



Policy Revision	Section(s) Revised	Change description	Effective Date
0	10.3.1, 10.3.2	Add the option for Assoc to hear the issue	Sept 2019
1	10	Updates in red	Aug 2022
3		Reformat (previously Section 10)	June 2025
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9. DISCIPLINARY REVIEW POLICY

9.1 Purpose

The intent of the League's policies is to ensure that appropriate and fair consequences are applied when warranted. The disciplinary process provides parties with an opportunity to review the circumstances surrounding the incident and to reflect on alternative actions and responses.

9.1.1 All actions during ANY play (league, tournament, exhibition, etc) are subject to possible further disciplinary review as outlined in these Rules & Regulations.

9.1.2 In specific cases where a penalty has not been assessed, the Disciplinary Review Committee reserves the right to deal with individuals, players or coaching staff who, through their actions create an unsafe environment affecting players, referees, coaches or spectators.

9.2 Procedure

CRL Chair will appoint a Disciplinarian. The Disciplinarian will review the nature of the incident with respect to the Ringette Canada Rule Book, and the requirements for action and supplementary action. Specific functions are:

9.2.1 Review the case report and determine if game suspensions were issued that have or must be served as directed by the requirements for the Ringette Canada Rule Book.

9.2.2 Report the incident to Ringette Alberta who will issue game suspension(s) if required.

9.2.3 Determined from the Disciplinary Hearing Criteria (as contained in this section) whether a hearing is required.

9.2.4 Contact the individual to ensure that they understand the procedure, process and requirements of the disciplinary review process. In the case of a minor, contact the head coach and parents.

9.2.5 If required, organize and chair a disciplinary hearing and ensure that additional appropriate documentation is added to the records.

9.2.6 Verify, in conjunction with, the CRL Chair that the issued suspension has been fully served.

Where a hearing is required, the individual is automatically suspended until the hearing is held, including roles on any other teams as an Official. The Disciplinarian will convene the hearing as soon as practical to deal with each case. This shall be completed within one week of the assessment of the penalty, if possible.



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9.3 Disciplinary Review Committee

- 9.3.1 The Committee shall be convened for the purpose of determining disciplinary actions where Ringette Alberta has not applied sanctions or in such circumstances where additional sanctions are appropriate.
- 9.3.2 The CRL Chair shall appoint a Disciplinarian. The Disciplinarian will be responsible to invite and appoint the Disciplinary Review Committee. The Disciplinary Review Committee will consist of a minimum of four (4) of the following members:
- 9.3.2.1 The CRL Board Chair or appointed CRL representative and will act as the Disciplinarian. The Disciplinarian will chair the hearing and only vote in the event of a tie.
- 9.3.2.2 Two (2) CRL Member Association representatives (the Association President or their designate). Not to be from either home or visiting Associations from the game where the incident occurred in the case of 9.3.1 and 9.3.2.
- 9.3.2.3 Officials liaison or representative thereof. The CRL Referee in Chief shall not be a member of this committee if they were an on-ice official for the game in question, nor shall any other official representative who was an on-ice official for the game in question.
- 9.3.2.4 Home Association Presidents or Representatives thereof, will be invited to attend the hearing as observers, but will abstain from voting. Visiting Associations Presidents or Representatives in the case of 9.3.1 and 9.3.2, will be invited to attend the hearing as observers, but will abstain from voting.
- 9.3.3 The Disciplinary Review Committee will convene or hold a hearing as soon as possible following an incident, taking into account the availability of committee members. A hearing will be scheduled no later than fourteen (14) days after the incident is reported.
- 9.3.3.1 Any players or coaches who are mandated for a hearing must not play in any scheduled game. This includes the following: league games, tournament games, exhibition games, that had been previously scheduled.

9.4 Disciplinary Hearing Criteria

The convening of a Disciplinary Hearing may result in further disciplinary action is required:

- 9.4.1 In all cases where a player is assessed a Match or Misconduct penalty in a game that occurs in the province of Alberta.



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9.4.2 In all cases where any bench personnel are assessed a Misconduct penalty in a game that occurs in the province of Alberta.

9.4.3 When a player or a coach accumulates **FIVE (5)** of the following penalties in any combination in a single CRL playing season (Session 1/2/3 games).

9.4.3.1 Unsportsmanlike Conduct

9.4.3.2 Major Penalty

9.4.3.3 Misconduct Penalty

9.4.3.4 Match Penalty

9.4.4 For the HEAD COACH when a TEAM has accumulated **THREE (3)** of the following penalties in any combination in a single CRL playing season (Session 1/2/3 games):

9.4.4.1 Misconduct Penalty

9.4.4.2 Match Penalty

Records will be maintained permanently in a case file. The Disciplinary Review Committee may assess additional disciplinary action that would be carried into the next playing season.

9.5 Automatic Suspensions

Automatic suspensions shall be served at the next scheduled game for the team (scheduled means referees booked prior to any of the following occurring:

9.5.1 Player accumulation of Major and/or Unsportsmanlike Conduct Penalties

9.5.1.1 **ONE (1)** Game Suspension: When a player accumulates 3 major and/or unsportsmanlike conduct penalties. A letter from the league will go out to the player, parent, coach and Association notifying of the suspension.

9.5.1.2 **FIVE (5)** Game Suspension: When a player accumulates 7 major and/or unsportsmanlike conduct penalties. A letter from the league will go out to the player, parent, coach and Association notifying of the suspension.

9.5.1.3 If this occurs during Session 3, and the player is to be playing in provincials, the suspension will be handed to Ringette Alberta to fulfill.

9.5.2 Excess Penalty Minutes



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9.5.2.1 Excess Penalty Minutes – TEAM - Game (U14, U16, U19)

Teams accumulating more than **THIRTY (30)** minutes of assessed penalty minutes in a single CRL scheduled game shall have the head coach (as identified on the Game Sheet) automatically suspended for one (1) game.

9.5.2.2 Excess Penalty Minutes – TEAM – Game (U10, U12)

Teams accumulating more than **TWENTY-FOUR (24)** minutes of assessed penalty minutes in a single CRL Scheduled Game shall have the head coach (as identified on the Game Sheet) automatically suspended for one (1) game.

9.5.2.3 Excess Penalty Minutes – PLAYER - Average (U14, U16, U19, including AA)

During the course of the season, the CRL and Division Coordinators will check for players that are consistently exhibiting poor sportsmanship and committing infractions on a consistent basis. The CRL will not look at random games, but at consecutive games in a row based on the season being broken up into 4 quarters (number of games per quarter is based on the total number of games in the season).

Once a player has reached the threshold as listed below, they will then follow the guidelines listed. Note that this process will start once the player has met the threshold.

Guidelines are as follows:

1. A player has accumulated a total number of penalty minutes that meets or exceeds a threshold based on the following formula, will receive a warning email.
 - Average of 4 PIM/Game – after the team has played 25% (1 quarter) of the games in the season.
2. A player that has accumulated a total number of penalty minutes that meets or exceeds a threshold based on the following formula will receive a one (1) game automatic suspension.
 - Average of 4 PIM/Game (for all games played), after that team has played 50% (2 quarters) of the games in a season.
3. A player has accumulated a total number of penalty minutes that meets or exceeds a threshold based on the following formula, will be suspended for three (3) games.
 - Average of 4 PIM/Game (for all games played), after the team has played 75% (3 quarters) of the games in the season.

Example: A player averages 2 mins/game in Quarter 1, no warning will be issued. After Quarter 2, averages 4 mins/game, they will be issued a warning as



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listed below. Further disciplinary actions will be based on the guidelines listed.

9.5.2.4 Email notifications of warnings or suspensions will be sent to the coach/manager of the team, as well as the player/parent.

9.5.2.5 Supplementary discipline may also be imposed at any time following the gamesheet review.

9.6 Serving of Suspensions

9.6.1 If a Player or Team Staff receives a suspension, the suspension will begin with the next CRL scheduled game, tournament, prescheduled exhibition games, Session 3 or Provincial game for that team. That individual shall remain suspended until the duration of the suspension can be determined in consultation with the appropriate governing body (RAB or CRL). A Player or Team Staff under suspension is not allowed in the playing areas of the arena, including, but not limited to, the dressing room, team bench or timekeeper's box (as per RAB Policy 15.6.6).

9.6.2 Multiple Game suspensions shall be served based on the schedule that exists for that team *at the time of the incident leading up to the suspension*. It is the responsibility of that team's Head Coach to consult with the Ringette Alberta or CRL Chair to determine the termination date of any suspension. That termination date and time shall be the final game of the suspension. The suspension shall be in force until that date, regardless of any additional games that may be scheduled for that team.

9.7 Removal of a Team from the Ice Prior to the end of a Game

No coach shall forfeit a game by pulling their team off the ice before the end of a game. Any coach who does so shall be suspended from coaching until the Disciplinary Review Committee has dealt with this matter. The official score for the forfeit shall be recorded as 7-0.