



Guelph Hockey Referee Association Members Information Bulletin 06-7

Subject: Rule Clarifications

Date: November, 2006

Recently there have been a couple of rule scenarios which occurred during two separate games that had to get a rule interpretation/clarification from the Technical Director of Officiating Rick Morpew. They are as follows:

- 1) While play is in progress in front of Team A's bench, a player from Team B, without obvious provocation, punches a player on Team A's bench in the head. There was no retaliation from the Team A player.
What penalty or penalties should be assessed?

Ruling: At a minimum the player from Team B should receive a 5 minute roughing penalty plus Game Misconduct, as per Rule 59(f). A Gross Misconduct could also be easily justified. However, if the official deems that there were a sufficient number of punches thrown or they were severe enough to warrant a Major Fighting Penalty + Game Misconduct + Minor Aggressor penalty, then the Gross Misconduct should be assessed.

- 2) A player is held in the penalty box after his penalty has expired due to a timekeeper error. While the player is still in the box, the opposing team scores a goal.
Does the goal stand?
Can/should the clock be reset to the point where the player should have left the box?
Where does the face-off take place?

Ruling: The timekeeper is a game official and so the goal is washed out, the clock is reset back to the time when the player should have left the box and the face-off will take place in the neutral zone. Rule 42 Situation 7 is the basis for the ruling. The fact that he was not permitted to leave the penalty box must be brought to the attention of the officials prior to resuming play at the first stoppage of play after the goal.

Rule 42 Situation 7

A goal is scored. Before the play resumes the Linesman notifies the Referee that the play should have been called for icing.

Ruling: The Referee shall disallow the goal and the face-off shall take place at the end zone face-off spot where the face-off for the icing should normally have taken place.

Note: The same theory would apply if the Linesman were to notify the Referee that an offside at the blue line or an offside pass infraction had taken place, but was not called prior to the goal. The goal would be disallowed and the face-off would take place at the spot where the normal face-off would be, as covered by the appropriate rules.