

SECTION ONE
THE RINK



Rule 101 Rink

- (a) The game of "inline hockey" shall be played on wood, cement, asphalt or plastic surface known as a "RINK."
- (b) The rink may be an outdoor, partially enclosed or indoor facility.

Rule 102 Dimensions of Rink

- (a) As nearly as possible, the dimensions of the rink shall be 185 feet long and 85 feet wide. The minimum size for a rink shall be 145 feet long and 65 feet wide. In all rinks used for State, Regional and National Championships, the surface dimensions shall not be less than 165 feet long and 65 feet wide. It is recommended that the corners be uniformly rounded in the arc of a circle with a minimum radius of 20 feet and a maximum radius of 28 feet.
- (b) The rink shall be surrounded by a permanent or temporary wall or fence known as the "BOARDS," which shall extend not less than 8 inches and not more than 48 inches in height above playing surface. The ideal height of the boards shall be 42 inches. It is recommended that the kick plate at the bottom of the boards be yellow or light in color.

The boards shall be constructed in such a manner that the surface facing the playing surface shall be smooth and free of any obstruction or objects that could cause injury to players. All doors giving access to the playing surface must swing away from the playing surface.

It is recommended that each rink should include an equipment gate for emergency situations.

It is highly recommended that the entire rink, including players' and penalty benches, be enclosed with safety glass, fencing and/or other protective screens designed to separate players from spectators. All gear used to hold such equipment in place shall be mounted on the boards on the side away from the playing surface.

Rule 103 Goal Posts and Nets

- (a) The goal frame shall be made of metal or other approved material. The goal posts shall be set 6 feet apart from the inside of the posts and the crossbar shall extend vertically 4 feet above the playing surface, connecting the tops of the goal posts. Alternative sizes are acceptable for regular house league play.

The goal posts and cross bar shall be painted red and all other exterior surfaces shall be painted white.

- (b) Attached to each goal frame shall be netting strong enough to withstand any shot by a puck.
- (c) A minimum of 12 feet to a maximum of 15 feet from each end of the rink a red line 2 inches wide known as the "GOAL LINE" shall be painted extending completely across the rink and continuing vertically up the side boards.

The goal shall be centered on the goal line and shall be fixed in such a manner as to remain stationary during the progress of the game. The goal posts shall be anchored in such a manner as to permit a goal post to become dislodged when hit by a player with a significant degree of force.

Play shall be stopped immediately when the goal post has been displaced from its normal position, unless in the referee's opinion, the goal post can be replaced without effecting play, in which case play shall be allowed to continue. If at anytime it becomes apparent that replacing the goal post would affect play or a potential goal is imminent, play shall then be stopped immediately.

Rule 104 Goal Crease & Goalkeeper's Privileged Area

- (a) In front of each goal, a "GOAL CREASE" shall be marked by a line 2 inches wide. The goal crease shall be laid out as follows: A semicircle 6 feet in radius and 2 inches in width shall be drawn using the center of the goal line as the center point.

In addition, an "L" shaped marking of 5 inches in length (both sides) at each front corner shall be painted on

the surface. The corner of the "L" shall be 4 feet from the goal line. The distance between the two "L" markings shall be 8 feet.

- (b) The goal crease area shall include all the space outlined by the semi-circular crease lines (including goal crease lines) and extending vertically four feet to the bottom of the cross bar.
- (c) The goalkeeper's "PRIVILEGED AREA" is an area bounded in the rear by the goal line, in front by an imaginary line connecting the end zone face-off spots and on the sides by imaginary lines extending perpendicular from the end boards to the end zone face-off spots.

Rule 105 Division of Playing Surface

- (a) The playing surface shall be divided into two halves by a "CENTER RED LINE" 12 inches wide, extending completely across the rink and continuing vertically up the side boards.
- (b) The center red line shall be considered to be a part of the zone in which the puck is located.
- (c) The half of the playing surface in which the goal is situated shall be called the "DEFENDING ZONE" of the team defending that goal. The half of the playing surface furthest from the defending goal shall be known as the "ATTACKING ZONE."

Rule 106 Center Face-Off Spot and Circle

- (a) One 12-inch in diameter blue face-off spot shall be at the exact center of the rink.
With this spot as a center, a 15-foot radius circle shall be marked with a red line 2 inches wide.

Rule 107 High Zone Face-Off Spots and Circles

- (a) Four red face-off spots 2 feet in diameter shall be marked on the surface 18 feet from the center red line along an imaginary line connecting the end face-off spots. Within each face-off spot draw two parallel lines 4 inches from the

top and bottom of the spot. The area within the two lines shall be painted red.

Rule 108 End Zone Face-Off Spots and Circles

- (a) In both zones and on both sides of each goal, red face-off spots and circles shall be marked on the playing surface. The face-off spots shall be 2 feet in diameter. Within each face-off spot draw two parallel lines 4 inches from the top and bottom of the spot. The area within the two lines shall be painted red.
- With this spot as a center, a 15-foot radius circle shall be marked with a red line 2 inches wide. On both sides of the circle there shall be two lines 2 feet long, 2 inches wide and 4 feet apart.
- (b) The End Zone face-off spots shall be located equi-distant from the side boards and 20 feet from each goal line. It is recommended that there be a 44 foot distance between the End Zone face-off spots in the same zone.

Rule 109 Player Benches

- (a) Each rink shall have seats or benches for the use of each team. Each player bench shall have accommodations for at least 10 people and shall be placed immediately alongside the playing surface, as near as possible to the center of the rink.
- All doors opening to the playing surface shall swing away from the playing surface.
- (b) Only players in uniform and Team Officials (up to a maximum of four) shall be permitted to occupy the bench area.
- Players who are injured and cannot participate in the game are permitted on the bench provided that at minimum they wear the team jersey and if under the age of 18 a helmet and facemask properly attached.
- (c) During a game (including warm-ups), Coaches, Managers, and Trainers are restricted to the length of the player benches.

For the 12-and-under Age Division and above, a team official who remains on the playing surface during warm-ups, after a warning by the referee, shall be assessed a bench minor penalty, which shall be served at the start of the game.

- (d) The use of tobacco products on the players' bench, penalty bench, timekeeper area, or on the playing surface is prohibited. For the first offense, a minor penalty shall be assessed. Thereafter, a game misconduct penalty shall be assessed.
- (e) The use of alcohol and illegal drugs on the players' bench, penalty bench, timekeeper area or on the playing surface is prohibited. For a violation of this rule, a game misconduct penalty shall be assessed.

Rule 110 Penalty Bench

- (a) Each rink must be provided with seats or benches to be used for the seating of a penalized player, the Game Timekeeper, and Official Scorer. The penalty bench must be separated from the players' benches, ideally on the opposite side of the rink.
- (b) On the playing surface immediately in front of the Penalty Timekeeper's seat there shall be marked in red a semicircle of 10 foot radius and 2 inches wide which shall be known as the Referees Crease.

Rule 111 Signal and Timing Devices

- (a) Each rink shall be provided with some form of electrical clock for the purpose of keeping the spectators, players and Game Officials accurately informed as to all time elements at all stages of the game, including the time remaining to be played.

Timing devices for both game time and penalty time shall show time remaining to be played or served.
- (b) Each rink shall be provided with a siren, or other suitable sound device to signify the end of playing time.