

**SECTION TWO**  
**TEAMS**



**Rule 201 Composition of Team**

- (a) A team shall be composed of four players on the playing surface, plus a goalkeeper. A maximum of 15 players plus no more than 2 goalkeepers shall be permitted on any one team roster. No player, except goalkeepers, shall be permitted to be listed on two different team rosters in the same league, in the same age division. No team shall be allowed to start a game with less than five players on the playing surface, however, a team shall be permitted to start with five players and no goalkeeper. If after the conclusion of any warm-up time, a team cannot place five eligible players on the surface to start the game, the offending team shall be assessed a bench minor penalty. If the team is still unable to start play within five minutes, the Referee shall suspend the game, and the circumstances shall be reported to the League Authorities for further action. If at any time after the start of the game, due to penalties or injuries, a team does not have at least three eligible players to place on the surface, the game shall be declared a forfeit.

**Rule 202 Captain of Team**

- (a) One Captain shall be appointed by each team and only the Captain shall have the privilege of discussing with the Referee any matter relating to the interpretation of rules which may arise during the course of a game.
  - The Captain shall wear the letter "C," approximately 3 inches in height and in contrasting color, in a conspicuous position on the front of the jersey.
  - If the Captain is not available due to injury or penalty, another player may be designated to act as Captain.
  - A complaint about a penalty is not a "matter relating to the interpretation of rules" and a minor penalty shall be assessed to any Captain or other player making such a complaint.
- (b) The Referee and Official Scorer shall be advised prior to the start of the game, of the names of the Captains of each team and the designated alternates.

- (c) Any player, except a goalkeeper, shall be entitled to be identified as the Captain.  
No playing Coach or Manager shall be permitted to act as Captain.
- (d) Any Captain or player who comes off the players' bench and makes any protest or intervention with the Referees for any purpose shall be assessed a minor penalty for Abusive Conduct under Rule 601(a).

### **Rule 203** Players in Uniform

- (a) At the beginning of each game the Manager or Coach of each team shall list names and numbers of the players and goalkeepers who shall be eligible to play in the game. No change or addition to the roster shall be permitted once the game has commenced, unless the Referee deems the omission as an inadvertent clerical error, in which case an eligible player or goalkeeper may be added to the score sheet during a stoppage of play after the game begins. For the first such addition per team, one bench minor shall be assessed, and no roster deletions shall be permitted at any time.
- (b) Each team shall be allowed one goalkeeper on the playing surface at one time. The goalkeeper may be removed and another "player" substituted. Such substitute shall not be permitted the privileges of the goalkeeper.
- (c) It is recommended that each team have on its bench a substitute goalkeeper who shall be fully dressed and equipped to play.  
When the substitute goalkeeper enters the game the position shall be taken without delay and no warm-up shall be permitted.
- (d) Except when all designated goalkeepers are incapacitated, no player on the playing roster in that game shall be permitted to wear the equipment of the goalkeeper. If a team's goalkeeper(s) is unavailable to continue, the team must immediately dress another player with the required goalkeeper's equipment who shall play with full goalkeeper's privileges and limitations, or place an additional skater on the playing surface with none of the goalkeeper's privileges. A goalkeeper may be substituted

for by another goalkeeper during play with full goalkeeper's privileges.

- (e) Leagues shall have the option of allowing players to play up one age division, provided such a player's skill level and physical maturity is of similarity to the other participants in the age division. It is recommended that no player in the Youth/Adult Age Division under the age of 18 should participate in any Adult Age Division.
- (f) Girls/Women, 18 years of age and younger, playing on a Youth/Adult team must conform to the Youth/Adult age restrictions, in all ways with the exception that they may play down one birth year (not one age division).
- (g) Allowing players to play down an age division is prohibited, except Girls/Women as listed in Rule 203 (f).

### **Rule 204** Playing Lineup

- (a) Upon the Referee's signal prior to the start of the game and following any stoppage of play, the Visiting Team shall promptly place a lineup on the playing surface ready to play and no substitution shall be made from that time until play has resumed. The Home Team may then make any desired substitution which does not result in the delay of the game.

If there is any undue delay by either team in changing lines, the Referee shall order the offending team(s) to take their positions immediately and not permit line changes.

When a substitution has been made under the above rule, no additional substitution may be made until play commences, except when a penalty is assessed.

### **Rule 205** Change of Players

- (a) Players may be changed at any time from the players' bench, provided that the player or players leaving the playing surface are within 5 feet of the players' bench and out of the play before the change is made.

If, in the course of making a substitution, either player deliberately plays the puck while the retiring player is still on the playing surface, a bench minor penalty for "Too Many Players" shall be assessed.

If, in the course of a substitution, either player is accidentally struck with the puck, the play shall not be stopped and no penalty shall be assessed.

- (b) A goalkeeper may be substituted for by a player or goalkeeper at any time during play. The goalkeeper must be within 5 feet of the players' bench before the substitute may enter the playing surface.

For a violation of this rule there shall be no time penalty to the team making the premature substitution, but the ensuing face-off shall take place at the center face-off spot. Where play has been stopped with the puck in the offending team's defending half of the rink, the face-off shall take place at an end zone face-off spot of the offending team.

- (c) If there are less than two minutes in either regulation time or anytime during overtime and a minor or bench minor penalty is imposed for deliberate illegal substitution, such as too many players on the surface or leaving the penalty bench too soon, a penalty shot shall be awarded against the offending team in lieu of the minor or bench minor penalty.

The intent of this rule is to award a penalty shot only when the extra player(s) are "deliberately" put on the surface. When a substitution error is made and there are too many players on the surface, the normal bench minor penalty shall be assessed regardless of the time remaining in the game.

- (d) A player serving a penalty on the penalty bench, who is to be changed after the penalty has been served, must proceed at once by way of the playing surface before any change can be made. For a violation of this rule, a bench minor penalty shall be assessed.
- (e) During a stoppage of play a goalkeeper may not go to the players' bench without the permission of the Referee unless there is a substitution by another player or goalkeeper. When a substitution is made under this rule, the replaced goalkeeper shall not return to the playing surface until play resumes, except that immediate re-entry

into the game shall be permitted when a penalty is assessed to either team.

For a violation of this rule, a bench minor penalty shall be assessed.

## **Rule 206** Injured Players

- (a) When a player, other than a goalkeeper, is injured or compelled to leave the playing surface during a game, the player may retire from the game and be replaced immediately by a substitute.
- (b) Any goalkeeper who sustains an injury or becomes ill must be ready to resume play immediately or be replaced by a substitute goalkeeper. No additional time shall be allowed by the Referee for the purpose of enabling the injured or ill goalkeeper to resume the position. The substitute goalkeeper shall enter the game without delay and no warm-up shall be permitted.

The substitute goalkeeper shall be subject to the regular rules governing goalkeepers and shall be entitled to the same privileges.

- (c) Any penalized player who has been injured, may proceed to the dressing room without going to penalty bench. The penalized team shall immediately put a substitute player on the penalty bench to serve the entire penalty. The penalized player who has been injured and has been replaced on the penalty bench is not eligible to play until the penalty time has expired.
- (d) When a player is injured and cannot continue play or go to the players' bench, play shall not be stopped until the injured player's team has secured possession of the puck. If the player's team is in possession of the puck at the time of injury, play shall be stopped immediately unless the team has a scoring opportunity.

In the case where it is obvious that a player has sustained a serious injury, play shall be stopped immediately.
- (e) A player, other than the goalkeeper, whose injury appears serious enough to warrant a stoppage of play, may not participate further in the game until the completion of the ensuing face-off.