



February 1st, 2010

2009-2010 OHA PLAY-OFFS

Each year at this time, I sit down and try to capture the spirit of the season and encourage our members proceeding into the playoffs that winning is a great thing, but it cannot be pursued at all costs.

The buzzword in conversations surrounding the game today is “respect for the player” and we talk about it in two aspects, both on and off the ice.

Policies that we develop around the environment should always reflect positively on respect for our athletes by the adults, who are the caretakers of the game.

The policies that we develop to assist with our on-ice product are geared toward creating an environment where players respect players. We rely heavily on our coaches and managers to convey that sentiment to the players.

We are constantly striving to find balance on where our members would like us to be and the resistance that exists outside our organization, at times, on what we perceive our development mandate should be, given our successful past.

Players should be able to come to the rink, play hard and not have to worry about injuries caused by intimidation and negative aggression.

There are regulations in place within our program to ensure that both the on-ice and off-ice aspects of games played during the playoffs are trouble free and the respect by players for each other is foremost in everyone’s mind.

We are confident that our team owners, managers and coaches understand and can interpret the message being conveyed in this memorandum. It is vitally important that you convey this message to your players and ensure they have a full understanding of it.

The cumulative fighting regulation that was implemented at the beginning of the 2009-10 season is still in effect, and everyone should be aware of its positive direction. We will be completing a first year analysis on its implementation and the impact it has had on fighting at the completion of this season.

Our sincere thanks and encouragement to those teams who will not be proceeding into the playoffs. Good luck and best wishes to everyone proceeding into the post-season.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Brent Ladds', written in a cursive style.

Brent Ladds
President

If you are new to our program or the playoff process, please ensure that you review this information with your coaching staff and players... **IT IS IMPORTANT!**

We ask that you review the playoff guideline, which follows and encourage you to continue with your positive reinforcement of OHA (our) hockey making it an attraction to spectators, parents and participants.

1. OHA Playoff Dates

When scheduling a game for the playoffs, we ask each Convenor to be mindful of their playoff deadlines. Remember under Regulation E6, you could forfeit the right to participate in the coin toss for the odd game in the next series should you schedule your series beyond the deadlines established for having group winners.

2. Fine Option (see Regulation J5)

Note: Please remember this Regulation does not pertain to Match Penalties (see Regulation J13)

In addition the fine option will NOT be available on game suspensions issued for:

- Aggressor
- Instigator
- Checking from Behind and Head Checking
- Gross misconduct including GRM62 (removing helmet)
- NEW for 2009-2010 - CUMULATIVE FIGHTING SUSPENSIONS

Under Regulation J5, a fine option can be substituted for a Coach's suspension as well as players under certain conditions.

In light of this option, it is important to draw your attention to a couple of items:

- a) While there is a regulation providing for the option, it is a privilege, which can be revoked by the Chairman of the Board depending on circumstances at any time (see Regulation J6). The Chairman can revoke the fine option if any individual or team abuses the privilege.
- b) An invoice will be mailed to you upon receipt of the game sheet. Please do not retain the invoice. Return the invoice with your payment upon receipt.
- c) Any team who has a suspended player at the conclusion of the season or playoffs, who will not be able to satisfy the requirements of the suspension because his team is not proceeding further into play, will be required to pay the fine option (see Regulation J8).



SUSPENDABLE PENALTIES – WHERE FINE OPTION APPLIES

PENALTY CODE	SUSPENSION	OPTION
Game Misconducts		
GM 21	Progressive	\$50.00 + FINE
GM 31	2	\$50.00
GM 32	2	\$50.00
GM 81	2	\$50.00
Gross Misconducts		
GRM 65	2	\$50.00

SUSPENDABLE PENALTIES - NO FINE OPTION

PENALTY CODE	SUSPENSION	OPTION
Game Misconducts		
INS 36	Progressive	No Option
AGG 37	Progressive	No Option
GM 33	2	No Option
GM 51	2	No Option
GM 71	2	No Option
GM30 - Cumulative Suspension 3 fights and more		No Option
Gross Misconducts		
GRM 60	2	No Option
GRM 61	2	No Option
GRM 62	1	No Option
GRM 63	7	No Option
GRM 64	2	No Option
GRM 99	2	No Option
MP	All Match Penalties have no option.	

3. Pre & Post Altercations & Line Brawls

Any player(s) involved in a pre or post game or post period fight or line brawl will be ejected from the current game and further games pending an investigation of the incident. Coaches for the teams involved will be held responsible. Player(s) involved in a pre or post game/period altercation will also be placed on a special report. Their fine options will not be automatic, based on the referee's opinion as to who started the altercation.

4. Bench Clearing

Any bench clearing incidents will be investigated fully and the perpetrators dealt with severely.

We have a collective obligation to our Association to protect the integrity of the game.

Over the past few seasons the Association has been extremely fortunate in having to deal with a minimal number of incidents. Please ensure that everything you do as a team or as an individual continues to promote our game positively.

5. Split Games

Where a series is determined by an odd game, there is a requirement, unless otherwise determined, for the teams to split the gate after expense formula outlined in Regulation E7 has been followed.

The visiting team has the privilege of having an executive member assigned to the ticket sale area to oversee the game count throughout the game. If you elect not to avail yourself to this privilege then it will be difficult for us to determine a proper sales total on your behalf. We do not assume responsibility for the reporting of game receipts.

Please govern yourself accordingly.

6. Overtime (Regulation E5)

All playoff games, when tied at the end of regulation time shall have the winner determined by overtime. Overtime will be on the basis of a flood following the third period, and then the teams playing 20 minute sudden victory periods until a winner is declared.

7. Goal Judges

Because of the heavy demand for officials during the preliminary rounds of playoffs, the OHA cannot undertake to supply goal judges during these early rounds. In accordance with Regulation B18(b) the requirement for neutral goal judges will be mandatory in League finals and thereafter at a cost of \$15.00 per goal judge.

8. Timekeepers

It is important that the general information on the game sheet, and Pointstreak site; example, date, category, etc. is properly completed for all games. Please advise your timekeepers and scorekeepers accordingly.

