

NAHL Playing Rules

Revised November 2019

All league participants shall abide by the NAHL Playing Rules as set forth below.

The following protocol will be used when deciding which rules are applicable.

1. **NAHL Rules** – will apply 1st in making decisions
2. **CARHA Rules** – will apply when no NAHL rules come into effect
3. Hockey Canada – will apply if there are no NAHL and CARHA rules that come into effect

Nanaimo Adult Hockey League rules, suspension guidelines and the use of certified CARHA Referees for NAHL games will help to ensure safe play. The referees will be using all of these rules to regulate play of the games.

All Penalties and Suspensions are subject to review by the Discipline Committee or NAHL Executive for further disciplinary action.

Dangerous Incident Advisory Report – This can be submitted to the league to report any dangerous incident that may have gone unnoticed by an official.

NAHL Penalties

Penalties - CARHA Rule 27

Minor	3 running time minutes
Bench Minor	3 running time minutes
Major	7 running time minutes
Match	7 running time minutes
Misconduct	12 running time minutes

RED penalties

Boarding
Body Checking
Butt Ending
Charging
Cross Checking
Elbowing
Goaltender Interference
Head Contact
Kneeing
Roughing
Slashing
Spearing
Unsportsmanlike

Misconduct – NOT in last 10 minutes

RED penalty Major = 2 RED penalties

5 Cumulative on the Season – Automatic 1 Game Suspension
10 Cumulative on the Season – Automatic 2 Game Suspension
12 Cumulative on the Season – Automatic 3 Game Suspension
14 Cumulative on the Season – Automatic 4 Game Suspension
16 Cumulative on the Season – Automatic 5 Game Suspension

18 Cumulative on the Season – Automatic 6 Game Suspension
20 Cumulative on the Season – Automatic 20 Game Suspension

ALL RED penalty suspensions carry over to the next season but RED penalties will start at zero

Major Penalty – CARHA Rule 30

A player, including a goalkeeper, assessed a Major penalty shall be ruled off the ice for the remainder of the game (Major penalty plus Game Misconduct). The penalized team shall place a substitute player on the penalty bench to serve 7 running time minutes, during which no on ice substitutions shall be permitted.

The exception to this rule is when a Major Penalty has been assessed for an ACCIDENTAL high stick, in which case the Game Misconduct shall not apply. (CARHA Rule 61b)

A player shall receive an automatic one game suspension as a result of receiving a Major and Game Misconduct penalty. (CARHA Rule 32d)

Match Penalty – CARHA Rule 34

Any player or team official incurring a Match penalty shall be ordered to the dressing room immediately for the balance of the game and shall be suspended until his case has been dealt with by the Discipline Committee. A player from the penalized team shall serve the 7 running time minutes penalty.

Fighting – CARHA Rule 59

A Match penalty shall be assessed to any player who is identified by the referee as the instigator or aggressor in fight. The opposing player may then be assessed a Match penalty if he fights back or continues the altercation, a Minor penalty for roughing or no penalty at all, depending on the circumstances.

The NAHL suspension for Fighting is 5 games. If a second offence occurs within 1 calendar year, the suspension shall be 1 calendar year.

Misconduct Penalties – CARHA Rule 31

A player, except a goalkeeper, incurring a Misconduct penalty shall be ruled off the ice for a period of 12 running time minutes. A player receiving a second Misconduct penalty in the same game shall automatically be assessed a Game Misconduct penalty.

A player receiving a Misconduct penalty in the final 10 minutes of a game shall be assessed a Game Misconduct penalty.

Gross Misconduct Penalties – CARHA Rule 33

Any player or team official incurring a Gross Misconduct penalty shall be ordered to the dressing room immediately for the balance of the game and the incident shall be reported to the Discipline Committee.

Game Misconduct Penalties – CARHA Rule 32

A player assessed a Game Misconduct penalty shall receive an automatic 1 game suspension.

Game Ejection – (CARHA Rule 32a)

Any player that is assessed 3 Minor penalties in one game shall be ruled off the ice for the remainder of the game (Game Ejection). It shall be necessary to place a substitute in the penalty box to serve the third penalty.

Any player receiving his 3rd – 3 Game Ejection penalties within 1 calendar year shall receive an automatic 1 game suspension. A 4th offence within 1 calendar year shall receive a minimum 3 game suspension.

Physical Abuse of Official(s)

Physical abuse of officials will result in a minimum of ONE (1) year suspension and will come under review by the Discipline Committee or NAHL Executive for possible further disciplinary action.

Of Special Note

The NAHL strives to protect our goaltenders with enhanced enforcement of the goaltender interference rules. ZERO contact with the goaltender

Contact with the Goaltender – Minor Penalty

Any incidental contact with the goaltender in his crease, whether accidental or not, shall be assessed a Minor Penalty.

Players are permitted to play a loose puck once it has entered the crease area; if the offensive player attempts to play the puck and at the same time the goaltender covers the puck no penalty can be called at the discretion of the referee. It must occur simultaneously to be no penalty.

If the offensive player takes more than one (1) attempt at the goaltender's glove under the above situation then a Minor Penalty shall be called.

Players may **not** spear the goaltender's glove covering the puck whether or not they say they were playing the puck – then a Minor Penalty shall be called.

Any attempt by the offensive player to dislodge the puck once the goaltender has established position will be a Minor Penalty.

If a defensive player directs an attacking player into the goaltender, he shall be assessed a Minor penalty.

Contact with the Goaltender – Major Penalty

Player Driving the Goal - if an **Attacking** player drives to the net and makes contact with the goaltender in the crease it is an automatic Major penalty plus Game Misconduct.

Player Driving the Goal - If a **Defending** player directs an opponent (with his stick or body check) into the crease causing contact to the goaltender, a Major penalty shall be called against the **Defensive** player. If the Offensive Player did not let up then Coincidental Majors and Coincidental Game Misconducts can be called. This call must be made if the goaltender is hurt on this type of play.

Driving the Goal - If a Defending player directs an opponent into the crease causing incidental contact with the goaltender, a Minor Penalty shall be called against the defensive player.

Slap Shots – are allowed in the REC Division only.

An appeal of a Suspension

A player may appeal a suspension of 7 or more games (exceptions Match/Gross Misconducts) below

Match Penalty

1. Any player or team official incurring a Match penalty shall be ordered to the dressing room immediately for the balance of the game.

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| a) First offence (no Injury) | 5 Game suspension (no appeal) |
| b) Second offence | 1 Year suspension (no appeal) |
| c) First offence (with Injury) | 10 Game suspension (more than 10 games - can appeal) |
| d) Second offence | 1 Year suspension (no appeal) |

Gross Misconduct Penalty

1. Any player or team official incurring a Gross Misconduct penalty shall be ordered to the dressing room for the balance of the game. A Gross Misconduct penalty shall be assessed where a person conducts himself in such a manner as to make a travesty of the game.

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|---|--------------------------------|
| a) First offence | 5 Game suspension (no appeal) |
| b) Second offence (same year) | 10 Game suspension (no appeal) |
| c) <u>Two</u> Gross misconducts - (same stoppage of play) | 10 Game suspension (no appeal) |
| d) Third offence (same year) | 1 Year suspension (no appeal) |