

OFFICIALS

RULE 30 APPOINTMENT OF OFFICIALS

30.1. APPOINTMENT OF OFFICIALS

The IIHF shall appoint the On-ice Officials (Referees, Linespersons, Standby's) and the Off-ice Officials (Officiating Coaches, Video Review Operations, Official Scorekeeper, Game Timekeeper, etc.) for each game.

← For more information refer to IIHF Sport Regulations and IIHF Statutes & Bylaws

RULE 31 REFEREES

31.1. ATTIRE AND EQUIPMENT

All Referees shall be dressed in black pants, IIHF Officials' jerseys, an IIHF approved black helmet with visor, and approved whistles.

31.2. DISPUTES

The Referees shall have general supervision of the game and shall have full control of all Game Officials and Players during the game, including stoppages; and in case of any dispute, their decision shall be final.

As there is a human factor involved in blowing the whistle to stop play, the Referee may deem the play to be stopped slightly prior to the whistle actually being blown. The fact that the puck may come loose or cross the Goal Line prior to the sound of the whistle has no bearing if the Referee has ruled that the play had been stopped prior to this happening.

In the event of any dispute regarding time or the expiration of penalties, the matter shall be referred to the Referee for adjustment and their decision shall be final. They may use the Video Review Operations to assist in rendering the final decision.

→ Rule 37 – Video Review and → Rule 38 – Coach's Challenge.

31.3. FACE-OFFS

One of the Referees shall "face-off" the puck to start each period. Linespersons are responsible for all other "face-offs".

31.4. GENERAL DUTIES

It shall be the duty of the Referees to impose such penalties as are prescribed by the rules for infractions thereof and they shall give the "final on-ice decision" in matters of disputed goals.

The Referees may consult with the Linespersons before making their decision.

The Referees shall not halt the game for any infractions of the rules concerning Rule 83 - Off-side, or any violation of Rule 81 - Icing. Determining infractions of these rules is the duty of the Linespersons unless, by virtue of some unforeseen issue, the Linesperson is prevented from doing so in which case the duties of the Linesperson shall be assumed by a Referee until play is stopped.

← For more information refer to IIHF Game Official Handbook and Guidelines, and Operation Procedure Manual (OPM).

31.5. GOALS

The Referees shall have announced over the Public Address System information regarding the legality of an apparent goal.

If applicable, the Official Scorekeeper, with the assistance of the Video Review Consultant, will confirm the "goal scorer" and any Players deserving of an "assist".

→ Rule 78 – Goals.

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The Referees shall have announced the reason for not allowing a goal every time the goal signal light is turned on in the course of play over the Public Address System.

This shall be done at the first stoppage of play regardless of any standard signal given by the Referees when the goal signal light was put on in error (if the red goal light is mandatory and in place).

The Referees shall report the name or number of the “goal scorer” and also report any Player deserving an “assist” for that goal. If applicable, the Referees shall report the “goal scorer” only and the Official Scorekeeper, with the assistance of the Statistic staff will confirm the “goal scorer” and any Player deserving an “assist”.

The name of the “goal scorer” and any Player entitled to an “assist” will be announced over the Public Address System. In the event the Referee disallows a goal for any violation of the rules, they shall report the reason for the disallowance to the Official Scorekeeper who shall have the Referee’s decision announced correctly over the Public Address System.

31.6. OFF-ICE OFFICIALS

The Referees shall, before starting the game, see that the appointed Off-ice Officials are in their respective places and ensure that the timing and signaling equipment are in order.

31.7. PENALTIES

The infraction of the rules for which each penalty has been imposed will be announced correctly, as reported by the Referee, over the Public Address System. Where Players of both Teams are penalized on the same play, the penalty to the visiting Player will be announced first.

31.8. PLAYERS’ UNIFORMS

It shall be the duty of the Referees to see to it that all Players are properly dressed, and that the approved regulation equipment (including the approved on-ice branded exposure program) is in use at all times during the game.

31.9. REPORTS

The Referee shall report to the Proper Authorities promptly and in detail the circumstances surrounding the following:

- (I) The assessment of Misconduct Penalties for Abuse of Officials;
- (II) The assessment of Game Misconduct Penalties;
- (III) The assessment of Match Penalties;
- (IV) Any time a Player or team personnel are involved in an altercation with a spectator;
- (V) Any unusual occurrence that takes place on or off the ice, before, during or after the game.

31.10. START AND END OF GAME AND PERIODS

The Referees or the Official Timekeeper shall order the Teams on the ice at the appointed time for the beginning of a game and at the commencement of each period.

If for any reason, there is more than a fifteen (15) minute delay in the commencement of the game or any undue delay in resuming play after the IIHF approved intermission length between periods (refer to IIHF Sport Regulations), the Referees shall state in their report to the Proper Authorities the cause of the delay and the Team or Teams which were at fault.

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The Referees shall remain on the ice at the conclusion of each period until all Players have proceeded to their Dressing Rooms. Team Entry and Departure from the Ice Surface is described in IIHF Sport Regulations.

← For more information refer to IIHF Sport Regulations.

31.11. UNABLE TO CONTINUE

Should a Referee accidentally leave the ice or receive an injury which incapacitates them from fulfilling their duties while play is in progress, the game shall be automatically stopped.

In IIHF Championships, “standby” Game Officials are assigned for the individual games. In the event of an injury to a Game Official, the designated “standby” Game Official will be used.

← For more information refer to IIHF Game Official Handbook and Guidelines, and Operation Procedure Manual (OPM).

RULE 32 LINEPERSONS

32.1. ATTIRE AND EQUIPMENT

All Linespersons shall be dressed in black pants, IIHF Officials’ jerseys, an IIHF-approved black helmet with visor and approved whistles.

32.2. FACE-OFFS

The Linesperson shall “face-off” the puck at all times except at the start of each period.

32.3. GENERAL DUTIES

The Linesperson are generally responsible for calling violations of “Off-side” and “Icing”.

→ Rule 81 – Icing and → Rule 83 – Off-side.

They may stop play for a variety of other situations as noted in Rules 32.4 and 33.5 below.

← For more information refer to the IIHF Game Official Procedures Manual – IIHF OPM.

32.4. REPORTING TO REFEREE

The Linesperson shall give the Referees their interpretation of any incident that may have taken place during the game.

- (I) When a Player who has lost or broken their stick receives one illegally → Rule 10 – Sticks.
- (II) When Team Personnel interfere with a Game Official → Rule 39 – Abuse of Officials.
- (III) When any identifiable Player on the Player’s or Penalty Box, by means of their stick or their body, interferes with the movements of the puck or an opponent → Rule 56 – Interference.
- (IV) There are “too many Players on the ice” → Rule 74 – Too many Players on the Ice.
- (V) Articles are thrown on the ice from the Players’ Bench or Penalty Box → Rule 75 – Unsportsmanlike Conduct.

The Linesperson shall report upon completion of play, any circumstances pertaining to:

- (I) Major Penalties → Rule 20 – Major Penalties.
- (II) Match Penalties → Rule 21 – Match Penalties.
- (III) Misconduct Penalties → Rule 22 – Misconduct Penalties.
- (IV) Game Misconduct Penalties → Rule 23 – Game Misconduct Penalties.