

# PHYSICAL FOULS

primary force of a blow is initially to the body area and then contact slides up to the head or neck.

- (VI) Whether the opponent put themselves in a vulnerable position by assuming a posture that made head contact on an otherwise full body check unavoidable.
- (VII) Whether the opponent materially changed the position of their body or head immediately prior to or simultaneously with the hit in a way that significantly contributed to the head contact.

## 48.2. MINOR PENALTY

The Referee shall, at their discretion, assess a Minor Penalty to any Player who delivers an “illegal check to the head or neck” of an opponent.

## 48.3. MAJOR PENALTY

There is no provision for a Major Penalty for this rule.

## 48.4. GAME MISCONDUCT PENALTY

There is no provision for a Game Misconduct Penalty for this rule.

## 48.5. MATCH PENALTY

The Referee, at their discretion, may assess a Match Penalty if, in their judgment, the Player recklessly endangers their opponent by an “illegal check to the head or neck”. Such assessment of reckless endangerment shall be based on the severity of the infraction, severity of the contact, the degree of violence and the general reprehensibility involved.

## 48.6. DISCIPLINARY MEASURES

If deemed appropriate, Supplementary Discipline can be applied by the Proper Authorities at their discretion.

→ [Rule 28 – Supplementary Discipline.](#)

## RULE 49 KICKING

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### 49.1. KICKING

The action of a Player deliberately using their skate(s) with a kicking motion to propel the puck or to make contact with an opponent.

### 49.2. GOALS

Kicking the puck shall be permitted in all zones. A goal cannot be scored by an attacking Player who uses a “distinct kicking motion” to propel the puck into the net with their skate/foot.

A goal cannot be scored by an attacking Player who “kicks” a puck that deflects into the net off any Player or official.

A puck that deflects into the net off an attacking Player’s skate who does not use a “distinct kicking motion” is a legitimate goal.

A puck that is “directed” into the net by an attacking Player’s skate shall be a legitimate goal as long as “no distinct kicking motion” is evident.

The following should clarify deflections following a “kicked puck” that enters the goal:

- (I) A “kicked puck” that “deflects” off the body of any Player of either Team (including the Goalkeeper) shall be ruled “no goal”.

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- (II) A “kicked puck” that “deflects” off the stick of any Player (excluding the Goalkeeper’s stick) shall be ruled a “good goal”.
- (III) A goal will be allowed when an attacking Player “kicks” the puck, and the puck “deflects” off their own stick and then into the net.
- (IV) A goal will be allowed when a puck enters the goal after “deflecting” off an attacking Player’s skate or “deflects” off their skate while they are in the “process of stopping”.

A goal cannot be scored by an attacking Player who “kicks” any equipment (stick, glove, helmet, etc.) at the puck, including “kicking” the blade of their own stick, causing the puck to cross the Goal Line.

## 49.3. MATCH PENALTY

The Referee shall, at their discretion, assess a Match Penalty if, in their judgement a Player “kicks” or “attempts to kick” an opposing Player. The consequence for this foul is a Match Penalty in any case where “kicking” is ruled, even if there is no contact.

## 49.4. DISCIPLINARY MEASURES

If deemed appropriate, Supplementary Discipline can be applied by the Proper Authorities at their discretion.

→ [Rule 28 – Supplementary Discipline](#).

## RULE 50 KNEEING

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### 50.1. KNEEING

Kneeing is the act of a Player leading with their knee and in some cases extending their leg outwards to make contact with their opponent.

### 50.2. MINOR PENALTY

The Referee shall, at their discretion, assess a Minor Penalty, based on the severity of the infraction, to a Player guilty of “kneeing” an opponent.

### 50.3. MAJOR PENALTY

The Referee, at their discretion, may assess a Major Penalty to a Player guilty of “kneeing” an opponent, and who recklessly endangers the fouled Player in a way that at the discretion of the Referee such Player would not be sufficiently sanctioned by imposing a Minor Penalty. Refer to Rule 50.5 for an additional Game Misconduct Penalty.

### 50.4. MATCH PENALTY

The Referee, at their discretion, may assess a Match Penalty if, in their judgment, the Player recklessly endangers their opponent by an “kneeing”. Such assessment of reckless endangerment shall be based on the severity of the infraction, severity of the contact, the degree of violence and the general reprehensibility involved.

### 50.5. GAME MISCONDUCT PENALTY

A Game Misconduct Penalty must be assessed anytime a Major Penalty is imposed for “kneeing”.