

# Hockey Canada

## Information Bulletin / Bulletin d'information

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To: Member Association Executive Directors  
Member Association Referee in Chiefs  
Lance Roberts, Hockey Canada Referee in Chief  
Todd Anderson, Manager of Officiating  
Kirk Lamb, Chairman, Canadian Junior Hockey League

Info:

Date: September 14, 2016

File:

From: Ed Pupich, Hockey Canada Director

**SUBJECT: CJHL Playing Rules / Junior 'A' Supplement**

As the 2016-17 season gets underway, the Hockey Canada Directors would like to bring the following 3 items to the attention of Hockey Canada membership and the Canadian Junior Hockey League commissioners.

1. An editorial correction is required in the 2016-17 CJHL Junior 'A' Supplement. Regulation 3, and specifically 3.1 Checking from Behind requires the following adjustment in the document which corresponds to the Hockey Canada playing rules and brings clarity for game officials;

### ***REGULATION 3 – CHECKING FROM BEHIND***

*3.1 Checking From Behind - There are three possible penalties for checking from behind: a minor penalty **and game misconduct**, a major penalty and game misconduct or a match penalty. The suspension guidelines are as follows:*

- *Minor Penalties – A player shall receive a 2 game suspension upon receiving his 3rd minor penalty for Checking from Behind in the same season. An additional 2 game suspension shall result for each subsequent minor in the same season.*
- *Major Penalty – automatic minimum 2 game suspension.*
- *Match Penalty – automatic minimum 3 game suspension*



2. There has been a request to clarify the interpretation under Regulation 7 regarding situations involving an instigator.

**REGULATION 7 – FIGHTING**

In the 2016-17 Junior ‘A’ Supplement Officials Handbook (7.1 on page 11), the interpretation reads:

*However, the rules specifically state that one player may be assessed a Major plus a Game Misconduct for fighting and the opposing player a Minor for roughing or perhaps not assessed any penalty. In this case, the player receiving the Major penalty would also receive an extra Minor penalty as instigator as well as being ejected from the game.*

*In the event that one player makes no attempt to retaliate other than to protect or defend himself, and in the opinion of the referee does not engage in the fight, one player may be assessed a Major penalty plus a Game Misconduct for fighting and the opposing player a Minor for roughing or perhaps not assessed any penalty. In this case the player receiving the Major penalty would also receive an extra Minor penalty as instigator.*

Clarification has been sought regarding the portion of the Regulation that states: ***In the event that one player makes no attempt to retaliate other than to protect or defend himself. . .***

That clarification is as follows:

This is where the referee(s) must make a determination. Even when an instigator penalty is called, if the opposing player chooses to ‘engage’ in the fight, this player would also receive a fighting major and a game ejection.

3. Under the CJHL Partnership Agreement, there is a requirement to consult the CJHL on changes to the playing rules, which impact Junior ‘A’ hockey. With this in mind, the CJHL will not apply Hockey Canada playing rule 7.4 (b) for the 2016-17 season. Typically then, a “slew foot” infraction in the CJHL will be called a tripping penalty and a 2 minute minor would be assessed. In the event a “slew foot” infraction is deemed a dangerous play, it would come under the umbrella of 1.1 in the Junior ‘A’ Supplement.

The CJHL has agreed to review and track slew foot incidents that fall within Regulation 1.1 of the Junior ‘A’ Supplement and will collect that data to review the impact the Slew Foot infraction is having on the game at their level. The CJHL will provide a report to the Hockey Canada Board of Directors at the conclusion of the 2016-17 on the trends that may be occurring with this infraction in the game today.

Thank you for taking the time to ensure this notice receives the necessary distribution within your membership.

Sincerely,

Ed Pupich  
Hockey Canada Director  
Chair, Violence and Sanctions Committee