

TEAMS

RULE 5 TEAM

5.1. ELIGIBLE PLAYERS

A Game is contested between two (2) Teams which play under the direction of On-ice and Off-ice Officials.

A Team shall be composed of twenty-two (22) Players. No more than twenty (20) Skaters and two (2) Goalkeepers shall be permitted. For the purposes of these playing rules, any reference to “Player” shall refer to both Skaters and Goalkeepers. Any reference to “Goalkeeper” shall mean that the section of the rule is specific to Goalkeepers.

Prior to the start of each game, the Team Manager or Coach of each Team shall list on a “Line-up / Roster Sheet” the Players who are eligible to play in the game. For a Team to play a game, it must be able to put on the ice at least five (5) Skaters and one (1) Goalkeeper at the beginning of the game.

Only eligible Players can be listed on the Roster Sheet and play in a Game. Players who are registered for a tournament or event but who are not listed on the Official Game Sheet can participate in the pre-game warm-up – for Definition of eligible Players refer to the IIHF Statutes and Bylaws.

The Coach must submit the “Line-up / Roster Sheet” to the Official Scorekeeper at least sixty (60) minutes prior to the start of the game. The Official Game Sheet with the listed names and numbers of all eligible Players must be handed to the On-ice Game Officials before the Game, and no change shall be permitted to the Official Game Sheet after the commencement of the Game.

Prior to the Game, if an Official (on-ice or off-ice) notices that a Player is in uniform but has not been included on the Official Game Sheet, the Referee shall bring this to the attention of the offending Team so that the necessary correction can be made to the Official Game Sheet with no penalty assessed.

At IIHF Championships, a representative from each Team must confirm the “Line-up / Roster Sheet” at least two (2) minutes prior to the start of the Game, and Players may be added or deleted up to the “opening face-off”.

Game rules will not allow for a Team to have more than six (6) Players (one (1) Goalkeeper and five (5) Skaters) on the ice at any time during game action when the team is not penalized.

→ [Rule 74 - Too Many Players on the Ice.](#)

A Team must put at least four (4) Players (one (1) Goalkeeper and three (3) Skaters) on the ice, if two (2) or more Players are penalized. A Team must put the required number of players on the ice to resume play.

→ [Rule 66 - Forfeit of Game.](#)

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

5.2. INELIGIBLE PLAYER

Only Players on the Roster Sheet list submitted to the Official Scorekeeper before the game may participate in the Game. The determining factor when considering whether a Player is eligible is that the Player’s name, and not necessarily the Player’s number, must be correctly listed by the Team Manager or Coach of that Team.

Whenever an ineligible Player is identified to the Referee, the ineligible Player will be removed from the Game and the Team shall not be able to substitute another Player from its Roster.

No additional penalties are to be assessed but a report of the incident must be submitted to the Proper Authorities. For an ineligible Goalkeeper see Rule 5.3 - Goalkeeper.

If a goal is scored when an ineligible Player is on the ice (whether they were involved in the scoring or not), the goal will be disallowed. This only applies to the goal scored at the stoppage of play whereby the Player was deemed to be ineligible. All other goals scored previously by the ineligible Player’s Team (with them on the ice or not) shall be allowed.

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If a Player is assessed a penalty, and during the penalty they are found to be an ineligible Player, they will be removed from the game and another Player of their Team, designated by the Coach, must serve the remainder of the penalty.

No additional penalties are to be assessed but a report of the incident must be submitted to the Proper Authorities.

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

5.3. GOALKEEPER

Each Team shall be allowed one (1) Goalkeeper on the ice at one time. The Goalkeeper may be removed and substituted by another Skater. Such substitute shall not be permitted the privileges of the Goalkeeper.

Each Team shall have on its Players' Bench, or on a chair immediately beside the Players' Bench (or nearby), a substitute Goalkeeper who shall always be fully equipped and ready to play.

Each team shall have two (2) Goalkeepers listed on the Official Game Sheet. Exceptions to this rule are permitted in specific IIHF Championships where, only one (1) Goalkeeper, or a third (3rd) listed Goalkeeper is allowed – for additional information refer to the IIHF Sport Regulations.

If the listed (one or two) Goalkeeper/s is/are incapacitated, that Team shall be entitled to dress and play any Goalkeeper who is eligible. In the event that the two (2) regular Goalkeepers are injured or incapacitated in quick succession, the third (3rd) Goalkeeper shall be provided with a reasonable amount of time to get dressed, in addition to a two-minute (2) warm-up (except when they enter the game to defend against a "Penalty Shot").

If, however, the third (3rd) Goalkeeper is dressed and on the Players' Bench when the second (2nd) Goalkeeper becomes incapacitated, the third (3rd) Goalkeeper shall enter the game immediately and no warm-up is permitted.

← For more information refer to IIHF Sport Regulations.

5.4. COACHES AND TEAM PERSONNEL

Only Players in uniform and official team personnel duly registered on the Roster Sheet shall be permitted to occupy the Player's Benches so provided.

Every Team must have at least one Staff Member behind the Team on the Players' Bench to act as Coach and at least one (1) qualified Coach or Medical Expert to treat Players in case of injury.

5.5. TEAM OFFICIALS AND TECHNOLOGY

Team personnel who are on or near the Players' Bench during the Game may use radio-technology to contact other Team Personnel in an area designated by the IIHF.

Other forms of technology are permitted for Coaching purposes only (e.g., statistics, tagging) and may not be used to attempt to influence the decisions of the On-ice Officials in any way. If the technology is misused, a penalty shall be assessed according to:

→ Rule 39 - Abuse of Officials.

5.6. PRE-GAME WARM-UP ON THE ICE

During warm-up on the ice, all protective equipment must be properly worn. Players registered for an IIHF Championship and not listed on the "Line-up / Roster Sheet" may participate in a "pre-game warm-up" on the ice. No Player can warm-up on ice at the end of a period or at any stoppage of play.

No penalties are to be assessed but a report of the incident must be submitted to the Proper Authorities.

← For more information refer to IIHF Sport Regulations.