



**OFFICIATING
&
GAME OPERATIONS MANUAL**

2023-24

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Welcome to The United State Premier Junior Hockey League

The documents in this manual contain the necessary information for Leagues policies, procedures, game night operations, officiating directives, and points of emphasis of the 2023-24 Season.

The National Collegiate Development Conference, The USPHL Premier, and The USPHL Elite will use the 2022--24 NCAA Rulebook with the exceptions listed below in the protocol section.

The USPHL U18 and U16 Divisions use the USA Hockey 2017-21 Youth Book. The only exception will be the overtime procedure listed below in the protocol section.

Fighting

NCDC ONLY

The referee is provided a very wide latitude in the penalties that they may impose under the NCAA Rules, including Rule 48 fighting or punching. an altercation shall be defined as any physical interaction between two or more opposing players resulting in a penalty or penalties being assessed.

It is the policy of the USPHL and NCDC Division to discourage fighting. In an effort to discourage fighting, the referee is provided with a very wide latitude of penalty enforcement, this is done intentionally to enable them to differentiate between the obvious degrees of responsibility of the participants either for starting the fight or persisting in continuing the fight.

These are the options you have when decide to remove a player or players. All scenarios will be discussed on the league call. Video for all fighting option protocols are on the Horizon site for review as well.

Fighting Matrix	Penalty
Roughing-Scrum	4 Minutes Minor 10 Minute Misconduct
Player's 1st fight	5 Major 10 Minute Misconduct
Player's 2nd Fight	5-Disqualification
Players not going to bench during fight	2 Minute Minor reviewed by Discipline Committee
Players Secondary Fights at Stoppage	Disqualification

Scenario One Roughing

A double minor (4) minutes for roughing and a ten-minute (10) misconduct penalty shall be assessed at the discretion of the referee if the two players are in a wrestling match rather than punches being thrown.

Scenario Two Fighting Two Participants

A five (5) minute major penalty and a ten (10) minute penalty shall be assessed to any player engaged in a fight.

For a second fight in the same game the player shall be assessed a five (5) minute major and a game disqualification and must sit out the next scheduled league game.

For any player who receives a major penalty for fighting with less than 5 minutes left to play in regulation or overtime shall be assessed a one game.

Scenario Three Fighting Secondary, Staged Fights and Instigator

At the referee's discretion a game disqualification penalty shall be assessed to any player or goalkeeper who is the first to intervene in any altercation already in progress regardless of the time of the infraction. This penalty is in addition to any other penalty incurred in the same incident.

When an altercation occurs on the ice, all players (non-participants) excluding the goalkeepers, must return directly and immediately to their players' bench including those who bang their sticks on the ice during the altercation. The referee shall assess a two-minute minor to all players who do not follow the referees' instructions.

After the referee has determined the players in the initial fight, all players involved shall be removed from the game and assessed a game disqualification penalty and shall miss their next schedule game. All secondary fights are reviewed by the safety committee, which has the authority to add up to two (2) games supplemental discipline, without appeal.

4. An additional minor penalty plus a game disqualification penalty shall be assessed to any player who is deemed to be the instigator of a fight. This game disqualification shall be in lieu of the misconduct that is assessed for fighting.

(Note 1) An instigator of an altercation shall be a player who is by their actions or demeanor demonstrates any or some of the following criteria: distance traveled; gloves off first; first punch thrown; menacing attitude or posture; verbal instigation or threats; conduct in retaliation to a prior game incident.

At the discretion of the referee, any player who is deemed to be an aggressor in a fight shall be assessed a game disqualification. A Disqualification penalty shall be assessed in every instance when the aggressor recklessly endangers an opponent. This penalty shall be in addition to any other penalties assessed to the player.

(Note) A player is deemed to be an aggressor when they clearly gain an advantage but continue throwing punches in a further attempt to inflict punishment on their opponent who is no longer in a position to defend themselves. In addition, any player who by means of physical force lifts, grabs, or holds an opponent and slams them to the ice shall be treated as an aggressor.

Strictly Enforced – The Penalty for a player removing a helmet during an altercation or any other action shall receive an additional disqualification penalty. The discipline committee will review all instances where there is a helmet removal.

Premier

Premier and Elite: There is a strict NO Fighting Policy; All fighting majors will have additional games added for repeat offenders, in addition to the rulebook mandatory game suspension.

**Players are required to go to the bench's during an altercation
This will be strictly enforced.**

Any secondary fight shall be assessed a major DQ, and two additional games will be added for supplemental discipline.

Strictly Enforced – The Penalty for a player removing a helmet during an altercation or any other action shall receive an additional two games under the supplemental discipline policy

Do not respond to length of suspension, have coach contact the league office.

It is up to all parties, officials, coaches, players, and managers to be familiar with and comprehend the material listed in the manual.

All equipment must be worn properly as designed by the manufacture.

Please refer to the NCAA Hockey 22-24 with the following Amendments.

High-Sticking




A major plus a game misconduct or DQ shall be assessed to any player who injures an opponent as a result of a high stick, unless deemed to be accidental in which a double minor penalty may be assessed.

Juniors Only Waiver



For those who sign a waiver is allowed to wear a half-shield as designed and approved by HECC.

League Games cannot end in a tie

Overtime procedure Junior and Midgets

-  **5-minute OT 3X3**
-  **3-man shootout**
-  **Sudden Death different shooters until roster exhausted**

Overtime Penalty Procedure

-  **If there is a penalty at the end of regulation the overtime will start 4-3, then 4-4 until the first whistle.**
-  **If there is another penalty to the team shorthanded; the on-ice strength will be 5-3. There never shall be no less than 3 players on each team on the ice.**

Junior Roster

A total of 21 – does not matter the configuration

Please refer to the USA Hockey Youth Rulebook 2017-21

All youth rules apply to the USPHL Midgets.

GAME REPORTS-

A game report is required for all game misconduct and game disqualifications use the reporting system on horizon.

- **For Youth all Game Misconducts and Match Penalties must be sent to me after you report them in the USA Reporting System.**

Post-game reports are one of your most important duties. They provide communication to three different people; fines and suspensions are enforced from your written report. Please fill out all information clearly and correctly. Also make yourself available that evening. **(Leave a phone number where you can be contacted.)**

The Referee shall call Gene Binda or immediate supervisor in your area following the game involving:

- All Majors
- Game misconducts, disqualifications, youth Match Penalties USA
- All Midget Game Misconducts and Match are too reported on the USA Hockey Reporting System
- Extraordinary Incidents and all helmet removals are to on the game sheet and an email immediately after the game.
- **Please refer to the USA Hockey 2017-21 Officials Guide, USA for all Points of Emphasis**

UPHL PROTOCOLS

For Officials a Code of Conduct is listed in the Document Section on the Horizon Scheduling Site

Game Protocol

Game Protocol, publish times on the horizon website are game start. Officials are required to go on the ice for warm-ups.

Warm-Ups

NCDC Juniors – 15 minutes Resurface.
Premier Elite – 10 minutes No Resurface

Start of Game Process

Announce Starting Lineups – Like a College Game. Teams on Goal Line, officials stand at center ice facing the flag Players come to blue line.

Play/Sing National Anthem
Game Commences

MANDATORY ATTIRE -

- ◇ A Collared shirt with tie is mandatory NO JEANS-SWEAT PANTS
- ◇ No tobacco/alcohol consumption in the building
- ◇ No earrings/nose rings, etc.
- ◇ All officials shall be properly dressed on and off the ice.

Do not wear any other league branding logos patches etc. on your uniform or entering the arena!

OFFICIAL'S UNIFORM

- Clean uniform, look sharp, feel sharp, be sharp!
- USPHL patch to be worn for NCDC, Premier and Elite
- **Name Plate No exceptions!**

Housekeeping

DRESSING ROOM- This is your room. **No Coach or GM** is allowed in the room without your permission. If there is a problem in the game and they need to talk to you lend them an ear. If they get unruly ask them to leave and report the incident to me first and the USPHL office second.

Under NO Circumstances are you to review video with the coaches before, during or after the game. Refer the request be sent to the league office for review.

The room should not be used as a hangout for friends or family. If anyone should drop by make it brief. There could be a lot of things going on in the game and you may need the time to go over some situations during the resurface.

Any Team Personal blocking the way of the officials to the dressing room shall result in a minor penalty during game misconduct after games. All incidents shall be reported immediately to Gene Binda or immediate supervisor.

INJURY/ILLNESS/ACCIDENT

In the event you are injured or become ill and are unable to perform your duties, contact Gene Binda or any supervisor immediately.

INSURANCE

All officials must be properly registered with USA Hockey or NIHOA Failure to meet any datelines/ payments will result in your suspension from officiating in our league.

Secondary insurance is provided by the USPHL for the Junior Leagues. Information will be on the Horizon website in the document section.

ABSENCE OF OFFICIALS

Every effort should be made to have 4 officials NCDC and 3 officials on the ice for all league games. Should for any unforeseen reason, any one of the assigned officials be prevented from officiating, the following shall take place.

If you are going to be late for whatever reason you are to call me first, then the crew.

If I am the last to know the entire crew will lose assignments in all leagues!

This policy is not to harm any official life happens, weather happens, work happens I need to know so we as a group does not look unprofessional.

Give me enough time to let the league administrators know what is going on.

NO EXCUSES HERE!!!!!! This it is a PROFESSIONAL POLICY! I expect you to be professional!

- 🏒 The game will start at the scheduled time, with the existing officials
- 🏒 Attempt to contact a league *official* that may be available to work.

- If no league officials are available attempt to contact a registered NIHOA or USA Hockey *Official*.
- If no replacement can be found the two-referee system will be use.
- If you find a replacement that is not a referee the senior linesman will assume the referee position.
- If no referee is available, the senior linesman shall be the lead referee for final decisions

USPHL GAME FEES NCDC

REFEREE	\$160.00
LINESMAN	\$125.00

USPHL GAME FEES Premier

REFEREE	\$175.00
LINESMAN	\$110.00

USPHL GAME FEES Elite

REFEREE	\$140.00
LINESMAN	\$100.00

USPHL GAME FEES Midgets

REFEREE

\$120.00

METHOD OF PAYMENT

Horizonwebref.com is your game receipt. If you do the game and your name is not on the web you will not be paid! If there is a change in address, you need to notify me so I can make the change in the payroll database.

If there is a change let me know and I will make the adjustment on the web. It is your responsibility to make sure the web is correct. Kick back ANY GAME you do not do!