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To: HNS Minor Hockey Referee-in-Chiefs
HNS Minor Hockey Officials
HNS Minor Hockey Presidents
HNS Minor Council
HNS Zone Coordinators

From: Steve Smith
Minor Hockey Referee-in-Chief

Date: August 18, 2009

Re: HNSMC Regulations

The following is a list of Hockey Nova Scotia Minor Council (HNSMC) regulations that on-ice officials should be familiar with. These regulations apply to all minor hockey games and supersede any Hockey Canada rules.

504 In all divisions, the playing time of games shall not exceed 45 minutes, normally divided into three 15-minute straight time or stop time periods.

HNSMC has approved Midget AAA Minor teams can play 3 x 20-minute stop time periods.

505 There will not be any TIME OUTS in Minor Hockey sanctioned by the HNSMC except for Regional, Inter-Regional and Provincial Championship Tournaments where a thirty second time out, per team, per game, is allowed.

Officials should refer to Hockey Canada rule 10.17(f) for clarification on time-out procedures.

506 Teams may dress a maximum of nineteen (19) players, provided two are goaltenders. If only one goaltender is dressed, the maximum number dressed is eighteen (18). The players listed on the game sheet must be either registered members of the team involved, or approved affiliate players.

HNSMC has approved Midget AAA Minor teams can dress twenty (20) players.

509 Only those players that are eligible to play and in attendance at the game shall be listed on the game report.

When this regulation is combined with Hockey Canada rule 2.2 it shall be interpreted that no player is permitted to participate in a game unless he/she is in attendance (in the arena) at the start of the game. Prior to the game officials must ensure the number of players listed on the game sheet corresponds with the number of players in attendance for each team.

702.2 A verbal protest must be made by the Captain of the aggrieved team to the Referee at the first reasonable opportunity after the action or decision complained of, and in all cases must be made within five (5) minutes of the close of the period in which such action or decision was made and same must be noted immediately on the official game report.

705 The three-man system (referee and two linesmen) must be used for all Regional, Inter-Regional and Provincial playoff games. The referee for these games must have at least Level 3 certification and the linesmen Level 2. If officials with these qualifications are not available, the appropriate authority (Zone Supervisor for Officials, Regional Director, Conference Coordinator, or Chairman of the HNSMC) may approve assignment of officials with a lower skill level or the use of the two-man system. No protests will be allowed in this respect.

- 706 Unless unavoidable, and only if agreed by both coaches in writing, a referee or linesman shall not officiate in any game in which a participant is related in any way.
- 707 Officials (referees) shall report all game misconducts, gross misconducts and match penalties which lead to a suspension under the HNSMC Code of Discipline to the HNSMC Suspensions Co-ordinator at suspensions@hockeynovascotia.ca or fax to 1-800-313-8320.
- 708 All Minor Hockey Associations, through their President and Referee in Chief, must ensure that officials playing both Minor Hockey and officiating hockey, only REFEREE games up to one division below the level they presently play. (These officials may continue to act as a linesman for games within the division in which they play hockey. EXAMPLE – A Midget player could do lines for any Midget game, but only referee Bantam and below). Associations who find this taxing their officiating resources may make application to the Officiating Committee for exception. We expect application for exception would only be submitted from smaller Associations because of their limited resources.
- 709 All Minor Hockey Associations, through their Association President, must appoint or elect a Referee-in-Chief who is either a registered referee with HNS or retired referee previously registered with the Hockey Canada/HNS officiating system.
- 813.13 A coach may request that a game be terminated. If agreed by both coaches the Referee will terminate the game. No penalty shall be incurred. If not agreed upon by both coaches, the coach of the team leaving the ice shall be immediately suspended until an investigation by the HNSMC is completed.
- 810.5.1 Any player who deliberately turns his/her back to an opponent, so as to intentionally create a checking from behind offence, shall be assessed a Game Misconduct for dangerous and unsportsmanlike conduct.
- 815.3 A player loses his/her privileges to officiate in any capacity or play as an affiliate player during the period he/she is under suspension.
- An official who is suspended while playing or coaching minor hockey shall not be permitted to officiate until the suspension is served.*
- 1003 A minimum of twelve players in uniform (including one goaltender) on each team shall be necessary for the start of any provincial playoff game. Any team dressing less than twelve players will forfeit the game.
- If a team that does not have eleven skaters and/or a goaltender then the game does not start.*
- 1006 Please be informed that after one (1) warning by the referee, teams will be assessed a bench minor for “stick banging”. A player on the ice in all instances will serve this penalty.
- Stick banging is considered any banging of a player or players’ stick(s) on the boards, or any part of the player’s or penalty bench for any reason.
- This is a risk management issue and officials will be instructed to enforce this rule strictly.
- 1008 A 30 second time out will be permitted in Regional, Inter-Regional and Provincial Playoff games.
- Officials should refer to Hockey Canada rule 10.17(f) for clarification on time-out procedures.*

For further clarification please contact the undersigned.

Sincerley,

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