



Game Rules

- Standard hockey penalties apply. Players are advised to not argue any calls with referees. This includes both non-penalty and penalty calls. Players should discuss with their team captains any calls they believe are incorrect.
- We will not tolerate any racial slurs. Players will receive a match penalty, & will have a meeting with the tournament directors
- TCS Tournament Directors can look into any incident that occurs during a game & can assess an additional suspension regardless of what call was made in the game.
- Contact: Play incidental contact not full contact. Incidental is made while players are going for the puck.
- Delaying the Game: Minor penalty will be assessed on any player or goalie who delays the game by deliberately shooting or batting the puck out of play. A minor penalty will be assessed on any player or goalie who delays the game by deliberately displacing the goal post from its normal position. If the displacement occurs during a break away a penalty shot will be awarded to the attacking team player who had possession of the puck. – Infraction in the last minute of play results in a penalty shot. Also, stalling the game. For example, shooting the puck out of play, holding the puck in the hand, refusing to send players out for a faceoff, repeated deliberate offsides, interfering with rink equipment to force a stoppage of play, a goaltender covering the puck past the defensive zone face-off marker. Other items not listed may be called at the referee's discretion.
- Fighting: Engaging in a physical altercation with an opposing player, usually involving throwing of punches. All fighting majors will result in an automatic tournament ejection. A major misconduct penalty shall be imposed on any player(s) who engages in fisticuffs. A minor penalty shall be imposed on a player who, having been struck retaliates with a blow or attempted blow. However, at the referee's discretion, a major or double minor penalty or a game misconduct penalty may be imposed if such player continues the altercation. Minor altercations such as simple pushing and shoving, and punching with gloves still in place, shall be generally called as Roughing.
- TCS Hockey follows a zero tolerance policy when dealing with individuals who act in unsportsmanlike like conduct. This includes any aggressive behavior toward referees and/or tournament officials.
- High Sticking: A goal scored off a high stick shall not be allowed except if off of a defending player. The goal wipes off the penalty. A major or double minor penalty shall be assessed if a player strikes another player in the head or face and results in an injury with a high stick. *Note* Players are fully responsible for the actions of their sticks except in the act of shooting.
- Abuse of officials: Arguing with, insulting, using obscene gestures or language directed at or in reference to, or deliberately making violent contact with any on or off-floor official.
- Butt-ending: Accidentally jabbing an opponent with the end of the shaft of the stick.

- **Closed hand:** A player closes their hand around the puck while in the offensive zone or while in the defensive zone and makes any motion other than to place the puck directly in front of them.
- **Cross-checking:** Hitting an opponent with the stick when it is held with two hands and no part of the stick is on the floor.
- **Elbowing –** Hitting an opponent with the elbow accidentally. Intentional elbows may be escalated to more severe penalties at the referee's discretion.
- **Goaltender Interference:** Physically impeding or checking the goalie. Standing in front of an opposing goalie and "engaging in actions such as waving ones arms or stick in front of the goaltender's face for the purpose of improperly interfering with and/or distracting the goaltender" will draw a minor unsportsmanlike conduct penalty. Visually impeding the goalie's view of the play with your body, called "screening", is legal.
- **Holding:** Grabbing an opponent's body, equipment or clothing with the hands or stick.
- **Holding the stick:** Grabbing and holding an opponent's stick, also called when a player deliberately wrenches a stick from the hands of an opposing player or forces the opponent to drop it by any means that is not any other penalty such as Slashing.
- **Hooking:** Using a stick as a hook to slow an opponent or impeded their progress. Note that no contact is required. If stick to stick contact is made, no penalty shall be assessed.
- **Illegal Equipment:** Equipment that does not meet standard hockey regulations or other commonly respected guidelines. Skaters may not play with a goalie's stick except to deliver a goalie's stick back to the goalie in instances where the goalie lost control of their stick. A goalie may play w/ a regular player' stick.
- **Interference:** Impeding an opponent who does not have the puck, or impeding any player from the bench. *Note* No contact is required.
- **Playing with Too Many Sticks:** When a player plays with more than one stick and attempts to make a play. For example, if a goalie were to lose his stick and a player from his team runs over to pick up the goalie stick and then, while running back to the goalie with both sticks, attempts to touch a live puck with either stick, that player will be called for Playing with Too Many Sticks.
- **Roughing:** Pushing and shoving after the whistle has been blown or checking an opponent with the hands in his face. Also when an illegal body check is made. A Roughing penalty will also be assessed to any player that uses force which in the referee's opinion is unnecessary or dangerous to other players.
- **Slashing:** Swinging a stick at an opponent when not attempting to play the puck. Instances where one player prevents another player from gathering the puck by swiping their stick onto the other player's stick shall not incur a slashing penalty unless bodily contact is made.
- **Tripping:** Tripping another player by any means, whether incidental or accidental, or causing another player to fall by any means. *Note* that no contact is required.
- **Too many men on the floor –** Having more than five players (including the goalie) on the floor involved in the play at any given time. "Involved in the play" is key; players that are entering the rink as substitutes for players coming off (line changing) may enter the rink once the player returning to the bench is less than six (6) feet from his team's bench. At that point the returning player is considered out of the play, even if the play passes in front of the bench, unless he actively makes a move for the puck. Players entering the rink are part of the play as soon as their feet touch the floor.
- **Unsportsmanlike conduct:** Arguing with a referee; using slurs against an opponent or teammate; playing with illegal equipment; making obscene gestures or abusing an official. Goaltender crosses the center rink line for any reason other than to leave the floor during a delayed penalty. May also be called if a player drops gloves and stick in preparation for a fight, but the non-offending player does not drop the corresponding equipment and has committed no action (verbal or physical harassment) to attempt to instigate a fight.
- **Boarding:** Inadvertently or intentionally pushing an opponent violently into the boards while the player is facing the boards. If deliberate, penalty may be escalated to Attempt to Injure.
- **Checking from behind:** Hitting an opponent from behind with force anywhere on the floor. This penalty will often be

assessed at the referee's discretion.

- **Instigator penalty:** Being the obvious instigator in a fight. Called in addition to the major for fighting. Since fighting is an automatic ejection, another player from the team must serve this penalty.
- **Joining a fight:** Also called the "3rd man in" rule, the first person who was not part of a fight when it broke out but participates in said fight once it has started for any reason, even to pull the players apart.
- **Kicking:** Kicking an opponent without the intent to injure. If intent to injure is seen, the penalty shall be escalated to Attempt to injure.
- **Spearing:** Accidentally stabbing an opponent or thrusting at an opponent with the stick blade.
- **Attempt to injure:** Deliberately trying to harm an opponent, whether successful or not.
- **Stoppages:** Play will be called dead by the referee if the puck is hit out of play, clearing, covered pucks or with penalty calls. Out of play is if the puck hits the roof of the facility, gets shot into the bench area or gets stuck in the netting. All pucks off of the netting that land on the playing surface are in play. Anything not covered herein shall be directed to the tournament organizers who shall have final say on any and all matters.

Anything not covered in these rules shall be directed to the tournament organizers who shall have final say on any and all matters.