

SECTION 02

# TEAMS



# 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.

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## RULE 6 CAPTAIN AND ALTERNATE CAPTAINS

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### 6.1. CAPTAIN

One (1) Captain shall be appointed by each Team, and they alone shall have the privilege of discussing with the Referees any questions relating to interpretation of rules which may arise during the progress of a Game.

The Captain shall wear the letter “C,” approximately 8 cm (3 in) in height and in contrasting color, in a conspicuous position on the front of their jersey. No “Co-Captains” are permitted. One (1) Captain and no more than two (2) Alternate Captains are permitted – see Rule 6.2 – Alternate Captains.

Any Captain, Alternate Captain or any Player who comes off the Players’ Bench and makes any protest or intervention with the Officials for any purpose shall be assessed a Minor Penalty for “Unsportsmanlike Conduct”.

→ [Rule 39 - Abuse of Officials.](#)

Should this protest continue, they may be assessed a Misconduct Penalty, and if it further continues, a Game Misconduct Penalty shall be assessed.

A complaint about a penalty is not a matter “relating to the interpretation of the rules” and a Minor Penalty shall be imposed against any Captain, Alternate Captain or any other Player making such a complaint.

The Referee and Official Scorekeeper shall be advised, prior to the start of each game, the name of the Captain and the Alternate Captains of both Teams.

A team cannot change its Captain or Alternate Captains during a game. If a Captain is ejected from a game or cannot play the entire game because of an injury, one of the Alternate Captains must assume their duties.

If both the Captain and Alternate Captain are on the ice, only the Captain is allowed to talk to the Referee about a point of interpretation. If either the Captain or the Alternate Captain comes off the Players Bench, uninvited by the Referee, they shall be penalized accordingly.

No playing Coach or playing Team Manager or Goalkeeper shall be permitted to act as Captain or Alternate Captain.

→ [Rule 39 - Abuse of Officials.](#)

### 6.2. ALTERNATE CAPTAINS

If the Captain is not on the ice, an Alternate Captain on the ice shall be accorded the privileges of the Captain.

Alternate Captains shall wear the letter “A” approximately 8 cm (3 in) in height and in contrasting color, in a conspicuous position on the front of their jerseys.

## RULE 7 STARTING LINE-UP

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### 7.1. STARTING LINE-UP

This rule does not apply at IIHF Championships.

### 7.2. VIOLATION

This rule does not apply at IIHF Championships.

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## RULE 8 INJURED PLAYERS

### 8.1. INJURED PLAYER

When a Player is injured or compelled to leave the ice during a Game, they may retire from the Game and be replaced by a substitute, but play must continue without the Teams leaving the ice.

During the play, if an injured Player wishes to retire from the ice and be replaced by a substitute, they must do so at the Players' Bench and not through any other exit leading from the Rink. This is not a legal Player change and therefore when a violation occurs, a Bench-minor Penalty shall be imposed.

If a penalized Player has been injured, they may proceed to the Dressing Room without taking a seat in the Penalty Box. The penalized Team shall immediately put a substitute Player in the Penalty Box, who shall serve the penalty until the injured Player is able to return to the game. They would replace their Teammate in the Penalty Box at the next stoppage of play.

For violation of this rule, a Bench Minor Penalty shall be imposed.

Should the injured penalized Player who has been replaced in the Penalty Box return to their Players' Bench prior to the expiration of their penalty, they shall not be eligible to play until their penalty has expired. 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. If, however, there is a stoppage of play prior to the expiration of their penalty, they must then replace their Teammate in the Penalty Box and is then eligible to return once their penalty has expired.

When a Player is injured so that they cannot continue play or go to their Players' Bench, the play shall not be stopped until the injured Player's Team has secured control of the puck. If the Player's Team is in "control of the puck" at the time of injury, play shall be stopped immediately unless their Team is in a scoring position.

In the case where it is obvious that a Player has sustained a serious injury, the Referee and/or Linesperson may stop the play immediately. Where an injury has occurred to a Player and there is a stoppage of play, a Team Doctor (or other Medical Personnel) may go onto the ice to attend to the injured Player without waiting for the Referee's consent.

When play has been stopped by the Referee or Linesperson due to an injured Player, or whenever an injured Player is attended to on the ice by the Coach or Medical Personnel, such Player must be substituted for immediately. This injured Player cannot return to the ice until play has resumed.

When play is stopped for an injured Player, the ensuing "face-off" shall be conducted at the Face-off Spot in the zone nearest the location of the puck when the play was stopped.

When the injured Player's Team has control of the puck in the Attacking Zone, the "face-off" shall be conducted at the nearest Face-off Spot in the Neutral Zone.

When the injured Player is in their Defending Zone and the attacking Team is in "possession of the puck" in the Attacking Zone, the "face-off" shall be conducted at the nearest Face-off Spot in the defending Team's zone.

A player who lies on the ice either feigning an injury or refusing to get up off the ice will be issued a Minor Penalty.

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## 8.2. INJURED GOALKEEPER

If a Goalkeeper sustains an injury or becomes ill, they must be ready to resume play immediately or be replaced by a substitute Goalkeeper and no additional time shall be allowed for the purpose of enabling the injured or ill Goalkeeper to resume their position. No warm-up shall be permitted for a substitute Goalkeeper in any game.

The substitute Goalkeeper shall be subject to the regular rules governing Goalkeepers and shall be entitled to the same privileges.

When a substitution for the injured Goalkeeper has been made, the injured Goalkeeper is not allowed to resume the position until the next stoppage of play. For a violation of the rule, a Minor Penalty for “Delay of Game” shall be assessed.

When play has been stopped by the Referee or Linesperson due to an injured Goalkeeper, such Goalkeeper must be substituted for only if they have to proceed to the Players’ Bench to receive medical attention.

Where an injury has occurred to a Goalkeeper and there is a stoppage of play, a Team Doctor (or other Medical Personnel) may go onto the ice to attend to the injured Player without waiting for the Referee’s consent.

If the Doctor or Medical Personnel has come onto the ice to attend to the Goalkeeper and there is no undue delay, the Goalkeeper may remain in the game. However, no additional time shall be permitted by the Referee for the purpose of enabling the injured Goalkeeper to resume their position (i.e., no warm-up).

## 8.3. BLOOD

A Player who is bleeding or who has visible blood on their equipment or body shall be ruled off the ice at the next stoppage of play. Such Player shall not be permitted to return to play until the bleeding has been stopped and the cut or abrasion has been covered (if necessary). It is required that any affected equipment and/or uniform be properly disinfected or exchanged.