



ICE HOCKEY UK

IN-HOUSE RULES

2018-19 SEASON

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1. INTRODUCTION

Rule 1: IIHF As the Governing Body

To be replaced with:

The English Ice Hockey Association (EIHA) and the Scottish Ice Hockey Association (SIHA) are using the International Ice Hockey Federation (IIHF) Official Rule book 2018-2022 as a base for the rules of the game that will be applied in England and Scotland.

Whilst the majority of rules contained in the IIHF Official Rule Book will be enforced, due to the facilities and the nature of the game in England and Scotland, there are specific rules which will be applied in part or have been altered in this document to fit our environment.

Officials and players are required to read the in-house rules as the over-riding interpretation of the IIHF Rule Book and as a guide of how the IIHF rules will be used and applied in England and Scotland. This document is intended to be read alongside the IIHF rulebook and IS NOT intended to be a standalone document.

All the Teams who play within the English Ice Hockey Association (EIHA) and the Scottish Ice Hockey Association (SIHA) do so under the International Ice Hockey Federation (IIHF) Rules and Rule Bulletins. The EIHA and SIHA will also, from time to time, issue its own rules' bulletins, covering In-House rules and interpretations of IIHF rules.

This document may be amended at any time and all club secretaries will be informed accordingly and issued with the relevant replacement pages.

This document should ensure all equipment purchases and the use of equipment does not prevent a player from participating in games in England or in Scotland.

If you need a copy of the IIHF rulebook, a free downloadable version is available from <http://www.iihf.com/iihf-home/sport/iihf-rule-book.html>

2. RULES APPLYING TO ALL LEVELS OF EIHA AND SIHA HOCKEY

Section 1 – Competition Standards

Please ignore [Rules 2 to 5](#) which apply only to IIHF World Championships.

[Rules 6 and 7](#) remain as printed in the IIHF rule book ([Rule 7 has new and amended Terminology definitions](#)).

Section 2 – The Rink

Rule 8: Ice Surface/Fit to Play:

Rinks that are of a non-standard size (below 56x26) have been authorised to be used by the NGB for all levels of hockey.

In England, the only exception to this is Sutton which may only be used up to U16 level.

In Scotland, the only exceptions to this are Coatbridge and Limekilns Road which may only be used up to U16 level.

This rule applies to all EIHA and SIHA fixtures. It is important to note that officials CANNOT abandon a game due to rink conditions. This decision can only be made by the rink management. The following procedure must be followed in the event of a game being abandoned due to ice issues:

In the event one or both teams do not wish to continue e.g. due to ice or rink conditions, the coach or team manager must note in a signed statement (or on the game sheet if not using EGS) their reason for not continuing and sign this prior to the team leaving their team benches. The Referee then subsequently signs the game sheet as normal.

If the venue operator requests the game does not continue, e.g. due to ice or rink conditions or public safety etc. the Referee will require the manager in charge of the venue to state their reasons in a signed statement (or on the game sheet if EGS is not being used) prior to the Referee signing the game sheet as normal.

Rule 9: Players Benches:

Only parts i, ii, vii and ix apply to EIHA and SIHA fixtures.

Rule 10: Penalty Boxes:

Please ignore this rule. The only requirement is that both teams have their own penalty box which is clearly identifiable.

[Rules 11 and 12](#) remain as printed in the IIHF Rule Book

Rule 13: Rink Boards

Parts i – iii apply directly, iv and vi do not apply, part v applies but it is not essential that the kick plate is yellow in colour.

Rule 14 – Protective Glass

Where protective glass is in place it must comply with these rulings. However, netting may also be used in the absence of Plexiglas to enclose the ice surface and if it is then the netting is classified as in play regardless of how high the puck hits.

Rules 15 and 16 remain as printed in the IIHF Rule Book

Rule 17: Ice Surface Markings/Zones

Rinks may still use the old distances for markings in the 2010-2014 Rule Book

Rule 18 remains as printed in the IIHF Rule Book

Rule 19: Ice Surface Markings/creases

For the rule please refer to your IIHF rule book.

Please note that only the Captain or Alternate have the privilege of approaching the referee at the crease and that no other player will be allowed to wait there. Any player who does not move away from the crease at the request of an on-ice official must be assessed a 10-minute misconduct penalty.

Goal Crease markings can be either new D marking or the old semi-circle, Referees to base their “crease” standard on the markings at each rink.

Rule 20 remains as printed in the IIHF Rule Book

Section 3 – Teams and Players

Rules 21-23 remain as printed in the IIHF Rule Book

Rule 24: Players Dressed

This rule remains as printed in the IIHF rule book with the following exceptions.

Part i) remove 60 minutes. All team sheets must be with the referees 20 minutes prior to face off. Assess a bench minor penalty to the offending team if this is not the case.

In the event of a shirt clash, please follow the guidance below:

Team managers should liaise with each other before game day in order to prevent a clash of shirts. If this does not happen it is the responsibility of the home team to have a change of jersey at the rink on game day.

If the game is allowed to go ahead despite a colour clash then the referee is to assess the offending team a Bench Minor Penalty for Unsportsmanlike Conduct. This will generally be the home team for not having the required change of jersey, unless the away team has arrived with a different colour jersey to that previously agreed between the managers.

Part viii) includes players skating around on the ice at the start of periods if they are not in the starting line-ups. A Bench Minor penalty for Delay of Game should be assessed if this happens.

Players must be dressed and, on the bench or ice by the start of period two to participate in the game. On Ice officials should check the number of players on each team and cross off any players who have not arrived at this point.

Rule 25: Team Personnel

This rule does not apply in EIHA or SIHA sanctioned games.

For games sanctioned by the EIHA the following rules apply:

With the exception of REC and BUIHA fixtures all teams must have a Level 2 or above qualified coach, aged 18 or over, on the bench (not a player coach) as well as a further coach (Level 1 or above) either on the bench or acting as a player coach. A manager with BENCH Qualifications is sufficient for this requirement.

Player coaches are only permitted in the following leagues: NIHL, WEL, WPL, WD1, REC, BUIHA.

If for any reason the Level 2 coach gets thrown out of the game, there must still be a qualified coach physically on the bench, even if this means the player coach now being unable to play. A game may be completed with a level 1 Coach/Manager on the bench as long as they are aged over 18 on the day of the game.

There is no requirement to have a medical professional on the bench for EIHA sanctioned games.

Any off-ice official under the age of 18 must wear a helmet with a full-face cage at all times on the bench. Coaches under the age of 18 are exempt from this and do not require a helmet.

ALL coaches, managers and any other adult in the vicinity of the bench must be registered with the EIHA and must present a valid registration card (letters or emails will also be accepted) to the referee at the start of the game. Referees MUST check registration cards in all games before face-off.

These requirements are set-out below:

Minimum Bench Coach Requirement at the start of a game:

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- Level 2 Coach + Level 1 Coach
OR
- Level 2 Coach + Manager (*New*)

If the Level 2 Coach is ejected from the game:

- The minimum age to be in charge of the Bench is 18 years old.
- A Manager cannot take over the bench unless they have completed additional training. *License will be marked BM (Bench Manager)*

Where teams have player coaches:

- A non-playing Level 2 coach must be in charge of the bench.
- The player coach must be identified on the game sheet.
- In the event that the Level 2 coach is ejected from the game, the Level 2 player coach cannot return to the ice and must take charge of the bench for the remainder of that game.

At all levels under the EIHA:

If at any time a team cannot meet these requirements during a game, the game will be abandoned.

In Practice:

The only change from previous years is that a team can now use a Level 2 Coach and a Manager to staff the bench.

If they use this option and the Level 2 is ejected they will forfeit the game – just the same as if they only had an under 18 Level 1 assisting and the Level 2 was thrown out.

The only time a Manager would be allowed to take over a bench is if they had completed a bench management workshop, a first aid course and a safeguarding course. That would give them a basic level of appropriate training, allowing them to oversee the completion of a game if the L2 was ejected. (*Their license would be marked BM (Bench Manager)*).

For games sanctioned by the SIHA the following rules apply:

Minimum Bench Coach Requirement at the start of a game:

- Level 2 Coach + Level 1 Coach

Managers are no longer classed as suitably qualified to undertake the role of control of the bench unless they also hold a current coaching qualification.

Only qualified & registered coaches can be in charge of a bench.

A qualified and registered L2 or above must be on the bench and in charge, assisted by a qualified and registered L1 or above. (It is recommended to have two L2 or above coaches on the bench).

The minimum age to be in charge of the bench on game day is 18 years. Where a L1 is on the bench and the L2 is thrown out, the game can continue only if the said L1 is 18 years or over.

In SNL where player coaches are used, a non-playing L2 coach or above must be on the bench and in charge.

In the event that the L2 bench coach is thrown out of the game, the L2 player coach must remain on the bench for the remainder of the game.

No dispensation will be given by SIH-UK for a L1 coach or non qualified coach to sign a game sheet

Referees may check licence status before the game and if there is insufficient coaching staff on the bench, the game will be abandoned and disciplinary action against the club may be taken.

Rules 26 and 27 remain as printed in the IIHF Rule Book

Rule 28: Captain and Alternate Captains

The rules remain as stated in the IIHF rule book, however in addition to this please note that the 'C' or 'A' cannot be taped onto the jersey. Please ask the player to remove the tape if this occurs. If the player refuses, then assess a 10-minute misconduct penalty. (Rule 128, ii)

Section 4 – Skaters Equipment

Rule 29: Dangerous Equipment

This rule applies as printed in the IIHF Rule Book with the following additions:

Chin Strap: The maximum gap allowed between the chin/neck and the chin strap is 2.5cm (roughly one finger). If this is violated the official should send the player back to the bench to adjust their equipment and they should be replaced with another player. This counts as a warning to the team, for any further violation a 10-minute misconduct penalty should be assessed to the offending player. (Rule 128, ii)

Shorts: The use of shorts which have been cut or torn in the inner thigh & back of thigh area is a practice which is not acceptable. Except for REC, (See REC Section) for any breaches of the above, the player shall be ruled off the ice and a WARNING shall be issued to his team. For a second violation by any player of the same team for above offence, the Referee shall assess a:

- Rule 128, ii, Misconduct Penalty, Dangerous Equipment

The use of shorts which have built in zips is allowed if the zip is closed and the Velcro flap has covered the zip or the button at the end has been closed. For any breaches of the above, the player shall be ruled off the ice and a WARNING shall be issued to his team. For a second violation by any player of the same team for above offence, the Referee shall assess a:

- Rule 128, ii, Misconduct Penalty, Dangerous Equipment

Post-Game: Any player who places any equipment on the ice surface after the final buzzer is to be asked to move the equipment by the referee. If they refuse to do so, the referee is to assess a Misconduct penalty and his coach is to be warned. Teams may place sticks and gloves on their team benches.

All players who are not wearing a helmet, regardless of league/age group, during the handshake must be assessed a Misconduct penalty and his coach is to be warned. If the coach fails to enforce the above, the referee should submit a Match Report.

Rule 30 remains as printed in the IIHF Rule Book

Rule 31: Facial Protection and Mouth Guard

This rule applies as printed in the IIHF Rule Book with the exception of point ix) and the following additions or changes:

- Part iv to read female and male players
- Part v to be deleted
- It is recommended that all players wear a full-face mask or a visor
- All visors must be CSA, HECC or CE approved.

There is a serious Health and Safety risk with players failing to wear their equipment properly. There is a duty of care on the team owners, coaches, managers and players to ensure that players are wearing visors in the correct manner. All visors (including face cage types) must be worn in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions. All helmet straps must be securely fastened.

All Referees are also required to meet the above guidance.

The Referee has no jurisdiction over the type of players' equipment worn during the warm up.

The focus of the Referee is to see that the visor is worn correctly; the visor must cover the tip of the nose. If the visor is manufactured with a wave cut, the player may wear it as long as it covers the cheek area in the line with the tip of his nose.

Referees and Linesmen should look for incorrectly worn visors prior to the start of the game and request players who have them incorrectly set to have them set correctly. Referees and Linesmen should check players' visors during all stoppages of play.

Once the game has started, a player who comes onto the ice during a stoppage with an incorrectly set visor, shall be warned by the Referee:

For a second violation by any player of the same team for above offence, the Referee shall assess a:

- Rule 128, ii, Misconduct Penalty, Dangerous Equipment

A player must wear at least a half visor if he/she meets ALL of the following criteria:

- Are playing in either NIHL, WEL, WPL, WD1, U20, BUIHA and REC
- Are 18 or over, on the day of the game
- Born after December 31, 1974,

NB. This rule applies to both female and male players. There is no requirement for female players to wear a full-face cage in EIHA or SIHA competitions (hence part v of the IIHF rule being deleted).

Players who are under the age of 18 playing in the, NIHL, WEL, WPL, WD1, SNL or U20 must take off their helmets during the playing of the national anthem. Players playing in U18, U15, U13, and U11 fixtures must wear their helmet at all times.

Rules 32-34 remain as printed in the IIHF Rule Book

Rule 35: Neck and Throat Protector/Skater

Any player/goalie playing in under 18's or below must wear a certified fabric throat protector for the duration of the game, even if they are aged over 18. Any player/goalie under the age of 18 on the day of the game must wear a throat protector regardless of the league they are playing in.

Rules 36-39 remain as printed in the IIHF Rule Book.

Rule 40: Uniforms/Skater

Please ignore part i for junior hockey. (Under 18's and below)

The EIHA and SIHA have decided to place extra emphasis on part vi. The practice of tucking jerseys into the shorts is prohibited. If a player is seen with a tucked in shirt they are to be given one warning to untuck the shirt. For any further violations by the same player a 10-minute misconduct penalty will be assessed. (Rule 128, ii)

Shirts must also cover all relevant pieces of equipment (including elbow pads) so that they are not visible. Again, a warning shall be given to the player followed by a 10-minute misconduct for any further violations. (Rule 128, ii)

Rules 41 and 42 remain as printed in the IIHF Rule Book

Section 5 – Playing Rules/General

Rule 43: How the Game is Played

As printed in the IIHF Rule Book except:

Part i) Games may be shorter depending on the age group and available ice time. Please see rules of competition for each age group for game length.

In addition to the IIHF Rule Book:

A club may only play the National Anthem if the game is likely to face off on time. All Players are required to take their helmets off prior to the start of any National Anthem except players playing in U18, U15, U13, and U11 fixtures and mascots for any age bracket who must wear their helmet at all times. Players are required to stand still during the playing of any National Anthem. The scraping of skates during the Anthem is unacceptable. Players may not skate away until the completion of the Anthem and until they have replaced their helmets.

For any breaches of the above, the Referee shall assess the offending player a:

- Misconduct penalty (10')

If the game doesn't face off within 10 minutes of the published face off time the team responsible for the delay will be assessed a Bench Minor Penalty for Delay of Game. Below are some examples of where penalties should and should not be assessed.

Situations where a penalty should be assessed:

- The home team submitted the incorrect or unrealistic face off time in the Referees opinion.
- No appropriately qualified coach or manager is available to start the game.
- Face off is delayed due to home or away team not getting off the warm up.
- Repairing of goal net. It is the home team's responsibility to ensure the nets are fit for purpose after the warm up.

Situations where a penalty should not be assessed:

- Excessive fan attendance queues and the away team agree to delay the face off time.

- There is an issue with the public session such as an injury, the ice surface or rink facilities, which requires the rink staff to carry out remedial work. This issue must be brought to the attention of the Referee ASAP.
- A player was injured in a previous game that needed medical treatment. A player is injured during the warm up that needed medical treatment.
- Fog or mist in building.
- The goalkeeper of either team or the coach of the away team is late due to traffic delays.
- Late face off due to late arrivals of official.

Rule 44: Length of Play

Period lengths, period break lengths and the number of ice cuts may vary depending on the rink and age group of the game. An ice cut is not compulsory between each period.

Overtime is only played in NIHL fixtures and Scottish Cup games ONLY. Please note for regular season SNL League or Challenge games refer to the Scottish Ice Hockey Handbook for OT Rules.

If the club does not have enough time to complete the scheduled game due to any circumstance, the game will commence and be timed as per normal (Stop Clock). No 'Running Clock' will be allowed. The game sheet shall be annotated, by the Referee, with the time the game stopped and the reason for the game stopping early. Coaches must be informed before the commencement of the game (If it is obvious at that point that the game cannot be completed in the allocated time) or during each period break, should there be an unforeseen event which delays the normal running of the game.

Rule 45: Score-clock

As printed in the IIHF Rulebook with the exception of part iii) which doesn't apply to EIHA and SIHA fixtures. With regard to part i) where a clock does not have the capability to run down to 00:00 it is permissible that it counts up to the end of period time.

Rules 46-59 remain as printed in the IIHF Rule Book

Rule 60: Television Time Outs

This rule does not apply to EIHA and SIHA games.

Rule 61 remains as printed in the IIHF Rule Book

Rule 62 Overtime Period

This rule only applies to NIHL fixtures and SNL Cup fixtures. Overtime and penalty shots do not occur at any other level unless explicitly stated by the Chief Referee or a member of the IHUK Referee Section Management Team.

Rule 63: Penalty Shot Shootout

Part ii) (Resurfacing the ice) does not apply to EIHA and SNL games. This rule applies to all NIHL games, SNL Cup games as well as knockout playoff and cup games in any other league.

A player in the penalty box serving a penalty which has expired, but who has not had the opportunity to return to the game, (due to there not being a break in play i.e. for a misconduct or a coincidental penalty) will be eligible to take a shot.

Any other player in the penalty box serving a penalty which has not expired at the end of the OT is not eligible to take a penalty shot regardless of if it is a personal penalty he/she is serving, or a goaltender or bench minor penalty he/she is serving on behalf of team. If the penalty has not expired, then they must remain in the penalty box and are not eligible to take a shot.

SECTION 6 – Playing Rules / Stoppages in Play

Rule 64: Interference by Spectators

The rule remains as printed in the IIHF Rulebook with the following addition:

The on-ice match officials do not have the authority to move or eject spectators from the ice rink. However, if identifiable spectators are behaving in a manner which is causing a disturbance to the game, then the Referee shall request rink management to come to the timekeeper's bench, in order to deal with the spectators.

Rules 65-84 remain as printed in the IIHF Rule Book.

Rule 85: Injured Skater

This rule remains as printed in the IIHF Rule Book with the following addition:

The following procedure must be adopted when abandoning any EIHA or SIHA sanctioned fixture due to a serious injury to a player/official which requires them to remain on the ice for medical reasons:

- All Players are to return to their benches.
- A linesman is to remain by the team benches at all times.
- The Referee together with a linesman is to liaise with the rink manager to understand if the game can continue in view of the injury.
- The Referee together with a linesman will then liaise with Home and Away team coaches.
- If the game cannot be continued due to ice time constraints, then the game will be abandoned and left for the League Management Committee to decide the game's outcome. The clock should NOT be run down.
- The referee along with both coaches will then sign the game sheet as normal and note on the sheet the reason for the abandonment.

Rule 86 remains as printed in the IIHF Rule Book

SECTION 7 – Playing Rules / Player Changes

Rules 87-93 remain as printed in the IIHF Rule Book

SECTION 8 – Playing Rules / Goals

Rules 94-98 remain as printed in the IIHF Rule Book

Rule 99: Use of Video-Goal Judge to Determine Goals

This rule does not apply to EIHA and SIHA fixtures.

SECTION 9 – Game Penalties / Duration and Situations

Rules 100-114 remain as printed in the IIHF Rule Book

Rule 115: Penalties in Overtime:

Please ignore this rule for EIHA and SIHA games. Please see the NIHL/SNL section for guidelines on penalties in overtime in games where overtime is being played.

SECTION 10 – DESCRIPTION OF GAME PENALTIES

Rule 116: Abuse of Official

This rule will apply in full except for part iv. 2. All instances of physical contact with a Game Official in the EIHA and SIHA will be penalized with a Match Penalty.

The Referee will warn the coach in charge of the home team should any Off Ice Bench Officials conduct themselves in a manner detrimental to the game. The Referee will then assess the Off-Ice Bench Official a Game Misconduct for any further breaches.

Referees, please ensure the Game Misconduct is recorded against the bench on the game sheet. Referees can request the Game Misconduct not be announced if it may further inflame the situation.

Referees and Linesman should not react to comments from players in a manner that is not loud or readily audible to others. However, all instances, in the Referee's opinion, of Loud Audible abuse must be penalised with a Misconduct Penalty – for "Abuse of Official", as should more subtle abuse that is personally directed at an official and is particularly profane or deeply personal.

The EIHA and SIHA interpretation of "challenge or disputes" is a player who approaches any Official in a manner that is aggressive in body language or tone of voice or a combination of both.

Specific guidance for **Rule 116 v. 1. Physical Assaults on Officials by players:**

Deliberate Physical contact by a player to a match official is totally un-acceptable. In addition to the player(s) being penalised under any of the rules or guidance contained within the IIHF rule book, In-house rules or governing body guide lines, officials are advised that it is their personal decision whether to involve the police in the incident or not.

In all instances Officials must be given the opportunity to call the police should they so desire. If the police are called the game would be stopped until the police have completed their investigations.

If the police are called, the Referee in Chief or appropriate Officiating Level Manager of the Referee Section Management Team MUST be informed prior to you leaving the venue.

All cases of physical abuse of an official, must be reported by the official to their Officiating Level Manager and ALL match reports sent directly to that Manager, for collation and investigation.

Rules 117- 140 remain as printed in the IIHF Rule Book

Rule 141 Fighting

Rule remains as stated in the IIHF rule book with the exception of parts i, ii, iii and vii. Please see below for additions and guidance.

- A player who is involved in a fight whilst wearing a ring, will be assessed a Match penalty.

Fighting Rules are split into two Sections as follows:

SECTION ONE: Fighting – NIHL,SNL, U20 and “Varsity” UNI

If there is a fight between two willing combatants, please assess a 2+2 to each player for Fighting. Please ensure this is recorded on the game sheet as Fighting and not Roughing. If there is a clear instigator then please assess an additional minor penalty to that player, as per rule 141 iv).

Any player who, in the Referee’s opinion, carries out the actions such as those listed below is to be assessed a Major + Game Misconduct (5 + GM) penalty, for each offence, in addition to any other penalties:

- The Player does not stop when he recognises or is communicated to him that the other player is cut or bleeding
- Does not cease the incident upon the Linesmen entering the incident, covering a player or restraining a player resisting the Linesmen in any manner
- Does not proceed directly to the penalty bench throwing a punch or punches once the Linesmen have intervened
- Does not proceed directly to the penalty bench
- Attempts to continue the incident in any manner

A Match Penalty (MP) plus any other penalties will be assessed to any player who, in the Referee's opinion, delivers a single or multiple blows to an opposition player who is unaware of that player about to use force or the incident or action is not covered by the above criteria. An example of such an action would be a player delivering a heavy blow to the back of a player's head.

SECTION TWO: Fighting – Juniors including Womens, REC and UNI

- If either player with gloves or helmet off at the start of the altercation, then they need to be assessed a Misconduct (10) Penalty in addition to any other penalties incurred
- If either player delivers a single blow to the body = Minor (2) Penalty
- If either player delivers multiple blows to the body = Double minor (2+2) + Misconduct (10)
- If either player delivers any blow(s) contacting the head = Match penalty (MP)
- If either player continues the incident, attempts to continue, resists a Linesman in the discharge of his duties, continues the incident when the other player is injured, did not skate directly to the penalty bench or exit point = Additional 5 + Game (5+20)

For all other actions not covered above the referee can assess a Match Penalty to the player.

Rule 142 remains as printed in the IIHF Rule Book

Rule 143: High Sticking

This rule remains as printed in the IIHF Rule Book with the following exception:

Part ii) is not to be used. Any high stick causing an injury in any league will be assessed a Match penalty (to be downgraded to a 5+Game if the injured player returns to the ice.)

Rule 144 – 155 remain as printed in the IIHF Rule Book

Note: Rule 153: Late Hit is a New Rule

Rule 156: Pulling Hair, Helmet, Cage

This rule also applies to a player holding the visor of an opponent.

Rule 157 – 169 remain as printed in the IIHF Rule Book

SECTION 11 – PENALTY SHOTS AND AWARDED GOALS

Rules 170 – 180 remain as printed in the IIHF Rule Book

SECTION 12 – RULES SPECIFIC TO GOALTENDERS

Rules 181 – 189 remain as printed in the IIHF Rule Book

Rule 190 - Facemask/Goaltender

The rule remains as printed in the IIHF Rule Book, with the following exception:

- Part iv) does not apply – the backup goalie must wear his helmet when crossing the ice.

There is also the following addition:

- Goaltenders on the bench must wear a hockey helmet. In senior hockey this can be their normal goaltender mask or a player helmet (with or without a visor). In junior hockey (Under 18's and below) Goaltenders must wear their regular goaltender mask or a player' helmet with a full cage whilst on the bench.
- For the first violation of this rule a warning shall be issued. If there is a further violation a misconduct penalty should be assessed under Rule 128 Dangerous Equipment.

Rules 191 – 199 remain as printed in the IIHF Rule Book

Rule 200 – Game Action/Goaltender

This rule remains as printed in the IIHF Rule Book with the following clarifications:

- The referee is to blow their whistle and stop play as soon as the goalie's helmet is removed from their head regardless of who has possession of the puck.
- The referee is to stop play if A SHOT hits the goaltenders face mask (not the neck guard hanging from the helmet). If the puck enters the net directly from hitting the face mask the goal shall stand. If, however it hits the face mask and then is shot in by another player, the goal shall be washed out and an end zone face off taken.

Rules 201 – 219 remain as printed in the IIHF Rule Book

Rule 220 – Holding the puck in the goal crease/goaltender

Referees are to apply reasonable judgement in relation to pressure and ensure that goaltenders are allowed to freeze the puck where they would otherwise be putting themselves in a vulnerable position if they were made to play the puck.

Rule 221 – Holding the puck outside goal crease/goaltender

Referees are to apply reasonable judgement in relation to pressure and ensure that goaltenders are allowed to freeze the puck where they would otherwise be putting themselves in a vulnerable position if they were made to play the puck.

Rule 222 – 226 remain as printed in the IIHF Rule Book

3. RULES APPLYING TO SPECIFIC LEAGUES

RULES APPLYING SPECIFICALLY TO NIHL AND SNL GAMES ONLY

Too Many Non-British Trained Players:

- In NIHL and SNL games a team may only dress 2 Non-British Trained Players. A game may not commence if more than 2 Non-British Trained Players have been dressed.
 - The one exception to this is in NIHL2 South (Wilkinson), where only 1 Non British Trained Player is permitted to be on the ice.
- Each team must have at least 5 British trained players on the ice at all times during the game (Except Overtime). A player in the penalty box with time on the clock constitutes being on the ice, as well those players who have been ejected and have their penalties served by a substitute player.
- For any infraction of this rule, the Referee will assess a Bench Minor Penalty announced as “too many Non-British trained players on the ice” and recorded as “too many Non-British”.

Case Study Situation: Both imports receive a penalty at the same time:

The following are examples where you could end up having two imports with penalties at the same time:

- i. If you have an import in the box already serving a penalty and the other import who is on the player's bench receives a penalty for actions on the player's bench;
- ii. If you have a delayed penalty on Import A who then changes on the fly with Import B. Import B then also commits an infraction and so you call 2 penalties at the stoppage - one on Import A and one on Import B.

If 2 imports managed to get a penalty then the 2nd import penalty must be served by a British player with the import also sitting in the box for this penalty - the British player returns to the ice as soon as the penalty on the clock expires the same as any other penalty substitute - and the import can only return at the first stoppage of player after the penalty on the clock expires (the substitute Brit to serve the penalty does not need to come from the ice).

If the penalties are given at the same time, then it is captain's choice which import penalty goes on the clock and which one is served by a Britt (i.e. which import is unable to re-join the game until the first stoppage of player after their penalty expires). This has been added to the in-house rules as a situational example and if you have any queries on this please contact your Officiating Level Manager.

In a match where a side has a non-British trained netminder, should that netminder receive a penalty, another player must serve that penalty as normal and this may be served by a British trained player.

Overtime Period

For all NIHL, SNL Cup games (only cup games, not regular season league or challenge games) and NIHL or NIHL Playoff games (except the first leg of quarter or semi-final) games, if at the end of the three regular twenty minute periods, the score shall be tied, the teams will play an additional overtime period.

The overtime period will be commenced immediately following a one-minute rest period during which the players will remain on the ice. The teams will not change ends for the overtime period. Goalkeepers may go to their respective players' benches during this rest period, however, penalised players must remain on the penalty bench.

The overtime period is five minutes in length and with the team scoring first declared the winner. The overtime period shall be played with each team at a numerical strength of three skaters and one goalkeeper.

In the event of a team being penalised (or shorthanded at the end of regulation time) the teams will then play 4 on 3, with the non-penalised team having 4 skaters. If there is another penalty called on the penalised team whilst they are still at a disadvantage then the teams will play 5 on 3. At the first stoppage after the expiration of the penalty the teams will return to playing 3 on 3.

In the event of an import netminder being assessed a penalty in overtime, the penalty must still be served by a player on the ice (which will be a British player). The penalty on the clock however is still deemed as a penalty against an import for the purpose of on-ice strength.

In the Overtime period, a maximum of 1 Non-British Trained player may ice at any time.

If the scores are still level at the end of the overtime period, a penalty shot shootout will take place as per Rule 63 in the IIHF rulebook.

For the avoidance of doubt, non-British trained players may take penalty shots. Should a non-British trained player be in the penalty box at the end of the game (and therefore not eligible), the other non-British trained player is permitted to take a penalty shot.

RULES APPLYING SPECIFICALLY TO REC GAMES IN ENGLAND ONLY

Coaches

- If all players on both teams are 18 years of age or older on game day, then there is no requirement for qualified EIHA coaches to be on the bench.
- If there are any under 18's playing in the match, then the standard EIHA in-house rules apply as per Rule 25.

Equipment

- Player shorts with small rips, tears or cuts are not to be penalised.
- If in the opinion of the referee, the rip/tear is large enough as to compromise player safety, he may warn the player for the first offence, then issue a 10-minute Misconduct if the same player takes part in the game without first fixing the shorts.

RULES APPLYING SPECIFICALLY TO BUIHA GAMES IN ENGLAND ONLY

"Varsity OT Games"

- Some games on the fixture list will be noted as VARSITY OT games
- These games will apply the NIHL rules for Overtime and Game Winning Shots.

Coaches

- There is no requirement for coaches in BUIHA ice hockey as under 18's are not permitted to play.
- If a BUIHA team plays a fixture against a team who is not affiliated to the BUIHA, for example in a challenge match, if the opponent's team have an under 18 player playing, then the standard EIHA in-house rules apply as stipulated earlier under Rule 25.

4. APPENDICES

APPENDIX A – SUPPLEMENTARY DISCIPLINE

In addition to the suspension imposed under these rules, the EIHA Disciplinary Committee or the SIHA Disciplinary Committee may, at any time after the conclusion of the game, investigate any incident and may assess additional suspensions for any offence committed on or off the ice at any time before during and after the game, whether or not such offences have been penalised by the Referee.

APPENDIX B – PHOTOGRAPHY (All age groups)

- All Photographers must be registered as off ice officials, otherwise they may not be allowed on the bench or in the penalty box.
- Photographers not associated with the away team, may not be on or near the away team bench or the away team penalty bench.
- Photographers associated with the home team or who are neutral, may only go on the home team bench or in or on the side of the home team penalty box.
- No photographers are allowed to hang over the boards.

APPENDIX C – PREVENTION OF INFECTIONS OF BLOOD

- Players may not use any of their equipment to scrap or remove ice contaminated with blood.

For any breaches of the above, a WARNING shall be issued. For a second violation by any player of the same team for the above offence, the Referee shall assess a:

- Misconduct penalty (10') to the offending player.