

November 12, 2013

Ladies and Gentlemen:

The season is upon us and the fun has already begun. Hockey is a passionate sport, played by emotional players and coached by committed parents. They demand, and rightly so, the best possible officiating that we can provide. Each and every official needs to perform to the best of their ability. Unfortunately, errors will occur but that is part of the learning curve. Players make mistakes, coaches error, timekeepers miscalculate, and parents make unwise decisions. Our goal is to minimize our mistakes and that can be accomplished by doing the following:

1. **KNOW THE RULES-** your clinic is over, you wrote the exam, you got your passing grade BUT that doesn't mean that you put away your rule book and wing it from game to game hoping nothing serious happens or that the other official(s) will know the "rules". Pick up your book, take 10/15 minutes a day to review or check a rule, try to become a rule expert. There is no excuse for not referring to your rulebook on a consistent basis. At the bottom of this report are 5 questions that you can mull over. The following memo will have the answers and 5 new questions. We will try to do this once every two weeks
2. **KNOW THE MECHANICS-** you have a chop manual- if you are not sure re a certain mechanic- read your chop book or ask someone for clarification. I am sure that you have all heard the there is no such thing as a dumb questions, just dumb answers.
3. **ATTITUDE-** you have to arrive at the rink with a positive attitude, ready to officiate the best game ever. The coaches and players will quickly pick up on this and your positive attitude can be the foundation that leads to a well-played game
4. **ARRIVE ON TIME-** if the game is scheduled to begin at 8:00 am you should be at the rink by 7:40 am rather than trying to grab an extra 15 minutes of sleep.
5. **OFFICIALS EQUIPMENT-** mandatory – black pants, black helmet with visor, white shoe laces, clean, tidy referee' sweater with Hockey MB crest. If you come looking like you spent the night out on the streets with your uniform, you are going to run into problems.
Come dressed like a professional
6. **HOCKEY WINNIPEG RULES AND REGUALTIONS BOOK-** if you haven't done so, read it- it has useful information like OT for AA hockey, cutting the clock, the mercy rule, etc
7. **CURRENT CONCERNS-** So far this year we have had a game where OT was not applied correctly (could have/should have been avoided), not releasing an ejected

player to the team's representative (could have should have been avoided), the game sheet not properly filled out (could have/ should have been avoided), and a rule not applied correctly (which shows a need to periodically check your rulebook

8. TAKE CONTROL- take control from the opening whistle until the end of the game. The calling of a penalty or penalties when they should be called can go a long ways to controlling a game. Remember, calling penalties is like holding a bird; hold it too tight and it dies, hold it too loose and it flies away.

Our motto- *work hard, act professional and have some fun*- try it

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Questions

1. What are the 5 stick infraction penalties?
2. How many penalties can a player accumulate until he/she is ejected from a game?
- 3a. A player is assessed a minor and a major, which penalty is applied first?
- 3b. If a major is assessed to player "blue 12" and a minor to player "blue 3" at the same stoppage, which penalty is served first?
4. How many minutes is a spearing penalty? (Hockey Canada Rule 8.5)
5. Can the goalie be changed while the play is in progress?

Where to find the answers: 1- (Hockey Canada Rule 4.2e); 2-(Hockey Winnipeg SR-18 (p.92), in addition to Hockey Canada Rule 4.2e); 3a-(Hockey Canada 4.1e); 3b-(Hockey Canada Rule 4.12e); 4-(Hockey Canada Rule 8.5); 5-(Hockey Canada Rule 2.5b, Situation 4).