

SECTION 12

JUNIOR ICE HOCKEY

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RULE 200 MEN'S JUNIOR HOCKEY – AGE CATEGORIES

200.1. DEFINITION MEN'S JUNIOR HOCKEY AGE CATEGORIES

According to the IIHF Statutes and Bylaws, the Player eligibility and age categories are defined as follows:

“Under 20” Age Category

The players participating in any IIHF Ice Hockey U20 World Championship must be eligible to compete as a male athlete of the male gender and be no younger than fifteen (15) years of age, and no older than twenty (20) years of age, on December 31 of the year in which the Championship Season ends. No under-age waiver is permitted.

“Under 18” Age Category

The players participating in any IIHF Ice Hockey U18 World Championship must be eligible to compete as a male athlete and be no younger than fifteen (15) years of age, and no older than eighteen (18) years of age, by December 31 of the year in which the Championship Season ends. No under-age waiver is permitted.

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

RULE 201 MEN'S JUNIOR HOCKEY – SPECIFIC PLAYING RULES

201.1. ASSESSMENT OF PENALTIES – MEN'S JUNIOR “UNDER 20” AND “UNDER 18” AGE CATEGORIES

Any Player who commits a foul that is assessed a Major Penalty will also receive in any case an additional Game Misconduct Penalty and will be ejected from the game.

RULE 202 MEN'S JUNIOR HOCKEY – SPECIFIC EQUIPMENT RULES

→ For more information refer to Appendix III – Ice Hockey Equipment



VISOR PROTECTION



CAGE PROTECTION



FULL PROTECTION

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202.1. FACIAL PROTECTION – MEN'S JUNIOR HOCKEY "UNDER 20" – AGE CATEGORY

All Players participating in the "Under 20" age category must wear facial protection as described under rule 9.6 and 9.7

→ [Rule 9.6 – Helmets.](#)

→ [Rule 9.7 – Facial Protection.](#)

Players without the mentioned protection are not allowed to participate in a game.

Younger Players in the "Under 18" age category who participate in the "Under 20" age category must wear the protective equipment as specified and described for the "Under 18" age category.

202.2. FACIAL PROTECTION – MEN'S JUNIOR HOCKEY "UNDER 18" – AGE CATEGORY

All Players participating in the "Under 18" age category must wear a full-face protection (full-visor or cage), properly fixed to the helmet. It must be fixed to the helmet along the sides such that it cannot be flipped up.

→ [Rule 9.6 – Helmets.](#)

→ [Rule 9.7 – Facial Protection.](#)

A Player whose full-face protection becomes cracked or broken during game action must leave the ice immediately. All Goalkeepers in this "Under 18" age category must wear a facemask constructed in such a way that neither a puck nor a stick blade can penetrate the openings. Players without the mentioned protection are not allowed to participate in a game.

202.3. MOUTHGUARD – MEN'S JUNIOR HOCKEY "UNDER 20" – AGE CATEGORY

All Players in the "Under 20" age category must wear a mouthguard, preferably of the custom-made variety, if they are not wearing a full-face protection (full-visor or cage).

→ [Rule 9.13 – Mouthguard.](#)

The mouthguard is designed to protect the teeth and jaws from impact and may also serve to reduce the risk of concussions.

Players must wear this mouthguard in a compliant manner at all times when on the ice. It is not allowed to wear the mouthguard not completely in the mouth (e.g. to chew on it).

Younger Players in the "Under 18" age category who participate in the "Under 20" age category must wear the protective equipment as specified and described for the "Under 18" age category – refer to Rule 202.4 – Junior Hockey – Specific Equipment Rules.

Players without the mentioned protection are not allowed to participate in a game.

202.4. MOUTHGUARD – MEN'S JUNIOR HOCKEY "UNDER 18" – AGE CATEGORY

It is strongly recommended that all Players in the "Under 18" age category wear a mouthguard, preferably custom-made. There is no obligation to wear as they wear a full-face protection (full visor or cage).

→ [Rule 9.13 – Mouthguard.](#)

The mouthguard is designed to protect the teeth and jaws from impact and may also serve to reduce the risk of concussions. It is recommended to wear this mouthguard in a compliant manner at all times when on the ice.

202.5. NECK- AND THROAT PROTECTORS – MEN'S JUNIOR HOCKEY "UNDER 20" – AGE CATEGORY

All Players must wear a certified Neck- and Throat Protection.

→ [Rule 9.12 – Neck- and Throat Protector.](#)

Players without the mentioned protection are not allowed to participate in a game.

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A Goalkeeper is allowed to attach a throat protector to the chin of their facemask. It must be made of a material that will not cause injury.

202.6. NECK- AND THROAT PROTECTORS – MEN'S JUNIOR HOCKEY "UNDER 18" – AGE CATEGORY

All Players must wear a certified Neck- and Throat Protection.

→ Rule 9.12 – Neck- and Throat Protector.

Players without the mentioned protection are not allowed to participate in a game.

A Goalkeeper is allowed to attach a throat protector to the chin of their facemask. It must be made of a material that will not cause injury.

202.7. HELMET / EAR-PROTECTION – MEN'S JUNIOR HOCKEY "UNDER 20" – AGE CATEGORY

Players must wear the ear-protection, attached to their helmets.

→ Rule 9.6 – Helmets.

Players without the mentioned protection are not allowed to participate in a game.

202.8. HELMET / EAR-PROTECTION – MEN'S JUNIOR HOCKEY "UNDER 18" – AGE CATEGORY

Players must wear the ear-protection, attached to their helmets.

→ Rule 9.6 – Helmets.

Players without the mentioned protection are not allowed to participate in a game.

202.9. PROCEDURE – NON-COMPLIANCE WITH PROTECTION EQUIPMENT

The On-ice officials will respond appropriately if a player on the ice is not wearing their protection equipment in accordance with the rules (e.g., visor pushed up, face protection not properly attached, removed ear-protection, etc.).

The On-ice officials will respond appropriately when a Player who is required to wear a mouthguard is obviously not wearing it while on the ice. The Game Officials will then take the offending Player to the appropriate Player's Bench and issue a warning to the Team through the Coach. The Game Officials shall also inform the other Team and warn them as well.

Both teams are now warned that Players requested to wear the protection equipment properly.

The next Player found not to be wearing the protection equipment not in accordance with the rule shall be penalized with a ten-minute (10') Misconduct Penalty.