



Hockey Canada Rule Changes, Additions, or Amendments for 2020-2021

This list is not meant to replace the rulebook, but to give you an easy reference of what has changed in the current rulebook for 2020 to 2022 seasons. Remember, the most up to date rulebook is in the resource section of wpgrefs.com. The page numbers in brackets represent the page number of the rule in the new HC rulebook.

This is a long list, but you should read all the changes. However, pay special attention to numbers 1, 9, 10, 13, 29, and 30. These six are bolded below and most likely to effect the average game.

- 1. “Elbowing” is no longer a signal because elbowing is, by definition, head contact (pages 1-3).**
2. The Glossary includes new definitions for body contact, body checking, disrespectful behavior, and supplementary discipline (page 4-6).
3. Rule 3.1d was added to clarify the penalty for Junior/Senior players not using a tie-down during a fight (page 22).
4. Rule 3.1c Situation 5 was modified to include a 3rd example of a goaltender not going to the bench for any reason other than making a player change (page 24).
5. Rule 3.3i was added to clarify that a player who participates in the play carrying more than one stick shall receive a minor penalty for ineligible player (page 28).
6. Rule 3.6b has changed the word in the table explaining the type of face protectors required for different ages, skaters, and goaltenders (page 32).
7. Rule 4.2a was modified to explain what to do if you have a time penalty but have failed to place a player in the penalty bench (page 40).
8. Situation 21 Rule 4.2e was completely changed. Previously, this situation clarified the 3 stick penalty rule. It now clarifies a situation in which a coach incurs two bench minor penalties resulting in a 5:3 penalty kill (page 45).
- 9. Rule 4.9h is about a time penalty being served after a penalty shot is awarded. The new wording clarify that if a penalty shot is awarded on an infraction that would normally result in a 4 minute penalty, then the penalty shot will be taken in lieu of the first two minutes. The second 2 minutes will be served regardless of whether a goal is scored on the penalty shot or not (page 53).**
- 10. Rule 5.3d outlines the penalties that linesmen may alert the referee to. New: the linesmen may now report kneeling to the referee as 2+2 penalty (page 74).**
11. Rule 5.3d situation 4 was updated to include kneeling as one of the 2+2 calls a linesman may alert the referee of (page 76).
12. Rule 6.1 describes the instances in which a Match Penalty is assessed. Previously, this rule was a list of 20 instances in two parts of 10. The rule is now in one part and the list has been replaced by a more general description (page 80).
- 13. Changes to Kneeing**
 - a. Rule 6.6 is now called “Kneeing” not “Elbowing and Kneeing” as Elbowing by definition is Head Contact; Elbowing no longer exists and**

should now be penalized with the appropriate Head Contact Penalty (page 85).

- b. Rule 6.6a now calls for Kneeing to be penalized by a 2+2 or a 5 + Game Misconduct. Previously, kneeling was a minor or 5 + Game Misconduct. Do not call a minor penalty for kneeling, kneeling is now a 2+2 or greater (page 85).**

14. Rule 6.7h added “goaltender” to the rule for clarity (page 86).
15. Rule 6.7i was moved to 6.7j. 6.7i now clarifies the penalty for participating in another fight at a stoppage of play (page 86).
16. Rule 6.7n was added to state the penalty for a goaltender who leaves the crease during a fight (page 86).
17. Rule 7.3a added “based on degree of violence of impact” when describing the different penalties to assess for interference/protecting a goaltender (page 92).
18. Rule 7.3a note 3 was added to clarify the meaning of “immediate contact” when considering the legality of a body check related to a player releasing the puck and receiving a check (page 92).
19. Rule 7.2f was added to clearly state that interference can result in a Match penalty (page 94).
20. Rule 8.6 was added to create a specific rule, rather than a situation, for assessing a Game Ejection after a player incurs 3 stick penalties (page 102).
21. Rule 9.2b#1’s wording was changed to better describe when a Misconduct penalty shall be assessed for Harassment of Officials/Unsportsmanlike Conduct (page 106).
22. Rule 9.2b also includes a new note #2 to define “disrespectful” (page 107).
23. Rule 9.2c was modified to reflect new language that matched 9.2b#1 (page 107).
24. Rule 9.2f was modified to better describe the behavior that warrants a Gross Misconduct (page 107).
25. Situation 9 Rule 9.2f was added to manage a situation where a player or team official is suspected to be under the influence of alcohol/drugs (page 109).
26. Situation 10 Rule 9.2a was added to manage a situation where a player or team official sprays another with a water bottle (page 109).
27. Situation 2 Rule 9.5a was added to clarify penalties to be assessed where a player leaves the player’s bench to start a fight (page 111).
28. Situation 23 Rule 9.5 was added to clarify what penalties should be assessed if a player leaves the penalty bench early on their own accord and does not do so on the ice surface (page 116).
- 29. Situation 23 Rule 10.2 was added to clarify what to do if, during a delayed offside, the goalie is forced to freeze the puck because of an offensive player not exiting the zone. Answer: face-off takes place at a neutral zone dot outside the defensive team’s zone (page 127).**
- 30. Make sure you review Hockey Canada’s Points of Focus for COVID-19 that are found in the top left corner of wpgrefs.com**

Hockey Winnipeg's "Special Rule" (SR) Changes, Additions, or Amendments for 2020-21

This list is not meant to replace the Hockey Winnipeg (HW) SR section of the rulebook, but to give you an easy reference of what has changed in the current HW rulebook for 2020-2021 season. Remember, the most up to date rulebook is in the resource section of wpgrefs.com. Each item's page number in brackets is the page number of the SR in the current HW rulebook.

1. SR-5, HW's Overtime has been modified (page 86). The changes include:
 - a. SR5, 1d: All playoff overtime will be played until someone wins.
 - b. SR5, 4b: In AA/AAA regular season overtime there is no changing at whistles. However, if a team calls a timeout in overtime then both teams may change.
2. SR-8, 4 (page 90): This SR focuses on a key holder being present at the gate to escort an ejected player to the dressing room. The new part of this SR is that a delay of game minor penalty may be assessed to the team if someone is slow arriving at the gate by accident and a Game Misconduct to the Head Coach if the delay is flagrant.
3. SR-9, 3 (page 91): The home team will wear dark and the visiting team will wear light colored jerseys.
4. SR-14, 2 (page 93): There is a change to the Mercy Rule. The 5 goals with less than 5 minutes is still in effect. The new part of the rule: if a team is winning by 7 goals or more at any point in the game then the clock will run unless the difference becomes less than 7 goals again.
5. SR-22 (page 95-96): This SR is brand new and explains that:
 - a. After an icing, if one team calls a time out then both teams may change their players.
 - b. If a time penalty is called at the same stoppage as an icing then both teams may change their lines.
 - c. In AAA & AA regular season overtime, where line changes at the whistle are not permitted, if a team ices the puck then the non-offending team may change players.
6. SR-23 (page 96): This SR is brand new. In "A" hockey, if the puck strikes the goalie in the head, then play shall be blown down immediately. However, if the puck hits the goalie's head then goes into the net then the goal is good. If the puck strikes the goalie's head, then hits the goalie again and goes in the net, the goal is good. If the puck hits the goalie's head then another player then goes in the net, the goal is washed out.