

GAME FLOW

85.4. PUCK STRIKING OFFICIAL

Play shall not be stopped if the puck touches an On-ice Official anywhere on the Rink, regardless of whether a Team is “short-handed” or not. A puck that deflects back into the Defending Zone off an On-ice Official who is in the Neutral Zone, will be deemed to be “off-side”.

→ [Rule 83 – Off-side.](#)

The puck striking or deflecting off an On-ice Official does not automatically nullify a “potential icing”.

When a puck deflects off an On-ice Official and goes out of play, the ensuing “face-off” will take place at the Face-off Spot in the zone nearest to where the puck deflected off the Official. If a goal is scored as a result of being deflected directly into the net off an On-ice Official, the goal shall not be allowed.

85.5. FACE-OFF LOCATION

Should any Player cause the puck to go out of play or become “unplayable” in any zone, the “face-off” shall take place at the Face-off Spot in the zone from which the puck was shot. If deflected out of play, at the nearest Face-off Spot in the zone where it deflected out of play. If this stoppage is caused by an attacking player in the attacking zone, the face-off will take place at the closest face-off spot in the attacking zone (if the player did not make an infraction as per → [Rule 63 – delaying the game](#))

If the zone happens to be the Neutral Zone, the Face-off Spot selected shall be the one that gives the offending Team the least amount of “territorial advantage”.

For a puck that is “unplayable” due to being lodged in the netting or as a result of it being “frozen” between opposing Players, the resulting “face-off” shall be at either of the adjacent Face-off Spots or at the nearest Face-off Spot in the zone from which the puck was shot, unless otherwise covered in these rules.

If the attacking Team shoots the puck into the zone and a “Delayed Off-side” is indicated, or if the attacking Team commits a game flow infraction such as contacting the puck with a “high-stick” or “batting the puck with a glove” (causing a stoppage of play), the ensuing “face-off” shall be in the Neutral Zone outside the offending Team’s Attacking Zone.

85.6. MINOR PENALTY

A Minor Penalty for “Delay of Game” shall be imposed on a Goalkeeper who “deliberately” drops the puck on the goal netting to cause a stoppage of play.

→ [Rule 67.3 – Handling the Puck.](#)

85.7. VERIFICATION OF TIME

This rule is identically described under → [Rule 37.8 – Video Review to verify time on clock](#)

RULE 86 START OF GAME AND PERIODS

86.1. START OF GAME AND PERIODS

In game facilities during IIHF Championship events where the participating Teams enter and depart the ice surface using the same common door and hallway system, the procedure is proposed to ensure that the Teams enter and depart the ice surface in an orderly fashion and without incident.

The game clock will be the only timing device used in the timing of all activities including the “pre-game warm-up”, the period intermissions and the actual game itself.

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The game shall be commenced at the time scheduled by a “face-off” in the Center of the Rink and shall be renewed promptly at the conclusion of each intermission in the same manner.

← For more information refer to IIHF Sport Regulations

86.2. BENCH MINOR PENALTY

A Bench Minor Penalty for “Delay of Game” shall be imposed on either or both Teams if:

- (I) They are not on the ice or can be seen proceeding to the ice to start the second, third or any Overtime period when the intermission time on the clock has expired.
- (II) At the start of the second, third and any Overtime period, all Players with the exception of the starting Players must proceed directly to their respective Players’ Benches. Skating, warm-ups or on-ice activities by non-starters is not permitted.
- (III) When the visiting Team must proceed by the way of the ice to their Dressing Room at the end of a period, they must wait for a signal from one of the Officials before proceeding. Failure to wait for the Official’s signal shall result in a penalty.

86.3. CHOICE OF ENDS

If not specified by the organizing bodies, the Home Team shall have the choice of the goal to defend at the start of the game. The Teams shall change ends for each period of regulation time.

← For more information refer to IIHF Sport Regulations

86.4. DELAYS

No delay shall be permitted by reason of any ceremony, exhibition, demonstration or presentation unless approved by the IIHF.

86.5. END OF PERIODS

At the conclusion of the first and second periods, upon hearing the buzzer, the Teams must follow these procedures to leave the ice surface. As soon as the buzzer sounds, signaling the end of the period, the game clock will be immediately re-set with the appropriate intermission time frame.

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.

← For more information refer to IIHF Sport Regulations

86.6. PRE-GAME WARM-UP

During the pre-game warm-up (which shall not exceed 15 minutes in duration) and before the commencement of play in any period, each Team shall confine its activity to its own end of the Rink.

→ Rule 46.10 – Fighting Prior the Drop of the Puck

The Game Timekeeper shall be responsible for signaling the commencement and termination of the pre-game warm-up and any violation of this rule by the Players shall be reported to the Proper Authorities. 20 minutes before the time scheduled for the start of the game, both Teams shall vacate the ice and proceed to their Dressing Rooms while the ice is being flooded. Both Teams shall be signaled by the Game Timekeeper to return to the ice together in time for the scheduled start of the game.

← For more information refer to IIHF Sport Regulations

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86.7. START OF GAME

If a Team does not appear on the ice on time at the start of the game without justification, this incident will be reported to the Proper Authorities. If deemed appropriate, Supplementary Discipline can be applied by the Proper Authorities at their discretion

→ [Rule 28 – Supplementary Discipline](#)

86.8. START OF PERIODS

At the beginning of the second and third periods, and Overtime periods in playoffs (0:00 on the clock), Teams must be on the ice or be observed to be proceeding to the ice. Failure to comply with this regulation will result in a Bench Minor Penalty for “Delay of Game”.

Before the start of the second and third periods (and Overtime) the Teams will proceed directly to their respective Players’ Benches. The visiting Team will immediately place its Skaters at the Face-off Circle, then the Home Team will follow, with the Referee allowing the Home Team to make a line change if so desired prior to the “face-off”. Skating, warm-ups, or on-ice activities by non-starters will result in a Bench Minor Penalty for “Delay of Game” to the offending Team.

No warm-up involving pucks on the ice shall be permitted for a Goalkeeper at the start of any period. If, after one warning, this continues, the Referee shall assess a “Delay of Game” penalty to the offending Team.

To notify the teams that it is time to return to the ice surface at the beginning of each period, the official game Timekeeper will sound a buzzer in the Dressing Room area.

← For more information refer to IIHF Sport Regulations.

86.9. CONCLUSION OF THE GAME

At the conclusion of the game, the losing Team will depart the ice surface first, with the winning Team waiting on the ice until the losing Team has left the ice surface. Once the last player of the losing Team has entered the common hallway, then the Referee will motion the winning team to leave the ice surface.

The Directorate may agree on an adaptation to this regulation taking the positions of the Dressing Rooms of the two competing Teams into consideration.

← For more information refer to IIHF Sport Regulations

RULE 87 TIME-OUTS

87.1. TIME-OUT

Each Team shall be permitted to take one thirty-second (30 s) “time-out” during the course of any game. All Players including Goalkeepers on the ice at the time of the “time-out” will be allowed to go to their respective benches.

This “time-out” must be taken during a normal stoppage of play. Only one “time-out” (“television commercial break” or Team “time-out”), shall be permitted at any one stoppage of play.

For the purpose of this rule, a “television commercial break” is deemed an “official time-out” and not charged to either Team.

Any Player designated by the Coach or the Coach will indicate to the Referee that their Team is exercising its option.

The “time-out” must be requested by the team before the Referee has completed the players change procedure, before the Referee lowers his hand and points to the respecting face-off location.