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MEMORANDUM

TO: NCAA Men's and Women's Ice Hockey Coaches, Conference Commissioners and Supervisors of Officials.

FROM: Steve Piotrowski, secretary-rules editor
NCAA Men's and Women's Ice Hockey Rules Committee.

SUBJECT: Preseason Rules Guidance and Clarifications.

During recent preseason officiating clinics and coaches meetings, several questions were raised concerning some of the new rules and interpretations. The committee is providing the following communication to further assist in the understanding of the rules as officials and teams prepare for the upcoming season. Several situations were raised and clarification points are included with this communication.

For additional clarification, please be sure to view the NCAA Ice Hockey Rules and Officiating video, which was mailed to each institution and conference office. The rules video may also be viewed and downloaded at the following link:

http://web1.ncaa.org/web_video/ice_hockey/2010/2010-11_m_ice_hockey_rules.html

Additionally, the 2010-12 NCAA Ice Hockey Rules book has been mailed to each institution and conference. The book is also available online at the following link:

<http://www.ncaapublications.com/productdownloads/IH12.pdf>

Thank you for your time and attention to this preseason guidance information. Hopefully, this will assist officials and coaches in understanding our rules changes for this season.

Enclosure

SP:cs

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NCAA Men's and Women's Ice Hockey Rules Committee
Preseason Guidance

1. Interpretations.

Play 1 – Icing: Does the linesman have to wait until the attacking team reaches the end zone faceoff dot to signal no icing?

Ruling: If it is blatantly obvious that the attacking team will be the first team to reach the puck the linesman may waive icing prior to the play reaching the end zone dot.

Play 2 – Icing: In late game situations when the puck is in an icing situation does the defending team have to skate to the dot in their defensive zone in order for the linesmen to signal icing or, is it permissible for the linesman to signal icing immediately since it is obvious the non-offending team will be the first player to get to the puck?

Ruling: To ensure game and clock consistency the non-offending team must skate back and reach the end zone faceoff dot before icing can be called. The overarching principle with the icing rule is to determine which player would have touched the puck first. So, in this case, the defensive team has to prove that it would touch the puck, as the player would have to do in a touch icing situation.

Play 3 – Icing: Team A ices the puck. As the Team B player retreats to pursue the puck his goalie leaves the crease and plays the puck. The linesman who is in position to make the call is too focused on the players skating towards the puck and fails to notice that the goalie not only leaves his crease but actually plays the puck prior to it crossing the goal line. In error the linesman calls this icing. Where is the subsequent faceoff?

Ruling: If the officials err in calling an icing-the-puck infraction (regardless of whether either team is short-handed), the puck shall be faced off at the center ice faceoff spot unless, in the opinion of the referee, the center ice faceoff unduly penalizes either team. In this situation, since icing should not have been called and a center ice faceoff would unduly penalize Team A. Therefore, the faceoff will take place at one of the end zone spots in Team B's defensive zone. (See Rule 6-15-n.)

Play 4 – Icing: Team A shoots the puck down the ice from their defensive zone. The linesman has determined this puck to be in a potential icing situation. The puck wraps around the Team B end-zone boards and moves out towards the Team B defensive blue line. Team B defensive player, B1 is in the neutral zone and on his way back to pursue the puck. The linesman is in position and has determined that B1 will obviously be the first in position to touch the puck due to the path of the puck. When should the linesmen blow his whistle to enforce the icing?

Ruling: Since the puck has crossed the goal line and is on its way out of the Team B defensive zone due to the puck wrap, the linesman will blow his whistle and enforce the icing in this

situation at the time B1 is in an obvious position to be the first player to touch the puck. In this situation since the puck has wrapped and is now in the neutral zone, B1 will not be required to skate back to his defensive zone faceoff dot.

Play 5 – Icing: Team A defenseman, A1 is in the corner of his defensive zone and loses his stick and glove while in an attempt to check the Team B attacking player, B1. The puck leaves the Team A defensive zone and ends up on the Team B defensive side of the red line. With all Team B players' outside, Team B player, B2 retrieves the puck and immediately dumps the puck back into the Team A defensive zone in the same corner where player A1 is located. The linesman has determined this puck to be in a potential icing situation. When should the linesman blow his whistle to enforce the icing?

Ruling: Since the puck has crossed the goal line, is in an icing situation, and in the corner of Team A's defensive zone, the linesman will blow his whistle and enforce the icing in this situation at the time A1 is in an obvious position to be the first player to get to the puck. In this situation since the puck is in the same corner as the A1 defenseman, A1 will not be required to skate to his defensive zone faceoff dot in order for the linesman to blow his whistle and enforce the icing.

Play 6 – Icing: Team A ices the puck. The linesman has determined this puck to be in a potential icing situation. As the Team B player retreats to pursue the puck the Team B goalie leaves the crease (is not playing the position to prevent a goal). What is the call?

Ruling: Icing is waived. Since the goalie left the crease the linesman must nullify the icing call. The goalie must not make an attempt or fake an attempt to play the puck or, leave the crease during an icing. However the goalie should not be penalized for the act of playing the position.

Examples:

- a. Guarding the edge of the net or post as the puck crosses through the crease.
- b. Retreating into the crease after establishing a position outside of the crease for the purpose of cutting down the angle.

Play 7 – Icing: Team B ices the puck. The linesman has determined this puck to be in a potential icing situation. Player A1 and Player B1 are in a tight foot race to pursue the puck. As both players approach the Team A defensive zone faceoff spot, the linesman has determined it will be a virtual tie as to which player would have touched the puck first. What is the call?

Ruling: In a tight foot race where the linesman cannot clearly determine which player would touch the puck first, icing shall be called.

REMINDER – Contact after Whistle During Icing Situations: It is imperative that the front linesman communicate with the players involved in the icing situation to avoid any unnecessary contact. Referees are instructed to use good judgment and continue to call any unnecessary contact on icing as hitting after the whistle.

Play 8 – Puck out of Bounds: Team A is in the neutral zone just outside the Team B Defensive zone. Player A 20 takes a shot that directly hits the Team B defensive zone goal post and goes directly out of play. Where is the subsequent faceoff?

Ruling: Nearest neutral zone faceoff spot. In order for the faceoff to take place at an end zone spot the shot must be taken inside the attacking zone and hit the goal post or crossbar and go directly out of play.

Play 9 – Delayed Penalty Enforcement: Team A is assessed a penalty and is short handed - player A1 is in the box. Shortly after play resumes Just following the next faceoff, player A2 receives a penalty and during the delayed penalty Team B scores. What is the on-ice strength?

Ruling: If the referee signals an additional minor penalty(s) against **a team that already is short-handed** because of one or more minor or bench minor penalties, and a goal is scored by the non-offending team before the whistle is blown, the goal shall be allowed, the delayed penalty(s) shall be assessed, and the minor penalty already being served that caused the team to be shorthanded shall terminate automatically.

Other Guidance and Clarification

Delayed Penalty Enforcement

Rule 4-9-b

If a goal is scored on the delayed penalty **by the non-offending team**, the first minor penalty shall be imposed as well as all other infractions regardless of whether a goal is scored. If any other penalties are committed on the same play or after the appropriate on-ice official has stopped play, the offending players shall be penalized (see 4-2-d).

Rule 4-2-d

If the referee signals an additional minor penalty(s) against **a team that already is short-handed** because of one or more minor or bench minor penalties, and a goal is scored by the non-offending team before the whistle is blown, the goal shall be allowed, the delayed penalty(s) shall be assessed, and the minor penalty already being served that caused the team to be shorthanded shall terminate automatically (see 4-2-c and 4-9-b).

NON-OFFENDING TEAM SCORES

Below: Team A has delayed penalty, Team B is the scoring team
If shorthanded team is scored on it gets relief.

Situation I: Teams at full strength

<u>Team A</u>	<u>Team B</u>	
Full strength	Full strength	10:00
A1 - Minor (Delay)	Scores	9:30

A1 serves penalty – 5 on 4

Situation II: Team A shorthanded

<u>Team A</u>	<u>Team B</u>	
A1 - Minor	Full strength	10:00
A2 - Minor (Delay)	Scores	9:30

A2 must serve penalty, A1 comes out – 4 on 4

Situation III: Team B shorthanded

<u>Team A</u>	<u>Team B</u>	
Full strength	B1 - Minor	10:00
A1 - Minor (Delay)	Scores	9:30

A1 must serve penalty – 4 on 4

Situation IV: Teams are at equal strength

<u>Team A</u>	<u>Team B</u>	
A1 - Minor	Full strength	10:00
	B1 – Minor	9:00
A2 - Minor (Delay)	Scores	8:30

A2 must serve penalty – 3 on 4

Situation V: Team A shorthanded

<u>Team A</u>	<u>Team B</u>	
A1 - Minor	Full strength	10:00
	B1 – Minor	9:30
A2 – Minor		9:00
A3 - Minor (Delay)	Scores	8:30

A3 must serve penalty, A2 comes out – 3 on 4

Editorial Clarifications

Clarification of Rule 4-3, A.R. 6 on Page HI-12:

A.R. 6: Team A has two major penalties, one on A1 at 12:00 and one on A2 at 11:00. At 9:30, during a delayed minor penalty against Team A, Team B scores a goal. **Ruling:** The minor penalty is not served by Team A. Both major penalties must be served in their entirety.

Clarification point: The intent of the new rule for delayed penalties only applies to minor penalties. Team A does get relief when a major penalty is already in effect.

Clarification of Rule 4-9, A.R. 3 on Page HI-14:

A.R. 3: A1 commits a minor infraction. During the delayed whistle, A2 commits a minor infraction. Team B scores during the delayed whistle. **Correct Ruling:** A1 and A2 must be penalized. On-ice strength is 5-on-3.

Clarification point: The intent of the new rule is to enforce minor penalties when they occur in these situations, except when major penalties are already in effect.

Clarification of Rule 4-9, A.R. 4 on Page HI-14:

A.R. 4: Team A is at full strength. Team B has a minor penalty on B1 and is shorthanded. During play, A1 commits an infraction and a delayed whistle is called. Team B scores during the delayed penalty. What is the on-ice strength? **Correct Ruling:** A1 will be required to serve the penalty; on-ice strength is 4-on-4.

Clarification of Rule 4-2, A.R. 20 on Page HI-11:

Correct Example: This situation should have B2 with two minor penalties and B3 should not be in this situation. The ruling is then correct to have Team A on a 5-on-4 advantage for four minutes.

Exhibition Game Clarification

The committee has two clarifications with the mandated use of the experimental rule (icing enforced in shorthanded situations) in exhibition games:

1. If a team has more than one exhibition game, the team may choose to use the experimental rule in only one of those games. However, all teams that have an exhibition game must use the experimental rule at least once.
2. With the administration of the experimental rule, a team that ices the puck during a shorthanded situation is allowed to change its players. During the comment period when this rule was proposed, there was strong support to allow a change of players if this rule is used.

Finally, the committee asks conferences and teams to track several items during these games (see the attached sheet) and send it to Ty Halpin (thalpin@ncaa.org) for compilation. Thank you in advance for your participation.

