

Whitehorse Women's Hockey Association

Policy Name: Playing Rules	Policy Number: WWHA-02
Approval Date: May 9, 2017	Policy Manual Section: n.a.

SCOPE

This policy outlines the playing rules of the hockey game.

POLICY

The WWHA will follow the CARHA Hockey Official Rule Book and Suspension Guidelines.

All players will be encouraged to read the CARHA Hockey Official Rule Book.

Where the CARHA Suspension Guidelines recommend a review, a review of the penalty will go to the Executive and be delegated to the Disciplinary Committee.

WWHA may make modifications and additions to the playing rules as set forth in the CARHA Hockey Official Rule Book and Suspension Guidelines.

Where possible, the Executive will endeavour to establish all rule variations prior to commencement of the playing season.

Rule variations will be in effect for that playing season only, unless the rule variation is approved by members at a special meeting. All approved rule variations will be recorded in Appendix A.

Any additional rule variations required for playoffs will be established by the Executive prior to commencement of playoffs.

PROCEDURES

1. WWHA Executive

- 1.1. Will provide all members with access to the CARHA Hockey Official Rule Book.
- 1.2. Will provide each team with a hard copy of the CARHA Hockey Official Rule Book.
- 1.3. Will keep a hard copy of the CARHA Hockey Official Rule Book and Playing Rule Policy in the timekeeper's box.
- 1.4. Will notify members of any modifications and additions to the playing rules.
- 1.5. Notify CARHA of suspensions as outlined in CARHA Hockey Official Rule Book and Suspension Guidelines.

2. Referee-in-Chief

- 2.1. Will ensure that referees are aware of the Playing Rules.
- 2.2. Will provide referees with access to the CARHA Hockey Official Rule Book.

3. Team Drafters

- 3.1. Ensure that all team players are aware of the Playing Rules at the first team gathering.

4. Members

- 4.1. Understand the Playing Rules and make every effort to follow the rules.

5. Referees

- 5.1. Understand and know the Playing Rules.
- 5.2. Enforce the playing rules, and where required, inform the League Executive of penalties (e.g., Gross Misconduct).

RELATED POLICIES

Discipline Policy

Code of Conduct Policy

Officiating Policy

REFERENCES

VERSION HISTORY

Date	Action	Revision Description
22/08/17	New	First publication, New template
04/12/17	New	Procedures approved
27/10/18	Added	High Stick (Variation to Rule 62d), approved at 2018 AGM

Appendix A

WWHA Rule Variations

Start of Game (Variation to CARHA Rules 16 and 15a)*

1. A team must have seven (7) skaters plus a goaltender to start the game.
2. A team will be allowed fifteen (15) minutes from start time of the game before forfeiting the game.
3. The use of the shooter tutor is permitted and is not a game forfeit. A maximum of four (4) goals can be scored in the lower slots. An unlimited number of goals can be scored in the upper slots.

Slap Shot (Variation to CARHA Rule 79)*

The WWHA allows slap shots. We ask that players use discretion when taking slap shots and remember that this is a recreational hockey league.

Stoppage of Play (Addition to CARHA Rules)*

During play, if the puck hits the goalie's helmet, the whistle will be blown, and play will be stopped until the goalie is deemed fit to continue to play. A face off will occur in the end zone. This rule is for the safety of the goalie.

Penalty and Suspension Guidelines*

The CARHA Suspension Guidelines stand unless otherwise indicated below:

Excessive Penalties (Addition to CARHA Rules)*

Misconduct minutes are not included in this rule. If a player should reach the following number of accumulated penalty minutes in one season, the impacts are:

30 minutes – 2 game suspension

60 minutes – 5 game suspension plus review

90 minutes – A suspension for the remainder of that current season, plus a review for the following season.

Penalty minutes accumulated when subbing for another team go towards a player's accumulated minutes.

Playoff penalty minutes are to be included in the accumulated penalty numbers for individual players in the context of the 30/60/90-minute rule. All suspensions will start with the team's next game and will carry over into the playoffs or the next season if not served during the regular season and playoffs.

Penalty Review*

All Game Misconduct, Gross Misconduct, and Match penalties shall be reported to the League Executive.

Game Misconduct Penalty (Variation to Rule 32b)*

Under Rule 32 of the CARHA Rule Book, any player who is assessed a Game Misconduct penalty shall be ordered to the dressing room immediately *and shall be reported to the League Executive for further action.*

Gross Misconduct (Variation to Rule 33c)*

Under Rule 33 of the CARHA Rule Book, any player assessed a Gross Misconduct penalty shall be immediately ejected from the game and *shall be reported to the League Executive and further penalties may be assessed.*

Match Penalty (Variation to Rule 34a)*

Under Rule 34 of the CARHA Rule Book, any player incurring a Match penalty shall be ordered to the dressing room immediately for the balance of the game and will not be permitted to take part in any further games *until a review has been completed as per the Discipline Policy.*

*Rule variations approved at WWHA AGM, May 9, 2017.

High Stick (Variation to Rule 62d)**

Under Rule 62 (d), "contacting the puck with the stick above the normal height of the player's shoulders is prohibited. When it occurs, play shall be stopped immediately, and a Minor penalty shall be assessed to the offending player." *Said infraction shall not incur a penalty but instead will result in a whistle and face-off.*

**Rule variations approved at WWHA AGM, May 29, 2018.