

2020-2021



HEO Code of Discipline (Minor Hockey)

DISCIPLINE Policy

1.0 Regulations Governing Discipline

All minimum discipline shall be as outlined in this HEO Code of Discipline (Minor Hockey).

2.0 Purpose

The purpose of this Code of Discipline is to:

- a) Ensure that HEO, District, Association, League, Club, Minor Hockey executive, employees and administrators, team officials, registered players, on ice officials and minor officials, parents and guardians, volunteers, spectators and non-HEO sanctioned participants who are granted permission to play within HEO's boundary and participate in events are aware of the serious nature of rule offences;
- b) Apply a common minimum standard of Discipline across the Branch for offences of a similar nature and
- c) Make everyone as noted herein more aware of their responsibilities to maintain control and the proper conduct of their teams, and the application of Discipline where warranted.

3.0 Definitions

Meaningful game – these are league, playoffs, tournament and playdown games. Forfeit games are not considered a meaningful game.

Exhibition and all-star games shall not be played or used for serving suspensions under any circumstances.

Off-ice official(s) - are officials who serve in such positions as timekeeper, score keeper and penalty box attendant.

Offender – any player, team, team official(s), District, Association, League official(s), on ice official, minor officials, minor hockey executive, administrators, volunteers and other as outlined in Section 2.0 (a).

4.0 Applying the Code of Discipline

- a) This Code of Discipline applies to all HEO Minor hockey participants, volunteers, employees and others as outlined in Section 2.0 (a) for all minor hockey related matters, including all games (league, playoff, tournament, exhibition and playdown games) and sanctioned events in the following game situations:

<i>Game Misconduct</i>	<i>Fighting</i>	<i>Match Misconduct</i>
------------------------	-----------------	-------------------------



Checking From Behind	Gross Misconduct
----------------------	------------------

- b) A team playing in an out-of-branch tournament must abide by the out-of-branch's code of discipline for the tournament's duration. When players or team officials return to HEO with outstanding suspensions remaining to be served from the out-of-branch tournament, the suspension must be served to completion in accordance with the out-of-branch tournament's code of discipline. When players or team officials incur suspensions during out-of-branch exhibition games, the HEO Code of Discipline (Minor Hockey) shall apply.

When an HEO Minor Hockey player or team official incurs an out-of-branch suspension that is an accumulating HEO Minor Hockey infraction, the player or team official must additionally serve the designated number of meaningful games in accordance with the HEO Code of Discipline (Minor Hockey).

Example:

A branch player has previously received and served a GM20 1st Offense Minimum Game Suspension (two meaningful games) prior to the out-of-branch tournament.

A player incurs a GM20 while at an out-of-branch tournament. The player serves the GM20 in accordance with the out-of-tournament's code of discipline. However, according to the HEO Code of Discipline (Minor Hockey) (HEO Minor Hockey Infractions –Minimum Game Suspensions Chart), the player will have accumulated their 2nd GM20 offense, which requires that an additional four games be served plus attend a District Hearing before returning to play.

5.0 Authority

- a) The District Chairperson or their delegate(s) administers the Code of Discipline and advises the appropriate District Chairperson of incidents resulting from tournaments and games when the offender is from another District.

6.0 Types of Suspension

- a) Game Specified – the offender is removed from specified number of meaningful games.
- b) Time Specified – the offender is removed from all contact with organized hockey, including practices, exhibition games, etc., for a specified period of time.
- c) When there is a combination of a Time Specified and Game Specified suspension, meaningful games missed during the time suspension shall count as part of the game specified suspension.

Multiple Suspensions (e.g. game misconduct + gross misconduct, etc.) must be served consecutively.

7.0 Serving Suspensions

- a) Time Specified Suspension results in the offender being suspended from all hockey activities immediately and the time specified period commences at twelve midnight of the day in which the suspension is assessed, e.g. match penalty assessed at 3:00 p.m., under suspension for rest of the day and the time suspension begins at twelve midnight.
- b) Game Specified Suspension results in the offender being suspended immediately from the game that the penalty was assessed and the game(s) specified shall begin with the team's next meaningful game.
- c) Any person under suspension shall not participate in any game(s) including exhibition game(s) and Branch League All-Star games until such suspension has been served in full. All suspensions must be served consecutively.
- d) Refer to your District Chairperson for serving carry over suspensions in the event that all league and tournament play is completed for the current season.
- e) Players and team officials serving "game specific suspensions" from the previous season may, with permission, participate in team tryouts including preseason exhibition games. The suspension would begin at 12:01am of the day of the first meaningful game of the team the player/team official is registered with.
- f) Players and team officials receiving suspensions in preseason, tryout, or exhibition games, may have the suspension deferred to begin at twelve midnight of the day of the first meaningful game for the team the offender is registered. For the second or subsequent offence, a formal hearing must be held by the respective HEO Minor Hockey Discipline official before any further deferrals are permitted.



- g) A player playing as an Affiliated Player serves their suspension with their registered team.
- h) When attending an out of branch tournament an Affiliated Player is deemed to be a full member of that team during that tournament in order for him to serve suspensions with that team

8.0 Minimum Suspensions

- a) The minimum suspensions listed in the Code of Discipline will be applied and if the District Chairperson or the District's Discipline and Appeals Committee finds that the offence warrants a more stringent suspension, they can change the suspension to suit. Suspensions can be increased but not decreased without the approval of the HEO Minor Council Discipline and Appeals Committee.
- b) Suspensions are described with charts for ease of use and understanding.
- c) Any 5 minute penalty(ies) received will incur an automatic Game Misconduct and the offender will be subject to suspension as per the HEO Code of Discipline (Minor Hockey).

To determine the suspension for an offence, refer to the appropriate HEO Minor Hockey Infraction chart.

Note: The following offences are set by the HEO Minor Council Discipline and Appeals Committee.

Refer to the Chart at the following link :

<http://www.heominor.ca/system/files/HEO%20Minor%20Code%20of%20Discipline%20Chart%202021-22.pdf>

8.1 Any Incident or Behavior Detrimental to Hockey

- a) Any person found guilty of any incident or behavior detrimental to hockey can be suspended from all hockey activities.

8.2 Physical Abuse of Officials (Rule 9.6 A, B & C)

- a) The offender shall be automatically suspended from all Hockey activities under the jurisdiction of Hockey Canada, and HEO until a decision has been rendered by the HEO Minor Council Discipline and Appeals Committee.
- b) All 9.6 A, B, and C that are called, will be investigated by the HEO Minor Hockey Referee-In-Chief or his designate, and report the results to the Chairperson of the HEO Minor Council D & A Committee.

8.3 Refusing to Start Play

The team officials and/or players of a team that refuses to start or continue play in any game will be charged under rule 10.14 and will be suspended indefinitely until they appear before the HEO Minor Council D&A Committee. The offenders may be suspended for up to one year or more.

9.0 Reporting Suspensions

- a) All game sheets (including league, playoff, exhibition and tournament games) are to be signed by a Hockey Canada registered team official and such signature shall certify that all players and team officials agree to abide by Hockey Canada, and HEO Bylaws, Policies and Playing Rules.
- b) Referee's Role
 - i) Verifies and corrects the game sheets, then signs and distributes the copies as follows. Two to the home team (team copy 1 and league or tournament copy 3), one to the visiting team, (team copy 2), and retains the referee's copy (copy 4) for himself until May 12 in each season.
 - ii) Ensures that the incident is fully documented (written up) on the HEO web based HEO Official Game Incident Report within 24 hours of the infraction. All penalties listed under the Code of Discipline are to be documented.
 - iii) Provides a copy of the game sheet (fax or email) to the HEO office within 24 hours for any Physical Abuse of Officials violation (Currently Rule 9.6).
- c) Coach's Role



- i) The head coach is responsible for ensuring without further notice from anyone that the player(s) and/or team official(s) serve the minimum suspension outlined in the code of discipline. The head coach shall advise the District Chairperson or his designate and league official within 24 hours of any offences under the code of Discipline suspensions.
 - ii) The head coach shall retain their copy of the game sheet for future reference if required during the current season (the season ends May 12th). They shall forward a copy of any game sheet that contains any Code of Discipline penalties that their team has incurred to their District designate as directed either electronically (by email, fax or scanned Adobe Acrobat) or hard copy. The Home team Head Coach forwards to the League a copy in the manner that the league has prescribed.
 - iii) Any Head Coach or team official who permits a player/team official to participate in a game while under suspension shall be suspended pending the results of an HEO Minor Hockey D&A Committee hearing.
 - iv) A Head Coach or team official that plays an *illegal* player is suspended pending the results of an HEO Minor Council D&A Committee hearing.
 - v) The Head Coach is responsible for all administrative tasks and actions for the team and its members
- d) League Official's Role
- i) Retain their copy of the game sheet during the current hockey season for reference. Provide a copy to their District designate should one be required. Promptly report and discuss any concerns they have regarding serving suspensions to the appropriate District Chairperson and/or the HEO Minor Council D&A Chairperson.
- e) District's Role
- i) The District Chair ensures the administration of suspensions as outlined by the HEO Code of Discipline (Minor Hockey) and their District. They shall forward game sheets for any hearing being held by the HEO Minor Council D&A Committee to the HEO office upon request. They shall provide a monthly report of suspensions to each Association.
- f) Player's Role
- i) Serves their suspension as prescribed by the HEO Code of Discipline (Minor Hockey).
 - i) Does not participate in any games (or sanctioned team related events, as applicable) while under suspension.

10.0 Discipline and Appeals

- a) Appeals involving Risk and Safety are to be sent to the HEO Director of Risk & Safety.
- b)
 - i) Appeals of a suspension arising from the HEO Code of Discipline (Minor Hockey) shall be made in writing within 72 hours of the infraction. Appeals of this nature must be forwarded to the HEO Office and the Chairperson, HEO Minor Council Discipline and Appeals Committee along with the appropriate appeal fee. The appeal fee will be set each year in the HEO budget to reflect the actual historical costs of appeals. All appeals based on the Code of Discipline must also be communicated to the appellant's Association President and District Chairperson within the 72 hour time limit. The District Chairperson will notify his Referee in Chief, and the HEO Office will copy the HEO Minor Hockey Referee in Chief
 - ii) Other than as specified above, appeals to discipline decisions made by Districts, may be appealed to the HEO Minor Council D&A Committee in writing within 72 hours of official notification of the Districts decision with the appropriate appeal fee of \$225.00
 - iii) All Minor Hockey Leagues within HEO must act on appeals and protests made as prescribed by League rules in a timely manner during the regular season and playoffs. If such appeals or protests occur immediately preceding or during any playoff situation, the League must act in a reasonably timely manner by investigating and making a decision before the next playoff game to ensure fairness.



- c) When the decision of the HEO Minor Council Discipline and Appeals Committee is in the favour of the appellant, one half of the appeal fee will be returned. In the event that the appeal is not won, the appeal fee will be retained by HEO.
 - i) The HEO Minor Council Discipline and Appeals Committee has the authority to refund the appellant all or any amount of the appeal fee paid.
- d) All appeals from the HEO Minor Council Discipline and Appeals Committee decisions must be submitted, in writing, to the First Vice President HEO within four days (96 hours) after being advised of the decision of the HEO Minor Council Discipline and Appeals Committee. The HEO appeal fee must accompany the appeal.
- e) Discipline and appeal hearings will be scheduled within a practicably reasonable timeframe by the HEO office staff in consultation with the HEO Minor Council D&A Committee Chairperson.
- f) After concluding an appeal hearing for an appellant, the HEO Minor Council Discipline and Appeals Committee may at their discretion suspend an offender or other implicated individuals even though there were errors or improprieties with the recording of such infractions.

11.0 Accumulating Infractions

Accumulating Infractions involve a player who receives a collective accumulation throughout the playing season of three (3) or more of the infractions denoted in HEO Code of Discipline (Minor Hockey) and the HEO Minor Hockey Infractions Chart.

As the season progresses, a player may accumulate one or more of the noted infractions which as a result may incur supplemental suspensions later in the season or playoffs. In order to mitigate against the impact of such accumulated infractions, the player should assess early-on, whether an infraction(s) should be appealed to nullify its compounding effect that might result in a longer suspension later in the season.

- a) Infractions received that carry a minimum of one (1) and two (2) game suspensions are non-appealable suspensions. The appeal of one and two games suspensions as outlined in Hockey Canada regulations and HEO Code of Discipline (Minor Hockey) are not appealable. Offenders are required to serve their suspensions in full.
- b) However, offenders incurring one or multiple Accumulating Infractions as denoted in the HEO Code of Discipline (Minor Hockey) and HEO Minor Infractions Chart during the playing season may submit written application to the HEO Office, accompanied with a non-refundable review fee of \$100.00 within 72 hours of incurring the infraction. Appellant's must describe in their written submission (include supporting documentation if available), the reasons why the infraction should not be recorded as accumulating.
- c) No in person or conference call D&A hearing will take place. The D&A Committee will review the appellant's submission and render its written decision as to whether mitigating circumstances or acceptable justification exists to warrant that the infraction not be counted as an Accumulating Infraction.
- d) Written submission for HEO Minor Council D & A Committee review of an Accumulating Infraction must also be copied to the appellant's Association President and District Chairperson. The District Chairperson will notify their District Referee in Chief.
- e) The Accumulating Infraction review fee is non-refundable regardless of the D&A Committee's decision.