

2011-12

# Code of Discipline





## **CODE OF DISCIPLINE**

### **1.0 Regulations Governing Discipline**

- a) All minimum discipline shall be as outlined in this ODMHA Code of Discipline.

### **2.0 Purpose**

The purpose of this Code of Discipline is to:

- a) Ensure that Organization/Association/Club/Team Officials and Players are aware of the serious nature of the rule offences.
- b) Apply a common minimum standard of Discipline across the Branch for offences of a similar nature.
- c) Make Team and Association officials more aware of their responsibilities in keeping control of the conduct of their teams and in applying 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 - are officials who serve in such positions as timekeeper and score keepers. Offender – any player, team, team official(s), league official(s), association or its official(s), and ODMHA official(s).

### **4.0 Applying the Code of Discipline**



- a) The Code of Discipline applies to all Minor Hockey Players, Team Officials, Game Officials, and Organization/ Association/Club Officials who are members registered with the ODMHA for all hockey related matters, and for all games (league, tournament, exhibition and playdown games) in the following game situations:

<i>Game Misconduct</i>	<i>Fighting</i>	<i>Match Misconduct</i>
<i>Checking From Behind</i>		<i>Gross Misconduct</i>

- b) A team playing in an out-of-branch tournament must abide by the out-of-branch Code of Discipline for the tournament duration. When the players or team officials have outstanding suspensions from the out-of-branch tournament or the ODMHA Code of Discipline, the more stringent of the two must be served immediately upon return to the Branch.

## 5.0 Authority

- a) The District Chairperson or their delegate(s) administers the Code of Discipline and advises the appropriate District Chairperson for 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 ODMHA official before any further deferrals are permitted.
- g) A player playing as an Affiliated Player serves their suspension with their registered team.
- h) During an out of branch tournament an AP (Affiliated Player) 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. 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 ODMHA Discipline and Appeals Committee.
- b) The suspensions are described through the use of charts for ease of use.

To determine the suspension for an offence, refer to the appropriate chart.



**Note:** The following offences are set by the Discipline and Appeals Committee.

### 8.1 Checking From Behind

Minor Penalty plus Game Misconduct	Major Penalty plus Game Misconduct	Second Major Offence	Third Major Offence
Remainder of game**	Remainder of game plus the next Meaningful Game	Suspended a min. of the next two meaningful games <u>and</u> until a formal hearing by the District D&A	Suspended until a formal hearing at ODMHA D&A

\*\* If received in the last 10 minutes, The next meaningful game. Any player receiving a Match Penalty resulting from a CFB penalty shall be sent the dressing room for the remainder of the game. In addition, the suspension is served according to the Match chart.

### 8.2 Checking to the Head

Minor Penalty	Major Penalty plus Game Misconduct	Second Major Offence	Third Major Offence
	Remainder of game plus the next Meaningful Game	Suspended a minimum of the remainder of the game plus the next meaningful game <u>and</u> until a formal hearing by the District D&A	Suspended until a formal hearing at ODMHA D&A

Any player receiving a Match Penalty for head checking will be sent to the dressing room for the remainder of the game. In addition, the above suspension is served according to the Match Penalty chart.



### 8.3 Fighting

First Fight	Second Fight	Third Fight	Fourth Fight
Major Penalty plus Game Misconduct Next Meaningful game	Next two Meaningful games	Suspended a minimum of the next two meaningful games <u>and</u> until a formal hearing by the District D&A."	Suspended until a formal hearing at ODMHA D&A

Instigator OR Aggressor	Instigator AND Aggressor
Next Meaningful game	Next two Meaningful games

### 8.4 All Player Game Misconducts, except for those already listed above

First offence	Second offence	Third offence	Fourth & subsequent offences
Next Meaningful game	Next two Meaningful games	Suspended a minimum of the next two meaningful games <u>and</u> until a formal hearing by the District D&A.	Suspended until a formal hearing at ODMHA D&A

### 8.5 Team Official Game Misconduct

First offence	Second offence	Third offence
Next Meaningful game	Suspended a minimum of the next meaningful game <u>and</u> until a formal hearing by the District D&A	Suspended until a formal hearing at ODMHA D&A



## 8.6 Player Gross Misconduct

First offence	Second offence	Third offence
Next Three Meaningful games	Next Six Meaningful games <u>and</u> until a formal hearing by the district D&A	Suspended until a formal hearing at ODMHA D&A

## 8.7 Team Official Gross Misconducts

First offence	Second offence	Third offence
Next Three Meaningful games	"Suspended a minimum of the next three meaningful games <u>and</u> until a formal hearing by the District D&A."	Suspended until a formal hearing at ODMHA D&A

## 8.8 Match penalty except for physical abuse of Officials

First offence	Second offence	Third offence
Next Three Meaningful games	"Suspended a minimum of the next three meaningful games <u>and</u> until a formal hearing by the District D&A."	Suspended until a formal hearing at ODMHA D&A

NOTE: All physical abuse of official calls are automatic suspensions (Rule 9.6 a, b & c) pending a formal ODMHA hearing.

## 8.9 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.



## 8.10 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, ODHA, and ODMHA until a decision has been rendered by ODMHA Discipline and Appeals Committee.

b) All 9.6 a, b, and c that are called, will be investigated by the ODMHA Referee-In-Chief or his designate, and report the results to the Chairperson of the ODMHA D & A Committee.

## 9.0 Reporting Suspensions

a) All game sheets (including league, 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, ODHA and ODMHA Constitutions, Bylaws, Regulations and Playing Rules.

### b) Referee's Role

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. Ensures that the incident is fully written up on the web based ODHA Official Game Incident Report within 24 hours of the infraction. All penalties listed under the Code of Discipline are to be written up.

Provide a copy of the game sheet (fax or email) to the ODMHA within 24 hours for any Physical Abuse of Officials violation (Currently Rule 9.6).



c) *Coach's Role*

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.

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). He shall forward a copy of any game sheet containing any code of discipline penalties their team has incurred to the district designate as directed either electronically (by fax or scanned Adobe Acrobat) or hard copy. The Home team coach forwards to the league a copy in the manner that the league has prescribed. An automatic 5 meaningful game suspension will be assessed to a coach who has permitted a player/ team official to participate in a game while under suspension. If there is a second and/or further occurrence the Coach is suspended pending the results of a hearing before the ODMHA D&A Committee. The Head Coach is responsible for all administrative tasks and actions for his team members.

d) *League Official's Role*

Retain their copy during the hockey year for reference. Provide a copy to the District designate should one be required. Report and discuss any concerns they have in reference to serving suspensions to the appropriate District chair and/or the ODMHA D&A chairperson.



e) District's Role

The District Chairman ensures the administration of suspensions as outlined by the Code of Discipline and the District. He shall forward game sheets for any hearing being held by the ODMHA D&A to the ODMHA office upon request. He shall provide a monthly report of suspensions to each Association.

f) Player's Role

- i) Serves their suspension as prescribed by the ODMHA Code of Discipline.
- ii) Does not participate in any games while under suspension.

10.0 Discipline and Appeals

- a) Appeals involving Risk and Safety are to be sent to the Director of Risk & Safety, ODMHA
- b) Appeals of the suspension arising from the Code of Discipline shall be made in writing within 72 hours of the infraction. Appeals of this nature must be forwarded to the Chairperson, ODMHA Discipline and Appeals with the \$150.00 appeal fee. Appeals to the ODMHA for transfers/tryouts will be \$250.00. All appeals from the Code of Discipline must also go to the appellant's Association President and his District Chair, within the 72 hour time limit. The District Chair will notify his Referee in Chief and the ODMHA Office will copy the ODMHA Referee in Chief

Other than specified above, Appeals to discipline decisions made by Districts, may be appealed to the ODMHA D&A Committee in writing within 72



hours of official notification of the district decision with the appropriate appeal fee of \$150.00

All Leagues within the ODMHA 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 by investigating and making a decision before the next playoff game to ensure fairness.

- c) When the decision of the ODMHA 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 the ODMHA.
- d) All appeals from the ODMHA Discipline and Appeals Committee decisions must be submitted, in writing, to the First Vice President ODHA within four days (96 hours) after being advised of the decision of the ODMHA Discipline and Appeals Committee. A fee prescribed by the ODHA must accompany the appeal.
- e) Hearings will be set by the ODMHA Official(s) responsible within a reasonable time.
- f) After holding an appeal hearing for an appellant, the Discipline and Appeals Committee may at their discretion suspend an offender even though there were improprieties with the recording of such infractions.