

**To: All ACHA Member Teams**

**From: Shane Hanlon, ACHA Referee-In-Chief**

**I have been receiving several requests from teams regarding what types of penalties are considered an automatic Disqualification (DQ). As the ACHA does use a “modified” version of the “NCAA 2009 Rules for Ice Hockey”, I wanted to put together this cheat sheet for all of the members.**

**The follow infractions carry a DQ as the ONLY penalty option for the referee.**

- 1- Spitting (ACHA )**
- 2- Continued abuse of a game official.**
- 3- Excessive Roughness.**
  - a. This is interpreted as any act that the referee determined to be an attempt to injure an opponent, team official, or game officials**
- 4- Fighting/Punching.**
- 5- Kicking a Player.**
- 6- Leaving the bench during altercations.**
- 7- Physical contact with an official.**
- 8- Progressive game.**
  - a. This simply means that DQ’s carry a “progressive” structure. A players 1<sup>st</sup> DQ automatically carries a 1 game suspension, his/her 2<sup>nd</sup> DQ carries a 2 game suspension, and so on.**
- 9- Swinging a stick during an altercation.**

**Keep in mind that there are other situations that can result in a player receiving a DQ. For example, Spearing, Butt-Ending, Hitting From Behind, Continuing an Altercation, Contact to the Head, Cross-Checking, Elbowing, Head Butting, Kneeing, Shooting the Puck After the Whistle, Slashing, and Taunting all carry a DQ as one of the possible penalty options available to the referee. It is up to the referee to determine the degree of violence in the infraction, the attempt to make a**

**legal play, and the potential for injury. Those factors will help the official decide if a DQ is the best call.**

**When your player receives a DQ it is up to you as head coach to make sure that player sits the next game. It is also your responsibility to report the DQ with your scores to your Divisional Commissioner. It is not the job of the officials to police the DQ's. The supplemental discipline for a DQ is clearly laid out in the rule book. I think we can all agree that we want the game officials to be focused on the task of officiating the game at hand. We do not want them worrying about who is an eligible player and who is not eligible.**

**I hope that you find this memo helpful in clarifying what penalties are an automatic DQ. If you have any questions though out the season, please feel free to contact me. Best of luck throughout the season!**