

SECTION 01

PLAYING AREA



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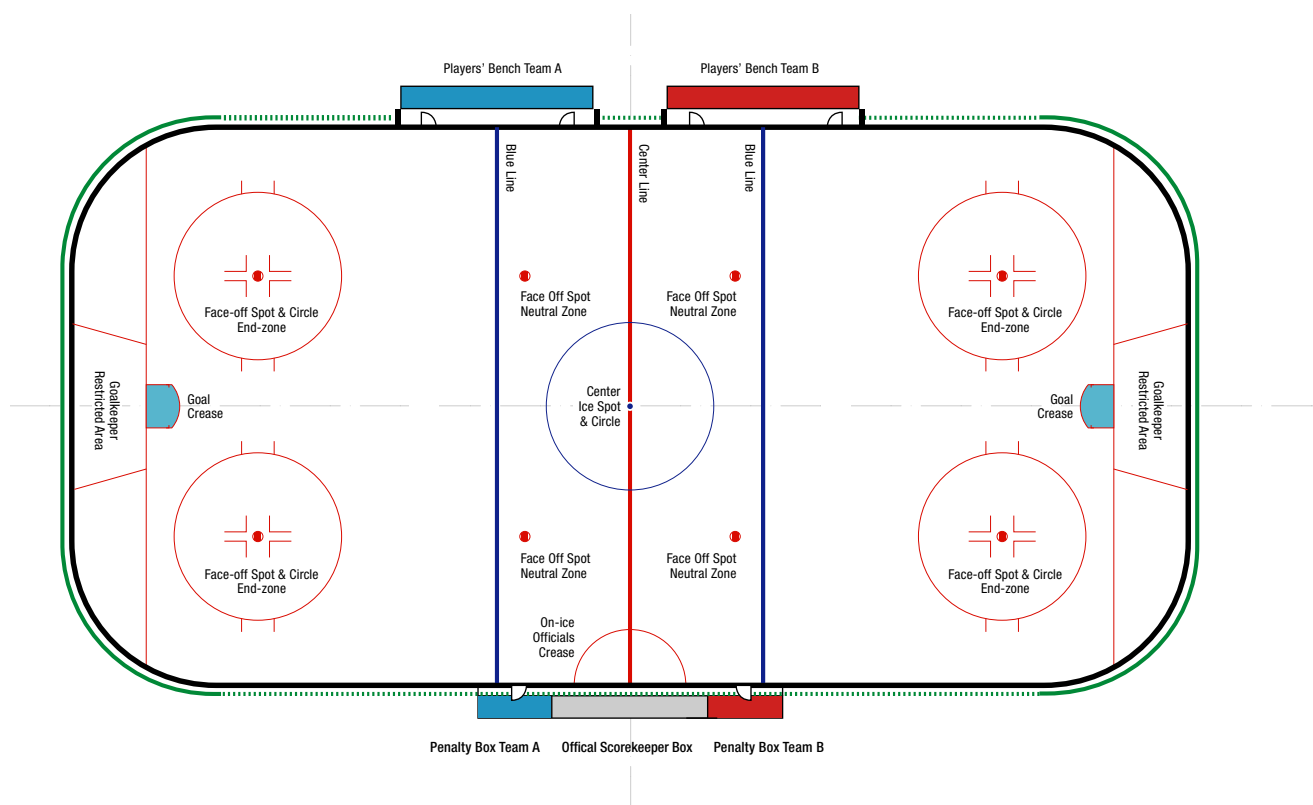
RULE 1 RINK

1.1. RINK

Games under jurisdiction of the IIHF shall be played on an ice surface known as the “Rink” and must adhere to the dimensions and specifications prescribed by the IIHF and these rules.

No ice markings shall be permitted except those provided for under these rules unless express written permission has been obtained from the IIHF. On-ice logos must not interfere with any official ice markings provided for the proper playing of the game.

In the interval between periods, the ice surface shall be flooded unless mutually agreed to the contrary.



1.2. DIMENSIONS

The official size of the Rink shall be 60 m (197 ft) long and 26 m to 30 m (82 ft to 98 ft, 5 in) wide. The corners shall be rounded in the arc of a circle with a radius of 7.0 m to 8.50 m (23 ft to 28 ft). Any deviations from these dimensions for any IIHF competition require IIHF approval.

→ For more information refer to Appendix VI – Infographics.

1.3. BOARDS AND PROTECTIVE GLASS

The Rink shall be surrounded by a wall known as the “Boards”. The ideal height of the boards above the ice surface shall be 1.07 m (42 in). Except for the official markings provided for in these rules, the entire playing surface and the Boards shall be white in color except the “Kick Plate” at the bottom of the Boards, which shall be light yellow in color. Any variations from any of the foregoing dimensions shall require official authorization by the IIHF.

The Boards shall be constructed in such a manner that the surface facing the ice shall be smooth and free of any obstruction or any object that could cause injury to Players. Affixed to the Boards and extending vertically shall be an approved “Protective Glass”

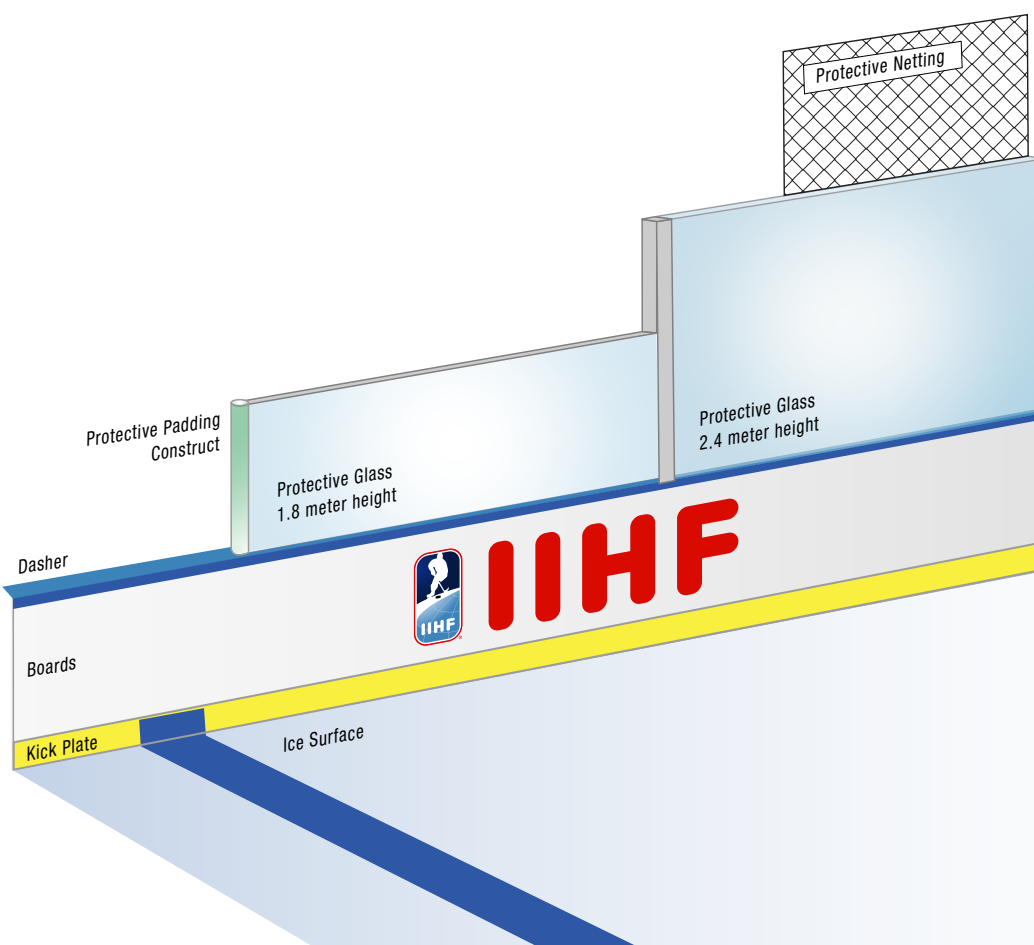
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construction. The height above the Boards behind the Goals must be 2.4 m (8 ft) and must extend at least 4.0 m (13 ft) from the “Goal Line” towards the Blue Line. The height above the Boards along the sides must be 1.8 m (6 ft), except in front of the Players’ Benches. Protective Glass shall be required in front of the Penalty Boxes.

The Protective Glass and gear to hold them in position shall be properly padded or protected and mounted on the Boards on the side away from the playing surface including the “Protective Netting” outlined in:

→ For more information refer to [Appendix VI – Infographics](#).

← For more information refer to [IIHF Rink Guide](#).



1.4. PROTECTIVE NETTING

Protective Netting shall be hung in the ends of the Arena, of a height, type, and in a manner approved by the IIHF.

The Protective Netting must be suspended above the “End-zone” Protective Glass behind both Goals and must extend around the Rink at least to where the Goal Line meets the Boards.

The Protective Netting is to be installed in such a way that it protects the top bench row viewer. Thus, the height of the Protective Netting is determined by the height of the Rink and the settings of the top row of benches.

→ For more information refer to [Appendix VI – Infographics](#).

← For more information refer to [IIHF Rink Guide](#).

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1.5. LINES

Goal Lines:

A red line, 5 cm (2 in) wide, shall be drawn across the entire width of the ice surface, 4.0 m (13 ft) from each end of the ice surface and continued vertically along the side of the Boards. This line shall be referred to as the "Goal Line". The Goal posts and nets shall be set in such a manner as to remain stationary during the process of the game.

Goal Crease:

In front of each Goal, an area shall be marked by a red line 5 cm (2 in) wide, named as the "Goal Crease".

Blue Lines:

The ice surface between the Goals shall be divided into three (3) zones by lines, 30 cm (12 in) in width, and blue in color, and extended completely across the Rink, parallel with the Goal Lines, and continued vertically up the side of the Boards, named as the "Blue Lines". In case advertising is allowed on the Boards, the lines must be marked at least on the Kick Plate.

Center Line:

Another line, 30 cm (12 in) in width and red in color, drawn completely across the Rink on center ice, parallel with the Goal Lines and continued vertically up the side of the Boards, named as the "Center Line". In case advertising is allowed on the Boards, the lines must be marked at least on the Kick Plate.

→ For more information refer to Appendix VI – Infographics.

1.6. DIVISION OF ICE SURFACE

Defending Zone:

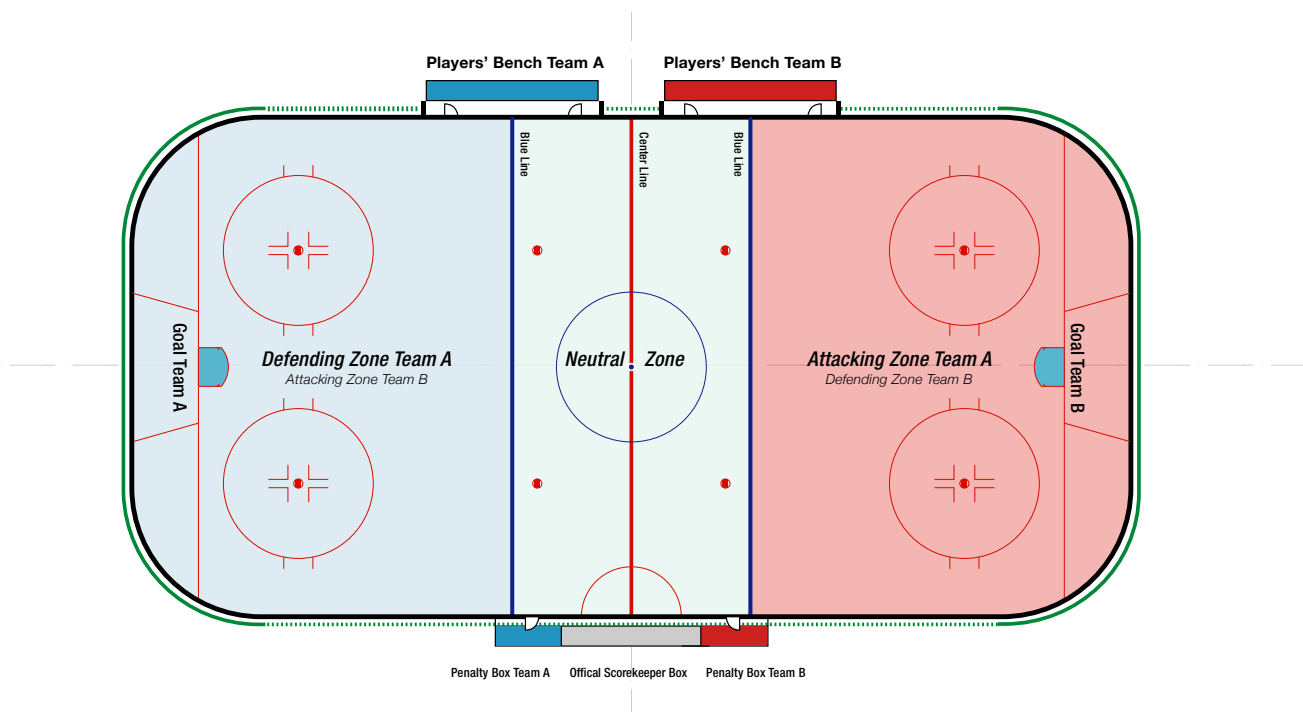
The portion of the ice surface in which the Goal is situated shall be called the "Defending Zone" of the Team defending that goal.

Neutral Zone:

The central portion shall be known as the "Neutral Zone".

Attacking Zone:

The portion farthest from the defended Goal shall be the "Attacking Zone".



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1.7. GOAL CREASE / ON-ICE OFFICIALS' CREASE

Goal Crease (markings on the ice surface):

In front of each goal frame, one goal crease shall be marked by a red line.

→ For more information refer to Appendix VI – Infographics.

Goal Crease Area/ Space:

The Goal Crease Area includes all of the space outlined by the crease lines and extends vertically until the top of the crossbar.

→ For more information refer to Appendix VI – Infographics.

On-ice Official Crease:

In front of the Official Scorekeepers' Box, a semi-circular area is marked on the ice surface, called the "On-ice Officials Crease".

A 5 cm (2 in) wide red line with a radius of 3.0 m (10 ft) marks this crease area.

→ For more information refer to Appendix VI – Infographics.

1.8. GOALKEEPER'S RESTRICTED AREA

Behind each goal, a trapezoidal area is marked on the ice surface, called the "Goalkeeper Restricted Area". The two 5 cm (2 in) wide red lines mark the restricted area between the Goal Line and the Boards behind the Goal. The outside dimension of the marking along the Goal Line is 6.80 m and along the Boards is 8.60 m, and the lines continue vertically on the kick plate.

→ For more information refer to Appendix VI – Infographics.

1.9. FACE-OFF SPOTS AND CIRCLES

Face-off Spot and Circle at Center Ice:

A circular blue spot, 30 cm (12 in) in diameter, shall be marked exactly in the center of the Rink. This spot shall be referred to as the "Center Ice Face-off Spot". With this spot as a center, a circle of 4.50 m (15 ft) radius shall be marked with a blue Line 5 cm (2 in) wide.

Face-off Spots in the Neutral Zone:

Two (2) red spots, 60 cm (24 in) in diameter, shall be marked on the ice in the Neutral Zone 1.50 m (5 ft) from each Blue Line. These four (4) spots shall be referred to as the "Neutral-zone Face-off Spots".

Within the Face-off Spot, draw two parallel lines 8 cm (3 in) from the top and bottom of the spot. The area within the two lines shall be painted red, the remainder shall be painted white. The spots shall be 14.0 m (44 ft) apart and each shall be a uniform distance from the adjacent Boards.

Face-off Spots and Circles in the End-Zones (Attacking and Defending Zone):

In both End-zones and on both sides of each goal, red Face-off Spots and circles shall be marked on the ice.

The Face-off Spots shall be 60 cm (24 in) in diameter. These four (4) spots shall be referred to as the "End-zone Face-off Spots".

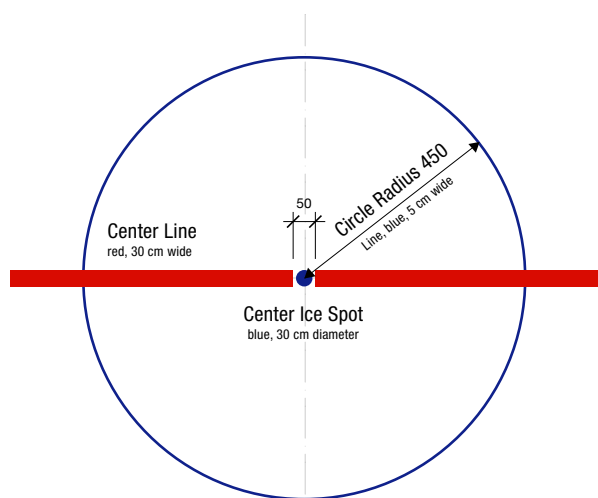
Within the Face-off Spot, draw two parallel lines 8 cm (3 in) from the top and bottom of the spot. The area within the two lines shall be painted red, the remainder shall be painted white.

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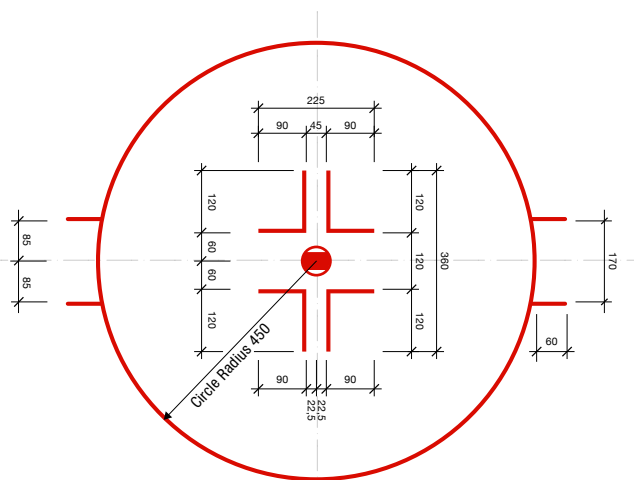
The circles shall be marked with a red line 5 cm (2 in) wide with a radius of 4.50 m (15 ft) from the center of the Face-off Spots. At the outer edge of both sides of each Face-off Circle and parallel to the “Goal Line”, two red lines 5 cm (2 in) wide and 60 cm (2 ft) in length and 1.70 m (5 ft, 7 in) apart shall be marked.

30 cm (1 ft) away from the outer edge of the Face-off Spot, two red lines 5 cm (2 in) wide shall be drawn parallel with the side Boards that shall be 1.20 m (4 ft') in length and 45 cm (1 ft, 10 in) apart. Parallel to the end Boards, commencing at the end of the line nearest to the Face-off Spot, a red line 5 cm (2 in) wide shall extend 90 cm (3 ft) in length.

→ For more information refer to Appendix VI – Infographics



FACE-OFF SPOT AND CIRCLE AT CENTER ICE



FACE-OFF SPOT AND CIRCLE END ZONES

1.10. ICE CLEANING

Aside from the normal ice resurfacing that is performed during the intermissions between each period of play. If applicable, additional snow removal activities shall be performed.

← For more information refer to IIHF Sport Regulations

RULE 2 GOAL POSTS AND NETS

2.1. GOAL POSTS

Each Rink must have two (2) “Goal Nets”, one at either end of the Rink. The “Goal Net” is comprised of a Goal frame and netting. The open end of the goal net must face Center ice.

Each Goal Net must be located in the center of the Goal Line at either end and must be installed in such manner as to remain stationary during the progress of the game. The Goal posts must be kept in position by means of flexible pegs affixed in the ice or floor, but which displace the Goal Net from its moorings upon significant contact.

The holes for the goal pegs must be located exactly on the Goal Line.

The Goal posts shall be of an approved design and material, extending vertically 1.22 m (48 in) above the surface of the ice and set 1.83 m (72 in) apart measured from the inside of the posts. A crossbar of the same material as the Goal posts shall extend from the top of one post to the top of the other. The Goal posts and crossbar shall be painted in red color and all other exterior surfaces shall be painted in white color.

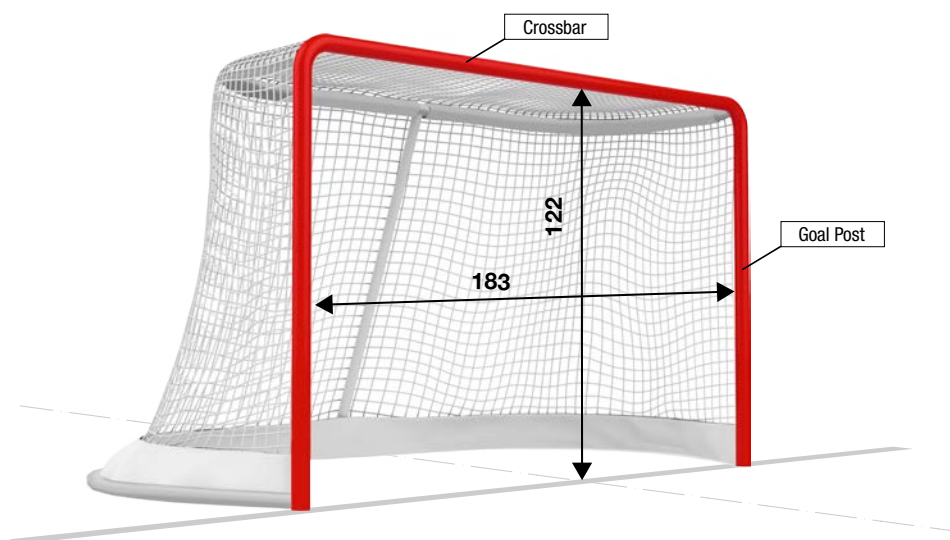
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2.2. GOAL NETS

A net of an approved design shall be attached to each Goal frame and made of white nylon cord, which shall be draped in such a manner as to prevent the puck coming to rest on the outside of it yet strung in a manner that will keep the puck in the net. A skirt of heavy white nylon fabric or heavyweight white canvas shall be laced around the base plate of the goal frame in such a way as to protect the Goal net from being cut or broken.

This protective padding must be attached in a manner that will not restrict the puck from completely crossing the Goal Line.

This padding must be set back 15 cm (6 in) from the inside of the Goal post. This skirt shall not project more than 2.5 cm (1 in) above the base plate. The frame of the Goal shall be draped with a nylon mesh net to completely enclose the back of the frame.



RULE 3 BENCHES

3.1. PLAYERS' BENCHES

Each Rink shall be provided with seats or benches for the use by Players of both Teams. The only people allowed on or at the Players' Benches are the dressed Players and not more than eight (8) persons, including Coach and team personnel. Teams must use the same Player's Bench for the duration of a game. The accommodations provided, including benches and doors, must be uniform for both Teams.

The Players' Benches shall be placed immediately alongside the ice as near to the center of the Rink as possible. Two (2) doors for each Players' Bench must be uniform in location and size and as conveniently close to the Dressing Rooms as possible.

Each Players' Bench should be 10 m (33 ft) in length and 1.50 m in width (5 ft) and when situated in the spectator area, shall be separated from the spectators by a Protective Glass to afford the necessary protection for the Players and Team Personnel.

The Players' Benches shall be on the same side of the playing surface opposite the Penalty Box and should be separated by a substantial distance, if possible.

Note: The designated Home Team is entitled to its choice of Players' Bench if not otherwise defined. At IIHF Championships, the respective Player's Benches will be assigned to the respective Teams.

→ For more information refer to Appendix VI – Infographics.

← For more information refer to IIHF Sport Regulations.

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3.2. PENALTY BOX

Each Rink must be provided with benches or seats to be known as the “Penalty Box”.

Separate Penalty Boxes shall be provided for each Team and they shall be situated on the opposite sides directly across the ice from their Players' Benches. Teams must use the “Penalty Box” opposite their Players' Bench and must use the same “Penalty Box” for the duration of a game.

Each “Penalty Box” should be at least 4.0 m (13 ft) in length and 1.50 m in width (5 ft) and shall be separated from the spectators by a Protective Glass to afford the necessary protection for the Players.

Each Penalty Box must be of the same size and quality, offering no advantage to either Team in any manner and must have only one door for both entry and exit and must be operated only by the “Penalty Box Attendant”.

Only the Penalty Box Attendant, penalized Skaters, and Game Officials are allowed access to the Penalty Boxes.

→ For more information refer to Appendix VI – Infographics

RULE 4 SIGNAL AND TIMING DEVICES

4.1. SIGNAL DEVICES

Each Rink must be provided with a suitable sound device that will sound automatically at the conclusion of each period of play. Should the sound device fail to sound automatically when time expires, the determining factor as to whether the period has ended shall be the Game Clock.

← For more information refer to IIHF Technology Codes & Regulations.

4.2. TIMING DEVICES

Each Rink shall be provided with some form of electronic game clock for the purpose of keeping the spectators, Players, Team Personnel and Game Officials accurately informed as to all time elements at all stages of the game including the time remaining to be played in any period and the time remaining to be served by penalized Players on each Team.

The game clock is activated by facing-off of the puck by an On-ice Official and shall be stopped by the whistle of an Off-ice Official. Time recording for both game time and penalty time shall show time remaining to be played or served.

The Game Time Clock shall measure the time remaining in tenths ($1/10$) of a second during the last minute of each period.

← For more information refer to IIHF Technology Codes & Regulations