



# PACIFIC COAST AMATEUR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION

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SERVING AMATEUR HOCKEY IN THE LOWER MAINLAND SINCE 1941

## P.C.A.H.A. 2014-2015 BULLETIN #8

**DATE:** September 14, 2014  
**TO:** The Presidents  
PCAHA Member Associations/Leagues  
**FROM:** Cindy Secord  
PCAHA President  
**SUBJECT:** Automatic Suspension Rules

Automatic suspensions apply in the following instances only:

1. **Match Penalties, Gross Misconducts, and Refusing to Start Play** - minimum or indefinite suspensions as specified in the annual BC Hockey Suspension Guidelines.
2. **Game Misconducts** - minimum suspensions for specific infractions identified in the Hockey Canada Minimum Suspension Chart and BC Hockey Suspension Guidelines.
3. **Game Misconducts in Last 10 Minutes** - HC Rule 4.6(c) - for Game Misconduct not covered by the Hockey Canada Minimum Suspension Chart and BC Hockey Suspension Guidelines incurred in the last 10 minutes of regular time - 1 league/playoff game or 7 clear days, whichever comes first.
4. **Instigator/Aggressor in a Fight** - PCAHA Section H(5)(b)(i) - any player assessed the Instigator Minor or the Aggressor Minor in a Fight (1st infraction of the season) - 1 league/playoff game or 7 clear days (whichever comes first) for each of these penalties. 2nd and 3rd infractions of the season are covered by the Hockey Canada Minimum Suspension Chart and BC Hockey Suspension Guidelines. This suspension is **additive** to any suspension(s) received as a result of the Game Misconduct which accompanies the Fighting Major.
5. **Third or Subsequent Game Misconduct of Season** - PCAHA Section H(5)(b)(ii) - any player incurring his or her third or subsequent Game Misconduct penalty of the current season - 1 league/playoff game or 7 clear days, whichever comes first.

**Note:** Suspensions to players under Section H(5)(b)(ii) are not additive. A player who incurs his or her third or subsequent Game Misconduct of the current season will incur an automatic suspension of 1 game or 7 clear days for each Game Misconduct penalty he/she is assessed, whether or not the penalty is incurred in the last 10 minutes. However, if the infraction results in a suspension under Hockey Canada Minimum Suspension Chart and BC Hockey Suspension Guidelines, the player will only be required to serve the longer of the two suspensions.

6. **Team Official Suspensions** - PCAHA Section H(4) - any team official who incurs a Game Misconduct (regardless of the time of game) shall be automatically suspended as follows:
  - (i) First occurrence of the current season - one league or playoff game or 7 clear days, whichever comes first;
  - (ii) Second occurrence of the current season - two league or playoff games or 14 clear days, whichever comes first;
  - (iii) Third or subsequent occurrence of the current season - indefinite suspension pending a hearing to be conducted by the Managing Director.

**Note:** If the infraction by the team official results in a suspension under Hockey Canada Minimum Suspension Chart and BC Hockey Suspension Guidelines, the team official will only be required to serve the longer of the two suspensions.

Automatic suspensions take effect immediately and must be served whether or not notification is received. It shall be the responsibility of each team's officials to ensure that correct records of all serious penalties are kept, and that players or team officials serve the required minimum suspensions.

Where a player or team official incurs penalties in a game resulting in more than one suspension, the suspensions shall be served consecutively, beginning with the suspension for the most serious penalty.

A suspended individual may not participate in any exhibition games between the league or playoff games.

Games in tournaments sanctioned by BC Hockey and the PCAHA are considered "league" games for the purpose of serving suspensions.

For suspensions in effect prior to the Christmas break or incurred during the Christmas break, the days between the last scheduled league game prior to the Christmas break and the first scheduled league game shall not be included in determining the number of days served.

A player who incurs a suspension while playing for another team under the Affiliate Player, Casual Player, or Goalkeeper Exemption rules must serve the suspension with his/her regular team. (There is an exception to this rule if the penalty is incurred at an out-of-District tournament where the player is travelling with the team. In that case the remaining games in the tournament count against the player's suspension).

Where a suspension occurs after March 1st and the team has insufficient league/playoff or sanctioned tournament games left to clear the suspension, the suspension will be carried over and served after September 15th, at the Managing Director's discretion.

In the case of penalties which under the Hockey Canada playing rules incur an automatic Game Misconduct penalty, for example:

- Fighting (HC Rule 6.7(a))
- Minor or Major for Checking From Behind [HC Rule 6.4(a)]
- Two (2) 10-min. Misconducts in one game [HC Rule 4.5(c)]
- All 5-min. Major penalties

if the scorekeeper fails to note the Game Misconduct on the scoresheet all suspensions shall apply as if the penalties had been correctly recorded.

Any team permitting a suspended player to play in a game or permitting a suspended team official to participate in a game shall automatically forfeit that game (including loss of Sportsmanship Point) and may be subject to further disciplinary action. A team official or other individual responsible for permitting an ineligible player or team official to participate in any game shall be subject to suspension and/or other disciplinary action.

If there are any questions at any time about suspensions, please contact the respective BC Hockey District Director in the case of Match Penalties and Gross Misconducts or the respective PCAHA Managing Director in the case of Game Misconducts or other penalties.

Yours sincerely,



Cindy Secord  
PCAHA President

cc. Executive Committee  
League Managers  
files

## SUMMARY OF PENALTY TYPES AND AUTOMATIC SUSPENSIONS

HC PENALTY TYPE	TIME	AUTOMATIC SUSPENSION
Penalty Shot	0:00	None.
Minor Penalty	2:00	(*)None.
Major Penalty	5:00	The automatic Game Misconduct that accompanies all Major penalties may result in suspension (see below).
10-min. Misconduct	10:00	(**)None.
Game Ejection	0:00	None.
Game Misconduct	10:00	<p><b>HC Rule 4.6(c)</b> - Game Misconduct in last 10-min. of regular time - 1 league/playoff game or 7 clear days.</p> <p><b>PCAHA H(4)</b> - Game Misconduct to a Team Official - suspension regardless of time of game.</p> <p><b>PCAHA H(5)(b)(i)</b> - A player who is the Instigator or Aggressor in a Fight - 1 league/playoff game or 7 clear days in addition to whatever other suspension is incurred.</p> <p><b>PCAHA H(5)(b)(ii)</b> - Player incurring a third or subsequent Game Misconduct penalty of the season - 1 league/playoff game or 7 clear days.</p> <p><b>Hockey Canada Minimum Suspensions</b> - see summary below.</p>
Gross Misconduct	10:00	Refer to <b>BC Hockey Suspension Bulletin</b> .
Match Penalty	5:00	Refer to <b>BC Hockey Suspension Bulletin</b> .

(\*)-except in the case of the Minor penalty for Checking From Behind, which carries with it an automatic Game Misconduct, or in the case of the Instigator Minor or Aggressor Minor.

(\*\*)-except when a player incurs two 10-min. Misconducts in the same game. The second 10-min. Misconduct results in an Game Misconduct penalty, which may incur suspension.

## HOCKEY CANADA MINIMUM SUSPENSIONS

Hockey Canada has adopted the following minimum suspensions for application in Minor hockey. Where incurred, these suspensions will apply in place of the PCAHA suspension in Section H(4) or H(5) for the associated Game Misconduct penalty.

FIGHTING - HC RULE 6.7	SANCTION
<b>1st Fight</b> - Any player who engages in his/her 1st fight of the current season.	Suspension for 1 league/playoff game or 7 clear days
<b>1st Fight</b> - Any player who engages in his/her 1st fight of the current season which occurs within the last 10 minutes of regular time or any time in overtime or at the conclusion of the game.	Suspension for 2 league/playoff games or 10 clear days
<b>2nd Fight</b> - Any player who engages in his/her 2nd fight of the current season.	Suspension for 2 league/playoff games or 10 clear days
<b>2nd Fight</b> - Any player who engages in his/her 2nd fight of the current season which occurs within the last	Suspension for 3 league/playoff games or 10 clear days

10 minutes of regular time or any time in overtime or at the conclusion of the game.	
<b>3rd Fight</b> - Any player who engages in his/her 3rd fight in of the current season.	Indefinite suspension pending a hearing
<b>“Third man in a Fight”</b> - HC Rule 6.7(h) (player assessed a Game Misconduct for “joining in a fight, acting as a peacemaker, or taking part in another fight during the same stoppage of play”).	Suspension for 2 league/playoff games or 10 clear days
<b>Second Fight, Same Stoppage</b> - Any player receiving a Fighting Major penalty for a second or subsequent fight during the same stoppage of play.	Suspension for 2 league/playoff games or 10 clear days
<b>LEAVING THE BENCH - HC RULE 9.5</b>	<b>SANCTION</b>
Any player identified as the first to leave the players’ bench during a fight (HC Rule 9.5(b)).	Suspension for 2 league/playoff games or 10 clear days
Any player identified as the first to leave the penalty bench during a fight (HC Rule 9.5(b & d)).	Suspension for 3 league/playoff games or 10 clear days
Any player identified as being the first to leave the players bench to start a fight (HC Rule 9.5(b)).	Suspension for 3 league/playoff games or 10 clear days
The Coach of the team whose player is penalized under the above three points.	Suspension for 3 league/playoff games or 10 clear days
The Coach whose player left the player bench but is not identified as the first to leave the players or penalty bench during an on ice altercation (HC Rule 9.5(c)).	Suspension for 1 league/playoff game or 7 clear days
<b>INSTIGATOR OR AGGRESSOR MINOR</b>	<b>SANCTION</b>
1st Instigator/Aggressor offence of the current season.	Suspension for 1 league/playoff game per PCAHA H(5)(b)(i)
2nd Instigator/Aggressor offence of the current season.	Suspension for 2 league/playoff games or 10 clear days
3rd Instigator/Aggressor offence of the current season.	Suspension for 3 league/playoff games or 10 clear days
The Coach of a team whose player is penalized for a third offence of Instigator or Aggressor.	Suspension for 3 league/playoff games or 10 clear days
<b>PRE-GAME/POST GAME ALTERCATIONS</b>	<b>SANCTION</b>
Any player involved in pre-game or post-game altercations where Majors and Game Misconducts are assessed	Suspension for 2 league/playoff games or 10 clear days
Coach of team whose players are so penalized.	Indefinite suspension pending a hearing.
Any team involved in a pre-game or post-game brawl.	Indefinite suspension pending a hearing.
<b>OTHER INFRACTIONS</b>	<b>SANCTION</b>
Game Misconduct - Verbal Abuse of Official (HC Rule 9.2)	Suspension for 2 league/playoff games or 10 clear days
Checking From Behind - when a Major Penalty and Game Misconduct is assessed	Suspension for 1 league/playoff game or 7 clear days
Head Contact - when a Major Penalty and Game Misconduct is assessed	Suspension for 1 league/playoff game or 7 clear days

(from: PCAHA 2014-2015 Rulebook, page 99-100).

### **INSTRUCTION TO TEAM MANAGERS:**

1. After each game, check the scoresheet and note all serious penalties.
2. Keep a record of all serious penalties incurred by players and team officials on your team.
3. If a penalty carries with it an automatic Game Misconduct penalty (such as penalties for Fighting or Checking From Behind and all 5-min. Major penalties) and the Game Misconduct has not been correctly listed on the scoresheet by the scorekeeper, all automatic suspensions will still apply.
4. Make sure your players and team officials sit out their suspensions.
5. If there is any doubt about the suspension implications of penalties appearing on the scoresheet, contact your League Manager for clarification. Permitting a suspended player to play in a game or permitting a suspended team official to participate in a game results in **automatic forfeit** of the game and may result in other consequences [PCAHA Section C(23)].