



HOCKEY CANADA JUNIOR "A" MINIMUM SUSPENSIONS

Updated: September 2023



1. The following minimum suspensions are not to be reduced; Members, Association and Leagues may strengthen any of the listed offences at their discretion.
2. These guidelines apply to Junior A leagues.
3. Indefinite Suspensions - Members and/or leagues shall establish a process for investigation or review to determine the appropriate length of suspension unless otherwise specified in the guidelines. Said processes shall include some form of communication and follow up with the individual(s) in question. This may include written submissions, phone or electronic communication, formal hearing, educational training etc. Any player or team official under indefinite suspension is deemed ineligible to participate until a decision has been rendered and the suspension is served in full.
4. All incidents resulting in multiple suspensions to a single participant must be served consecutively.
5. Discipline applied in accordance with any minimum suspension(s) within these guidelines are not subject to appeal.

Maltreatment – Rule 11			
Rule #	Type	Penalty	Suspension
11.2(e)	Game Misconduct	Abusive Behavior	1 game
11.2(f)	Gross Misconduct	Abusive Behavior	2 games
11.3(c)	Match	Spitting	5 games
11.4	Gross Misconduct	Discrimination	Indefinite Suspension (Minimum 5 Games)
11.5(c)	Match	Physical Harassment of Officials	Indefinite Suspension
11.5(e)	Game Misconduct	Physical Harassment of Officials	1 game
Progressive Suspensions – Player or Team Official			
11.2(e)	Receives 2 Game Misconducts under Rule 11.2 in a season		2 games
11.2(e)	Receives 3 or more Game Misconducts under Rule 11.2 in a season		Indefinite Suspension
11.2(f)	Receives 2 Gross Misconducts under Rule 11.2 in a season		Indefinite Suspension
11.4	Receives 2 or more Gross Misconducts under Rule 11.4 in a season		Indefinite Suspension
11.5(e)	Receives 2 or more Game Misconducts under Rule 11.5(e) in a season		Indefinite Suspension

Checking From Behind - Rule 7.5		
Penalty Options	Suspension	Fine
Minor & Game Misconduct	No minimum	
Major & Game Misconduct	2 games	
Match	5 games	
Accumulations: A player shall receive a minimum 2 game suspension upon receiving his 3rd minor penalty for Checking from Behind in the same season. An additional 2 game suspension shall result for each subsequent minor in the same season.		
Head Contact - Rule 7.6 / 7.7		
Penalty Options	Suspension	Fine
Minor & Misconduct	No minimum	
Major & Game Misconduct	2 games	
Match	5 games	

Accumulations: A player shall receive a minimum 2 game suspension upon receiving his 3rd minor penalty for Head Contact in the same season. An additional 2 game suspension shall result for each subsequent minor in the same season.

Kneeing – Rule 7.8

Penalty Options	Suspension	Fine
Double Minor	No minimum	
Major & Game Misconduct	2 games	
Match	5 games	

Accumulations: A player shall receive a minimum 2 game suspension upon receiving their 3rd double minor penalty for Kneeing in the same season. An additional 2 game suspension shall result for each subsequent double minor in the same season.

Clipping – Rule 8.7

Penalty Options	Suspension	Fine
Minor	No minimum	
Major & Game Misconduct	2 games	
Match	5 games	

Accumulations: A player shall receive a minimum 2 game suspension upon receiving their 3rd minor penalty for Clipping in the same season. An additional 2 game suspension shall result for each subsequent minor in the same season.

Slew Footing – Rule 8.8

Penalty Options	Suspension	Fine
Double Minor	No minimum	
Match	5 games	

Accumulations: A player shall receive a minimum 2 game suspension upon receiving their 3rd double minor penalty for Slew Footing in the same season. An additional 2 game suspension shall result for each subsequent double minor in the same season.

Interference/Protection of the Goaltender – Rule 8.5

Penalty Options	Suspension	Fine
1st minor penalty in game to team: Minor Penalty	No minimum	
2nd minor penalty in game to team: Minor Penalty	No minimum. Warning delivered to both benches.	
3 + minor penalties in same game to team: Minor Penalty and Game Misconduct	1 game to the player	\$500 Per occurrence
Major Penalty and Game Misconduct	2 games	
Match	5 games	

Notes: In addition, a player shall receive a 2 game suspension upon receiving his 3rd penalty for Goaltender Interference in the same season. An additional 2 game suspension shall result for each subsequent Goaltender Interference Penalty in the same season.

ACCUMULATED MAJOR PENALTIES – NON-FIGHTING

Incident	Suspension	Fine
3rd offence and thereafter	3 games	

ACCUMULATED MATCH PENALTIES (not listed above)

Incident	Suspension	Fine
1 st offence	2 games	
2 nd offence and thereafter	3 games	

ACCUMULATED GAME MISCONDUCTS - NON-FIGHTING		
Incident	Suspension	
6 th offence	1 game	\$500
7 th offence	2 games	\$750
8 th offence	3 games	\$1,000
9 th offence	4 games	\$1,250
10 th offence and thereafter	Indefinite Suspension and Review	TBD
Instigator & Aggressor – Rule 7.11		
Incident	Suspension	Fine
2nd offence (Instigator & Aggressor Combined)	1 game	\$500
3rd offence (Instigator & Aggressor Combined)	2 games	\$750
4th offence (Instigator & Aggressor Combined)	3 games	\$1,000
5th offence (Instigator & Aggressor Combined)	4 games	\$1,250
6th offence and thereafter (Instigator & Aggressor Combined)	Indefinite Suspension and Review	TBD
Two Fights on the same stoppage:		
<i>Players involved in the second fight shall be subjected to an automatic suspension.</i>		
Incident	Suspension	Fine
No instigator in 2nd fight	1 game minimum to each player	
Instigator in 2nd fight	2 games minimum to Instigating player. The non-instigating player shall not be suspended.	\$500
Three or More Fights on the same stoppage:		
<i>When three or more fights occur during the same stoppage of play, players involved in the second fight and all subsequent fights shall be subjected to an automatic suspension.</i>		
If a team is identified as the instigator of the multiple fight situation, the following minimum penalties shall be applied:		
Incident	Suspension	Fine
Instigating player(s)	5 games	
All players from instigating team who participated in multiple fight situation	2 games	
Coach of the instigating team	1 game	
Instigating Team		\$1,000
If it is clear by the evidence that the multiple fights were instigated by one team, players from the non-instigating team shall not be suspended.		
If an instigator is not identified, the following minimum penalties shall be applied:		
Incident	Suspension	Fine
All participating players	2 games	
Coach from each team	1 game	
Each team also receives \$1,000 Fine Players involved in the initial fight shall not be subject to the multiple fight penalties and suspensions.		
Leaving the Players or Penalty Bench – Rule 10.4		
Incident	Suspension	Fine
Player Identified	6 games	\$1,500
Staged Fights - Rule 7.10		
Incident	Suspension	Fine
Players participating in staged fight (No Instigator)	3 games	

2nd occurrence in the same game (No Instigator)	3 games minimum to players involved. Coaches shall be ejected	\$600
Staged fight where an instigator is identified	2 games minimum to coach	\$600
Staged fight where an instigator is identified	5 games minimum to offending player	
Pre-Game Fights or End or beginning of period - Rule 7.10		
Who is Penalized:	Suspension	Fine
Participating players	2 games	
Instigating player(s)	5 games	
Instigating coach (if identified)	3 games	\$1,500
Fighting Last 10 minutes of Game		
Incident	Suspension	Fine
First fight (last 10 mins of game)	Warning delivered to both benches	
2nd fight (last 10 mins of game)	1 game suspension to each player	
2nd fight (last 10 mins of game with Instigator)	2 games minimum to instigating player. The non-instigating player shall not be suspended	
Fights Involving Goaltenders - Rule 7.10		
Incident	Suspension	Fine
Any fights between goaltenders	3 games	
Goaltender travels down the ice inside the other club's blue line to fight opposing goalkeeper	5 games	
2nd offence with an opposing goalkeeper	6 games	
Goaltender who leaves the crease to engage in a fight with any player other than a goaltender	2 games	
Removing Equipment to Fight – Rule 10.6		
Incident	Suspension	Fine
Remove helmet or opponents' helmet in a challenge or a fight (Gross Misconduct)	1 game	
Removal of equipment on bench	1 game minimum to player 1 game minimum to coach	
2nd occurrence – coach and player	2 games	
ACCUMULATED Fighting Majors – Rule 7.10		
Incident	Suspension	Fine
5th fighting major	1 game	
6th fighting major	3 games	\$750 (Team Fine)
7th fighting major	4 games	\$1,000 (Team Fine)
8th fighting major	8 games	\$1,250 (Team Fine)
Any subsequent fighting major after 8	League to determine suspension and team fine	