 3 years and may hold office for as many terms as required to ensure the development of the association, however must stand for re-election every 3 years
- 5.9 NEC Officers removed from the BIPHA by expulsion or standing down through retirement are not eligible to stand for a subsequent term of office.
- 5.10 Only those NEC members present at the AGM will be eligible for re-election.
- 5.11 The NEC shall have the power to appoint such Sub-Committees and Working Parties as may be necessary and expedient to achieve the objectives of the Association. Members of such delegations need not necessarily be members of the NEC.
- 5.12 The NEC may delegate its' authority to carry out such tasks as clearly defined to such Sub-Committees or Working Parties and shall require a full report at the next meeting of the NEC immediately following such findings or actions.
- 5.13 The NEC shall meet at such times and such places as decided by the NEC in order to achieve the objectives of the BIPHA. All NEC meetings will be held within the geographical boundaries of the United Kingdom mainland
- 5.14 The Chairperson or any 4 members of the NEC may at any time call an NEC meeting by informing the National Secretary and requesting that the agenda be circulated to all members of the NEC.
- 5.15 A quorum shall comprise of not less than two thirds of the Officers of the Association.
- 5.16 The National Secretary shall liaise with the NEC in order to determine the date, time and venue of an NEC meeting.
- 5.17 In extenuating circumstances a meeting of the NEC members may take place in order to discuss urgent business of the Association at a meeting that is without a quorum of Officers of the Association. This discussion however must adhere to the specific matter in hand on and/or the programmed agenda as distributed and no introduction of items under Any Other Business shall be allowed. No action plans or decisions requiring implementation by vote at a properly convened quorum of the Officers may be discussed. Proposals for such decisions may be tabled at the next available NEC meeting that has a quorum of Officers present. All NEC meetings will be held within the geographical boundaries of the United Kingdom mainland
- 5.18 Any Affiliated Regional Executive Committee wishing to raise a matter of urgent business with the NEC may apply in writing to the National Secretary and request that the matter (s) be added to the agenda of the next available NEC meeting.

- 5.19 Any Associated Regional Association wishing to raise a matter of urgent business with the NEC may apply in writing to the National Secretary and request that the matter (s) be added to the agenda of the next available NEC meeting.
- 5.20 Voting may only take place at a properly convened NEC meeting. Each member of the NEC shall have a single vote and a simple majority shall decide all decisions of the NEC put to a vote. In the event of an equality of votes the National Chairperson shall also have the casting vote.
- 5.21 Should a member of the NEC (as listed in 5.1), without satisfactory reason, fail to appear at 3 consecutive NEC meetings then the 'NEC' shall have the authority to expel the said member from the NEC.
- 5.22 The NEC may appoint or co-opt a substitute Officer at its' discretion, or request that a Regional Executive Committee appoint/elect a new Regional Representative.
- 5.23 The NEC shall hold meetings of not less than one per quarter or more often as and when is required. All NEC meetings will be held within the geographical boundaries of the United Kingdom mainland
- 5.24 The NEC shall hold a General Meeting annually following the National Annual General Meeting of the Association and each NEC Officer is required to attend. The purpose of this meeting shall be to determine an action plan for the coming year and identify future meeting dates. Officers of the Association shall be required to attend as many NEC meetings as is practicable.

## **6. Annual General Meetings**

- 6.1 The BIPHA shall hold an Annual General Meeting at the conclusion of the Playing Season each year between June 30<sup>th</sup> and August 31<sup>st</sup> each year. All NEC meetings will take place within the geographical boundaries of the United Kingdom mainland
- 6.2 A person may be asked to prove eligibility to carry out any of the actions identified in this constitution by producing their BIPHA ID Membership Card.
- 6.3 The AGM shall be open to all eligible members of the Association but members under the age of 16 years cannot cast a vote or propose or second a motion.
- 6.4 A member must be present at an AGM or other meeting to be nominated and/or stand for election.
- 6.5 An AGM will have been properly constituted if there is a quorum of NEC Officers present and a minimum of fifteen members in attendance, excluding the Officers of the Association.
- 6.6 All Officers of the Association will be required to attend the AGM and any Officers not present will be deemed to have resigned. The top table shall comprise the Officers of the Association
- 6.7 The agenda for the AGM shall be as follows:-
  - (a) Minutes of the previous AGM
  - (b) Apologies from Officers of the Association
  - (c) Matters Arising
  - (d) Motions to amend or change the 'BIPHA' Constitution
  - (e) Motions to amend or change the Bye Laws
  - (f) Motions to amend the Code of Conduct
  - (g) Motions to amend or change the 'BIPHA' Rulebook
  - (h) Annual Reports from the Officers in the following order;
    - (i) National Chairperson
    - (ii) National Vice Chairperson
    - (iii) National Secretary
    - (iv) National Treasurer
    - (v) National Competitions Manager
    - (vi) National Membership Secretary
    - (vii) National Technical Director
    - (viii) National Development Officer
    - (ix) National Statistician
    - (x) National Child Protection Officer

- (xi) National Coach
- (xii) National Assistant Coach
- (xiii) Elected BRSF Representative
- (xiv) Reports from any Sub-Committees or Working Parties established during the year
- (xv) A Report from each of the Regional Executive Committee
- (xvi) A report from each of the Associated UK dependant territories

(i) Election/Re-Election of Officers of the Association

- 6.8 Questions will be allowed from the floor on the Officer's Annual Reports at the conclusion of those reports.
- 6.9 The Treasurer's Annual Report shall include an end of year financial statement and include a proposal for the Affiliation and Association membership fee for the next membership year.
- 6.10 The National Development Officer's report shall include the National Coaching Director's Annual Report.
- 6.11 Each nomination for election as an officer of the Association shall have a proposer and seconder. Each proposer and seconder must be a registered member of BIPHA. Only Affiliated members may be nominated. Nominations are only permitted from Affiliated members.
- 6.11 In the event of more than one nomination to any post of officer of the Association each candidate will have the floor for three minutes to put forward their case for election to the nominated post.
- 6.12 Any motion to change or amend the BIPHA Constitution, the Bye Laws and/ or the BIPHA Rulebook shall have a proposer and a seconder who is registered members of the BIPHA.
- 6.13 All decisions at the AGM shall be put to a vote and shall be decided by a simple majority. In the event of an equality of votes the Chairperson/Vice Chairperson shall have a casting vote.
- 6.14 The National Secretary must circulate the announcement convening the AGM to all Officers of the Association, Affiliated Regions and an Associate members providing not less than 8 weeks prior notice to the date of the meeting.
- 6.15 The National Secretary must receive all Annual Reports, motions to amend or change the Constitution, Bye Laws and /or the Code of Conduct or BIPHA Rulebook not less than 6 weeks prior to the AGM.
- 6.16 An Agenda for the AGM together with any motions, the minutes of the previous AGM and the previous year summary of the National account shall be distributed to all Officers of the Association Affiliated Regional Secretaries and Associate Members not less than 21 days before the meeting.
- 6.17 The National Treasurer shall be required to present a financial statement quarterly for the National Account; the account must include an independent audit made at the end of the financial year.
- 6.18 The Minutes recording decisions of the AGM and copies of all Reports given, together with the results of any elections, shall be distributed to all Officers of the Association Affiliated Regional Secretaries and Associated Members as soon as possible after the meeting.
- 6.19 An Extraordinary General Meeting may be requested by a majority vote of the Officers of the Association to be submitted in writing to the National Secretary. All such meetings will take place within the geographical boundaries of the United Kingdom mainland.
- 6.20 Two-thirds of the Officers of an Affiliated Regional Committee and a majority vote of the Affiliated Region's Team Managers may request an EGM, notice of the same to be submitted in writing to the National Secretary.
- 6.21 An EGM shall be dealt with under the same governing rules as those for the AGM, with the exception that the Agenda shall be specific to that item of business only.
- 6.22 REC Officers under Article 5.18 shall be

(a) Regional Chairperson

- (b) Regional Secretary
- (c) Regional Treasurer
- (d) Regional PR and Sponsorship
- (e) Regional Technical Director
- (f) Regional Super League Coordinator

**7. Finance**

- 7.1 The financial year shall run from 1<sup>st</sup> September until 31<sup>st</sup> August.
- 7.2 The income of the BIPHA shall be obtained annually from the subscriptions of Affiliated members, Affiliated Clubs and Affiliated Associations; Associated members, Associated clubs, Associated Regional Associations from gate monies and ticket receipts; from Sponsorship activities and the marketing of the BIPHA; from the National teams activities and from any other source ('BIPHA Income')
- 7.3 All BIPHA income shall be paid into a bank account (s) set up by the BIPHA.
- 7.4 The National Treasurer shall be responsible for the upkeep of the National Account(s) and for the preparation and presentation of the same. The National Account(s) will be subject to examination by the Officers of the Association and shall be audited annually by an independent auditor appointed by the NEC.
- 7.5 All cheques drawn against the National Account (s) shall be signed by at least two of the designated Officers of the BIPHA; one of which shall be that of the National Treasurer. The designated Officers of the Association shall be the National Treasurer, National Chairperson, National Vice Chairperson and the National Secretary.
- 7.6 The income of the BIPHA howsoever derived shall be applied to meet the objectives of the BIPHA and no portion thereof shall be paid; transferred directly or indirectly; by way of dividend, bonus or otherwise; or by way of profit to any member or Officer of the Association. Provided that nothing therein shall prevent the payment, in good faith, of proper remuneration to any Officer of the Association, or any Affiliated Regional Association, or Affiliated member in return for any services actually rendered to the Association.
- 7.7 No Associated Member/Club/Regional Association will be entitled to claim remuneration without the prior consent of the National Treasurer, National Chairperson/Vice Chair and the National Secretary. Claims not bearing the signature of at least 2 of the 4 NEC officers listed in section 7.5 will not be paid.
- 7.8 The National Treasurer shall provide a current statement of the National Account (s) to be made available on request to any Affiliated Regional Association or Associated Regional Association. Such a request must be submitted in writing and sent to the National Secretary who will immediately notify the National Treasurer. Such a request must allow sufficient time for a current statement to be drawn up.
- 7.9 The NEC reserves the right to examine the National Account (s) at any time. Such a request must allow sufficient time for a current statement to be drawn up
- 7.10 The NEC reserves the right to examine any affiliated Regional Association Account (s) and any Associated Regional Association Accounts quarterly
- 7.11 Any Affiliated Club and /or team and /or Member aged 16 years or over may request to examine the current quarterly statement of their affiliated Regional account and /or the National Account (s). Such a request must be made in writing to the appropriate Regional Secretary or the National Secretary. Such a request should allow sufficient time for a current financial statement to be drawn up.
- 7.12 Any Associate Club and /or team and /or Member aged 16 years or over may request to examine the current quarterly statement of their associated Regional account and /or the National Account (s). Such a request must be made in writing to the appropriate Associate Secretary or the National Secretary. Such a request should allow sufficient time for a current financial statement to be drawn up

**8. BIPHA Rule Book and Byelaws**

## BIPHA Rule Book – September 2008 - 2009

- 8.1 The NEC shall have the power to publish amendments and/or to make changes to and enforce compliance of the same in respect of all such changes/ amendments as they relate to the BIPHA Constitution, Rulebook, Code of Conduct and its Bye Laws.
- 8.2 The NEC shall have the power to publish Bye Laws
- 8.3 Such amendments and/or changes to procedures in the BIPHA Rule Book, Code of Conduct and Bye Laws shall not come into force until all Affiliated and Associated Associations have been given due notice. Any publication of Bye laws shall not come into force until all Affiliated and Associated Associations have been given due notice. Due notice shall be considered to be have been given 30 days from the date of publication of any such amendments or publications
- 8.4 Changes in the BIPHA Rule Book shall also include those that reflect amendments/and or alterations supported by the implementation of the (FIRS) CIRILH Rule Book as and when these become necessary.

### Questions of Procedure

- 9.1. If any question of procedure should arise at an AGM and/or NEC meeting that is not clearly provided for in this Constitution, or in the published Bye Laws or Code of Conduct the meeting shall be adjourned to allow the NEC to consider the same. The NEC shall revert to the meeting with a decision on any point requiring clarification.
- 9.2. If any question of procedure should arise at any other meeting that is not provided for under this Constitution the question shall be referred to the NEC and the relevant item (s) deferred until an NEC adjudication is given.

### General

- 10.1 If it is not possible to obtain a quorum at an NEC or Regional Executive Committee Meeting, a majority of either NEC members or REC members shall be empowered to call an Extraordinary General Meeting.
- 10.2 The agenda of that EGM shall be limited to presenting a case for a request for a resignation, mitigation if the case is to be defended and a vote to determine whether such a request shall be upheld or defeated. The agenda of that meeting must be distributed to all NEC members and Affiliated Regional Association Secretaries not less than 14 days before the date of the EGM.
- 10.3 The EGM shall be attended by a majority of the members of the NEC and by a majority of REC members from each of the Affiliated Regional Associations and Associated Regional Associations

### Expulsion and Other Sanctions

- 11.1 Where, after a majority vote put forward at a properly constituted meeting, in the opinion of the National or other Executive Committee the conduct of an Affiliated member, Affiliated Club, Affiliated Regional Association, Associated member, Associated Club or Associated Regional Association is considered detrimental to the objectives of the Association; or 'the game' generally; or for any other reason it may deem to be sufficient cause; such Affiliated member, Affiliated Club Affiliated Regional Association, Associated member, Associated Club or Associated Regional Association may be suspended for a time, or permanently.
- 11.2 The NEC shall have in its' sole discretion the right to exclude any Affiliated member, Affiliated Club, Affiliated Regional Association, Associated member, Associated Club or Associated Regional Association from membership of the BIPHA and all rights appertaining thereto.
- 11.3 The NEC also reserves the right in its sole discretion to prohibit any person excluded under article 11.1 from taking part in Club management or the promotion of 'the game'. Or from competing in matches, or from entering dressing rooms of any stadium or arena, or entering any other place where matches are being held under the governance of the BIPHA.
- 11.4 Such sufficient cause shall include conduct, without limitation, inclusive of:
  - (a) failing a doping test;

## BIPHA Rule Book – September 2008 - 2009

- (b) charges that amount to a criminal or civil offence;
  - (c) where a member is convicted of committing any criminal or civil offence;
  - (d) acting in such a way as to bring 'the game' into disrepute.
- 11.5 The NEC may suspend forthwith or cancel any appointment of any Officer of the BIPHA for any reason and for such times as it may see fit.
- 11.6 No such Officer may attend any NEC meeting or REC meeting until they have been re-appointed.
- 11.7 Member Officers of the NEC shall be required, following resignation or expulsion, or retirement or termination of such role, to immediately forward all property belonging to the BIPHA. Such property shall include all documentation in any format whatsoever including databases held, all trophies and medals, and all equipment belonging to the BIPHA inclusive of all monies held in accounts under title of the BIPHA.
- 11.8 All such properties must be returned to the NEC via the National Secretary or Chairperson or to the Regional Executive Committee Secretary or Chairperson (where applicable) without delay.
- 11.9 Affiliated Regional Executive Committees shall have within their territorial areas of power the rights of suspension (temporary or permanent) similar to those of the NEC.
- 11.10 Associated Regional Associations shall have within their territorial areas of power the rights of suspension (temporary or permanent) similar to those of the NEC.
- 11.11 Those express powers detailed above shall not be deemed to exclude the exercise of the general inherent disciplinary powers of the NEC or an REC, to require an apology, or other course of action to be followed by any member. The same shall apply to an Affiliated or Associated Regional Association; Club; team or member in respect of any misconduct or other matter of complaint against them.
- 11.12 The NEC shall have the power of re-instatement or re-appointment in all cases in which it has taken disciplinary action.
- 11.13 Affiliated Regional Executive Committees shall have within their territorial areas of power the rights of re-instatement and re-appointment in cases where they have taken disciplinary action.
- 11.14 Associated Regional Associations shall have within their territorial areas of power the rights of re-instatement and re-appointment in cases where they have taken disciplinary action

### **Dissolution**

- 12.1 If a resolution to dissolve the BIPHA is tabled at any properly convened NEC meeting, then such resolution must be passed by a majority of members present at the meeting.
- 12.2 In order to proceed with the dissolution and EGM shall be convened not less than 30 days thereafter, of which at least 14 days notice must be given to all members of the BIPHA.
- 12.3 The resolution to dissolve the BIPHA must be confirmed by the EGM by a two-thirds majority of voting members' present. Voting members shall include all those affiliated members aged 16 years and over at the date of the EGM.
- 12.4 If the resolution to dissolve the BIPHA is confirmed, the NEC shall then proceed to meet all liabilities of the Association, if necessary by realising the assets of the BIPHA. Any assets left over after all liabilities have been met shall be donated to charity and the NEC shall agree such charity.