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68.2 – Bench Minor Penalty, or when a Player illegally enters the game for the sole purpose of preventing an opposing Player from scoring on a “breakaway” → **Rules 68.3 – Penalty Shot**, or → **Rule 68.4 – Awarded Goal**.

When an injured Player is penalized and leaves the game, if they return before the expiration of their penalty, they are not eligible to play. This includes Coincidental Penalties when their substitute is still in the Penalty Box awaiting a stoppage in play. The injured Player must wait until their substitute has been released from the Penalty Box before they are eligible to play.

→ **Rule 8.1 – Injured Players**.

68.2. BENCH MINOR PENALTY

When a Player receives a Major Penalty and a Misconduct or Game Misconduct Penalty at the same time, or when an injured Player receives a Major Penalty and is unable to serve the penalty themselves, the penalized Team shall place a substitute Player in the Penalty Box immediately and no replacement for the penalized Player shall be permitted to enter the game except from the Penalty Box. Any violation of this provision shall be treated as an illegal substitution under this rule calling for a Bench Minor Penalty.

68.3. “PENALTY SHOT”

This rule is described under

→ **Rule 70.7 – Penalty Shot**

68.4. AWARDED GOAL

This rule is described under:

→ **Rule 70.8 Awarded goal**.

68.5. DISALLOWED GOAL

This rule is described under:

→ **Rule 70.9 Disallowed goal**.

68.6. DELIBERATE ILLEGAL SUBSTITUTION

Too Many Players on the Ice.

→ **Rule 74 – Too Many Players on the Ice**.

RULE 69 INTERFERENCE ON THE GOALKEEPER

69.1. INTERFERENCE ON THE GOALKEEPER

This rule is based on the premise that an attacking Player’s position, whether inside or outside the Goal Crease, should not, by itself, determine whether a goal should be allowed or disallowed. In other words, goals scored while attacking Players are standing in the Goal Crease may, in appropriate circumstances be allowed. Goals should be disallowed only if:

- (I) an attacking Player, either by their positioning or by a “relevant contact”, impairs the Goalkeeper’s ability to move freely within their Goal Crease or defend their goal; or
- (II) an attacking Player initiates intentional or deliberate contact with a Goalkeeper, inside or outside of their Goal Crease.

“Incidental contact” with a Goalkeeper will be permitted, and resulting goals allowed, when such contact is initiated outside of the

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Goal Crease, provided the attacking Player has made a reasonable effort to avoid such contact.

The rule will be enforced exclusively in accordance with the on-ice judgement of the Referee(s), but may be subject to a Video Review: → [Rule 37 – Video Review](#), when applicable or to a Coach's Challenge → [Rule 38 – Coach's Challenge](#).

For purposes of this rule, "contact / relevant contact" whether "incidental or otherwise", shall mean any contact that is made between or among a Goalkeeper and attacking Player(s), whether by means of a stick or any part of the body. The overriding rationale of this rule is that a Goalkeeper should have the ability to move freely within their Goal Crease without being hindered by the actions of an attacking Player.

If an attacking Player enters the Goal Crease and, by their actions, impairs the Goalkeeper's ability to defend their goal, and a goal is scored, the goal will be disallowed.

If an attacking Player is in the Goal Crease and does not leave immediately, the Referee has the possibility to stop the game and the subsequent "face-off" shall take place at the nearest Neutral Zone Face-off Spot outside the Attacking Zone of the offending Team. If an attacking Player has been pushed, shoved, or fouled by a defending Player so as to cause them to come into contact with the Goalkeeper, such contact will not be deemed contact initiated by the attacking Player for purposes of this rule, provided the attacking Player has made a reasonable effort to avoid such contact.

If a defending Player has been pushed, shoved, or fouled by an attacking Player so as to cause the defending Player to come into contact with their own Goalkeeper, such contact shall be deemed contact initiated by the attacking Player for purposes of this rule, and if necessary, a penalty assessed to the attacking Player and if a goal is scored it would be disallowed.

→ [For more information refer to Appendix IV – Table 16 – Interference on the Goalkeeper Situations.](#)

69.2. PENALTY

In all cases in which an attacking Player initiates "intentional or deliberate" contact with a Goalkeeper, whether or not the Goalkeeper is inside or outside the Goal Crease, and whether or not a goal is scored, the attacking Player will receive a penalty (Minor or Major, as the Referee deems appropriate). In all cases where the infraction being imposed is to the attacking Player for hindering the Goalkeeper's ability to move freely in their Goal Crease, the penalty to be assessed is for "Goalkeeper interference".

In exercising their judgment, the Referee should give more significant consideration to the degree and nature of the relevant contact with the Goalkeeper than to the exact location of the Goalkeeper at the time of the contact.

69.3. CONTACT INSIDE THE GOAL CREASE

If an attacking Player initiates "a relevant contact" with a Goalkeeper, incidental or otherwise, while the Goalkeeper is in their Goal Crease, and a goal is scored, the goal will be disallowed.

If a Goalkeeper, in the "act of establishing their position" within their Goal Crease, initiates contact with an attacking Player who is in the Goal Crease, and this results in an impairment of the Goalkeeper's ability to defend their goal, and a goal is scored, the goal will be disallowed.

If, after any contact by a Goalkeeper who is attempting to establish position in their Goal Crease, the attacking Player does not immediately vacate their current position in the Goal Crease (i.e., give ground to the Goalkeeper), and a goal is scored, the goal will be disallowed. In all such cases, whether or not a goal is scored, the attacking Player will receive the appropriate penalty for Goalkeeper "interference".

If an attacking Player establishes a "significant position" within the Goal Crease, so as to obstruct the Goalkeeper's vision and impair

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their ability to defend their goal, and a goal is scored, the goal will be disallowed.

For this purpose, a Player “establishes a significant position within the crease” when, in the Referee’s judgment, their body, or a substantial portion thereof, is within the Goal Crease for more than an instantaneous period of time.

→ For more information refer to Appendix IV – Table 16 – Interference on the Goalkeeper Situations.

69.4. CONTACT OUTSIDE THE GOAL CREASE

If an attacking Player initiates any “relevant contact” with a Goalkeeper, other than “incidental contact”, while the Goalkeeper is outside their Goal Crease, and a goal is scored, the goal will be disallowed.

A Goalkeeper is not “fair game” just because they are outside the Goal Crease. The appropriate penalty should be assessed in every case where an attacking Player makes “unnecessary contact” with the Goalkeeper.

However, “incidental contact” will be permitted when the Goalkeeper is in the act of playing the puck outside their Goal Crease provided the attacking Player has made a “reasonable effort” to avoid such unnecessary contact.

When a Goalkeeper has played the puck outside of their Goal Crease and is then prevented from returning to their Goal Crease area due to the deliberate actions of an attacking Player, such Player may be penalized for “Goalkeeper interference”.

Similarly, the Goalkeeper may be penalized, if by their actions outside of their Goal Crease they deliberately interfere with an attacking Player who is attempting to play the puck or an opponent.

→ For more information refer to Appendix IV – Table 16 – Interference on the Goalkeeper Situations.

69.5. COACH’S CHALLENGE

→ Rule 38 – Coach’s Challenge

69.6. FACE-OFF LOCATION

Whenever the Referee stops play to disallow a goal as a result of “relevant contact” with the Goalkeeper (incidental or otherwise), the resulting “face-off” shall take place at the nearest Neutral Zone Face-off Spot outside the Attacking Zone of the offending Team.

69.7. REBOUNDS AND LOOSE PUCKS

In a rebound situation, or where a Goalkeeper and attacking Player(s) are simultaneously attempting to play a loose puck, whether inside or outside the Goal Crease, “incidental contact” with the Goalkeeper will be permitted, and any goal that is scored as a result thereof will be allowed.

In the event a Goalkeeper has been pushed into the net together with the puck by an attacking Player after making a stop, the goal will be disallowed. If applicable, appropriate penalties will be assessed.

If, however, in the opinion of the Referee, the attacking Player was pushed or otherwise fouled by a defending Player causing the Goalkeeper to be pushed into the net together with the puck, the goal can be permitted.

In the event the puck is under a Player in or around the Goal Crease area (deliberately or otherwise), a goal cannot be scored by pushing this Player together with the puck into the goal. If applicable, the appropriate penalties will be assessed, including a “Penalty Shot” if deemed to be covered in the Goal Crease deliberately.

→ Rule 63 – Delaying the Game.

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69.8. DISCIPLINARY MEASURES

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

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

RULE 70 LEAVING THE PLAYERS' BENCH OR PENALTY BOX

70.1. LEAVING THE PLAYER'S BENCH OR PENALTY BOX

No Player may leave the Players' Bench or Penalty Box at any time during an altercation or for the purpose of starting an altercation.

70.2. LEGAL LINE CHANGE

A Player who has entered the game while play is in progress from – own Players' Bench or legally from the Penalty Box (penalty time has expired) who starts an altercation may be subject to discipline in accordance with Rule 28 – Supplementary Discipline.

A Player or Players who have entered the game on a legal line change during a stoppage of play, who line up in preparation for the ensuing "face-off", and who participate in an altercation shall be penalized under the appropriate rule and will be subject to discipline in accordance with Supplementary Discipline (a Game Misconduct is not automatic in this situation unless provided for as a result of their actions in the altercation).

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

70.3. LEAVING THE PLAYERS' BENCH

Players shall not be permitted to come on the ice during a stoppage of play or at the end of the first and second periods for the purpose of warming-up. The Referee will report any violation of this rule to the Proper Authorities for disciplinary action. Except at the end of each period or for entering the game legally, no Player may, at any time, leave the Players' Bench.

If it is necessary to proceed to the Dressing Room during the course of the game (and when it is required to proceed by way of the ice to access the Dressing Room), the Player must wait for a stoppage of play and ensure there are not altercations in progress before proceeding.

The Player who was the first or second Player to leave the Players' Bench (or Penalty Box) during an altercation or for the purpose of starting an altercation, from either or both Teams shall be assessed a Game Misconduct Penalty.

70.4. LEAVING THE PENALTY BOX

Except at the end of each period or on expiration of their penalty, no Player may, at any time, leave the Penalty Box.

A Player serving a penalty in the Penalty Box, who is to be changed after the penalty has been served, must proceed at once by way of the ice and be at their own Players' Bench before any change can be made.

For any violation of this rule, a Bench Minor Penalty shall be imposed for "too many Players on the ice".

→ [Rule 74 – Too many Players on the Ice.](#)

A penalized Player who leaves the Penalty Box before their penalty has expired, whether play is in progress or not, shall incur an additional Minor Penalty after serving their unexpired penalty.

Any Player who, having entered the Penalty Box, leaves the Penalty Box prior to the expiration of their penalty for the purpose of