

# 2015-2016 Ice Hockey Manual For Coaches and Officials



OHSAA  
4080 Roselea Place  
Columbus, Ohio 43124  
(p) 614.267.2502  
[www.ohsaa.org](http://www.ohsaa.org)



## Table of Contents

|                                                                   |          |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|
| 2015-2016 Ice Hockey Rules Changes .....                          | 1        |
| 2014-2015 Ice Hockey Rules Changes .....                          | 2        |
| 2015-2016 Points of Emphasis .....                                | 3        |
| 1. OHSAA MISSION STATEMENT .....                                  | 4        |
| <b>2. NHFS SPORTSMANSHIP STATEMENT</b> .....                      | <b>4</b> |
| 3. OHSAA SPORTSMANSHIP, ETHICS, AND INTEGRITY .....               | 4        |
| 4. 2015-2016 ICE HOCKEY STATE RULES INTERPRETATION MEETINGS ..... | 5        |
| 5. 2015-2016 ICE HOCKEY LOCAL OFFICIALS ASSOCIATIONS .....        | 5        |
| <b>6. 2015-2016 OHSAA REMINDERS</b> .....                         | <b>6</b> |
| 7. 2015-2016 CALENDAR AND IMPORTANT DATES .....                   | 7        |
| 8. OHSAA CONTACT INFORMATION .....                                | 7        |
| 9. IMPORTANT LINKS .....                                          | 8        |
| 10. MEDICAL AND SAFETY .....                                      | 8        |
| 11. OFFICIATING ETHICS AND CODE OF CONDUCT .....                  | 9        |
| 12. OFFICIATING ETHICS AND CODE OF CONDUCT (CONT'D.) .....        | 10       |

## **From the National Federation (NFHS) Rules Book: 2015-2016 Ice Hockey Rules Changes**

### **NEW RULE CHANGES**

**Rules Book Reformat:** Rule 6 is now Participant Conduct. Rules 7, 8, and 9 were added. Rule 7 is Physical and Stick Fouls, Rule 8 is Other Fouls, and Rule 9 is Game Flow. Additional penalty options are available in Rule 7-4.

- Penalty Options were added within Physical and Stick Fouls (Rule 7) to allow officials to have the ability to call what they see and give the appropriate penalty for the infraction that occurred.
- A table has been added (Rule 7-4) to list the penalty options for physical and sticks fouls.
- Option used to be 2-minute Minor – now have an option to be called a 5-minute Major and/or Game Disqualification: Holding, Hooking, Interference/Obstruction, Body Check – Girls
- Option used to be 2-minute Minor or 5-minute Major – now have an option to give Game Disqualification: Cross-Checking, Elbowing, Goalkeeper Contact, Kneeing, Slashing, Tripping, Unnecessary Roughness (Roughing)
- Option used to be 5-minute Major or a Game Disqualification – now have an option to be called a 5-minute Major and a 10-minute Misconduct: Grabbing Facemask, Head Butt

**3-1-9** No player, excluding the goal keeper, may participate in play while he is in possession of a goalkeeper's stick.

**3-4-2** Additional pieces of protective equipment are now required.

**3-8** Electronic devices shall not be used by team personnel or spectators to communicate with on-ice players or goalkeepers during play.

**5-4i** Linesman shall escort penalized players to the penalty bench

**6-1-6** Any player or coach that uses any racial or ethnic slurs shall be disqualified from the game.

**8-1-3** A goal shall be awarded if a player or goalkeeper discards a stick in such a way that prevents a goal.

**From the National Federation (NFHS) Rules Book:  
2013-2014 Ice Hockey Rules Changes**

**LAST YEAR'S RULE CHANGES**

**3-4-4** Description of a proper tooth and mouth protector language was updated.

**4-10-2** All penalties, served or not, shall be recorded on the score sheet.

**5-2-2** Officials shall wear all required equipment for both the warm-up and the game.

**5-3-1b** Officials are responsible for having access to an NFHS Ice Hockey Rules Book during games.

**6-4-1** First-level penalty for Boarding is a MAJOR.

**Comment:** For risk minimization purposes, increasing the first level of penalty for Boarding is deterrent when combined with proper teaching and education. The severe action now carries with it, a severe penalty.

**6-4-2** Flagrant Boarding acts shall be penalized a minimum MAJOR and MISCONDUCT. Official has discretion to issue a GAME DISQUALIFICATION for such acts.

**Comment:** For risk minimization purposes, increasing this penalty is a deterrent when combined with proper teaching and education. The severe action now carries with it, a severe penalty.

**6-7-1** First-level penalty for Checking From Behind is a MAJOR

**Comment:** For risk minimization purposes, increasing the first level of penalty for Checking From Behind is a deterrent when combined with proper teaching and education. The severe action now carries with it, a severe penalty.

## **From the National Federation (NFHS) Rules Book: 2015-2016 Points of Emphasis**

The NFHS Ice Hockey Rules Committee continues in its belief that the main threat to the health of high school ice hockey is violent and reckless play. The safety and well-being of the participants is paramount and the primary focus of this committee. The committee has addressed the following areas to minimize dangerous, violent and reckless play.

### **PLAYER SAFETY/DANGEROUS HITS**

A fair body check is one in which a player checks an opponent who is in the possession of the puck, by using his upper body from the front or diagonally from the front or straight from the side, and does not take more than two strides (steps) in executing the check.

Boarding and checking from behind are viewed as two of the most dangerous plays in sport. The correct and appropriate call must be made when these situations occur. The rules committee reminds coaches and players that the responsibility in this rule remains with the player approaching an opponent along the boards.

Hits to the head and fighting are never to be considered a part of the high school game. Hits from high hands, elbows, forearms, high sticks and shoving the head into the glass add no value to the game and only increase the risk of injury to players.

Hits on defenseless players (blind side hits) are illegal and are very dangerous plays in the sport. Late hits and unnecessary body contact are acts that need to be eliminated from high school hockey to create a safer environment for all participants.

### **CONCUSSION RECOGNITION AND MANAGEMENT**

For the past several years, the NFHS has been at the forefront of national sports organizations in emphasizing the importance of education, recognition and proper management of concussions. Any player who exhibits signs, symptoms or behaviors consistent with a concussion shall be immediately removed from the game. State association protocol pertaining to concussion management must be reviewed and followed. Please review Rule 2-6-1 and the Suggested Guidelines for Management of Concussions on page 82.

### **SPORTSMANSHIP AND YOUR ROLE**

It is imperative that coaches, officials, administrators, parents and participants all understand their role in education-based athletics and activities.

Fair play and respect are an essential part of the game of hockey. In order for a positive environment to be created, it is critical that all participants and spectators have respect for all players, coaches, officials, administrators, spectators and the sport of hockey. Taunting and unsportsmanlike conduct directed at opponents or officials will not be tolerated. Please be aware of the increased penalty for racial, ethnic and gender slurs.

### **PROPER EQUIPMENT**

It is the responsibility of the head coach to ensure that all participants are equipped according to the rules. Additionally, each player is personally responsible to be properly equipped for participation in this sport.

## **1. OHSAA MISSION STATEMENT**

The Ohio High School Athletic Association's mission is to regulate and administer interscholastic athletic competition in a fair and equitable manner while promoting the values of participation in interscholastic athletics as an integral part of a student's educational experience. The OHSAA represents its member schools by recognizing and promoting academics, the safety of participants, good citizenship and lifelong values as the foundation of interscholastic athletics.

## **2. NFHS SPORTSMANSHIP STATEMENT**

Good sportsmanship is viewed by the National Federation of State High School Associations as a commitment to fair play, ethical behavior and integrity. In perception and practice, sportsmanship is defined as those qualities which are characterized by generosity and genuine concern for others. The ideals of sportsmanship apply equally to all activity disciplines. Individuals, regardless of their role in activities, are expected to be aware of their influence on the behavior of others and model good sportsmanship.

## **3. OHSAA SPORTSMANSHIP, ETHICS, AND INTEGRITY**

As we prepare for the upcoming seasons, we wish to emphasize to each of you the importance of your leadership role in sportsmanship, ethics and integrity. The professional manner in which officials and coaches conduct themselves prior to, during and following a contest unquestionably impacts the behavior of others involved.

The OHSAA has joined the National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS) in its quest to improve sportsmanship, ethics and integrity. We are involved in an ongoing campaign in every sport to do just that. Printed below is the mission statement of the NFHS concerning sportsmanship, ethics and integrity. Please take the time to read and digest this statement and then carefully consider your impact upon the players, officials, coaches, and fans. Thank you and have a great season.

**Respect<sup>SM</sup>  
THE  
GAME**

#### **4. 2015-2016 ICE HOCKEY STATE RULES INTERPRETATION MEETINGS**

By OHSAA Board of Directors regulation, any school sponsoring interscholastic contests in high school ice hockey must have the head ice hockey coach, assistant ice hockey coach or athletic administrator attend one of the rules interpretation meetings. Any school failing to meet this requirement will be ineligible for any OHSAA sponsored tournament competition.

Officials who fail to attend one of these meetings will be suspended the following year. Attendance is also required in order to be eligible for state tournament assignments in the current year.

It will be the responsibility of the head ice hockey coach, assistant ice hockey coach or athletic administrator of each school and officials to be in attendance within 10 minutes of the start of the meeting and stay until the conclusion of the meeting in order to receive credit for attendance.

Current sites, dates, locations, and times for rules interpretation meetings can be found at:  
<http://myohsaa.org/public/stateMeetings.aspx>

Those coaches or officials who do not attend a regularly scheduled rules interpretation meeting or the scheduled make-up meeting may request a special make-up meeting from rules interpreter Gary Wilkins (614.599.9760). Such meeting must be held no later than Friday, November 14, 2015. The fee for a special make-up meeting is \$50.00. Requests after the above date must be addressed to the Commissioner.

#### **5. 2015-2016 ICE HOCKEY LOCAL OFFICIALS ASSOCIATIONS**

Local ice hockey officials associations please check *MYOHSAA* for updates:  
<http://ohsaa.org/officials/local-new.htm>

## 6. 2015-2016 OHSAA REMINDERS

The following guidelines should be adhered to prior to the start of practice on Nov. 6, 2015:

- **OVERTIME RULES-** If a contest is tied after regulation play, the following shall apply: There shall be a maximum of five 8-minute overtimes, with any goal resulting in sudden victory for the team that scores. The first overtime shall consist of all five skaters per team, while overtimes two through five shall consist of four skaters per team. Should the contest remain tied after the fifth overtime, a shootout will take place to determine a winning team.
- Maximum number of regular season games shall be **35** plus OHSAA tournament. Each contest played will count in the maximum of **35** contests permitted during the regular season.
- School coaches may lead conditioning drills with players using sticks but a **puck may not be used**.
- Players can divide up and scrimmage during open ice but there can be no adults on the ice during this time. Coaches, parents or other adults may observe but **may not provide instruction**, direct the activity, select the teams, etc.
- Players can participate on non-interscholastic teams prior to the school season providing there are **no more than five (5) players** from the same school **on that non-interscholastic team**.
- Preseason instructional programs may **not** be **mandatory, exclusive, or evaluative** (i.e., used to make roster decisions).
- Weightlifting and conditioning, are permitted **off-ice** activities.
- **No drills** may be conducted **involving team play, power play, penalty kill or offensive or defensive schemes** of any kind.

These OHSAA rules must be strictly adhered to in order to protect the fairness and integrity of the sport.

Please review the 2015-2016 OHSAA Constitution, Bylaws and Sports Regulations for any other questions.

**Respect<sup>SM</sup>  
THE  
GAME**



## 7. 2015-2016 CALENDAR AND IMPORTANT DATES

|                                    |                                      |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| <b>Coaching begins</b>             | <b>November 6, 2015</b>              |
| <b>Earliest preview date</b>       | <b>November 20, 2015</b>             |
| <b>Season begins</b>               | <b>November 27, 2015</b>             |
| <b>Non-interscholastic date</b>    | <b>January 25, 2016</b>              |
| <b>District</b>                    | <b>February 15 – March 5, 2016</b>   |
| <b>State</b>                       | <b>March 12 &amp; March 13, 2016</b> |
| <b>Season ends</b>                 | <b>March 13, 2016</b>                |
| <b>No contact period (coaches)</b> | <b>August 6 – September 3, 2016</b>  |

## 8. OHSAA CONTACT INFORMATION

| <b>Name</b>  | <b>Title</b>            | <b>Responsibilities</b>                                             | <b>e-mail</b>                                                                |
|--------------|-------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Steve Neil   | Assistant Commissioner  | Oversees the sport & coordinates the tournaments; Rules Interpreter | <a href="mailto:sneil@ohsaa.org">sneil@ohsaa.org</a>                         |
| Beau Rugg    | Assistant Commissioner  | Oversees officials programs & tournament assignments                | <a href="mailto:brugg@ohsaa.org">brugg@ohsaa.org</a>                         |
| Gary Wilkins | State Rules Interpreter | Rules meetings & Officials issues                                   | <a href="mailto:gwilkinschc@colsicerefs.com">gwilkinschc@colsicerefs.com</a> |
| Emily Gates  | Program Coordinator     | Assists in the coordination of the sport & tournaments              | <a href="mailto:egates@ohsaa.org">egates@ohsaa.org</a>                       |

## 9. IMPORTANT LINKS

|                                                       |                                                         |
|-------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|
| National Federation of State High School Associations | <a href="http://www.nfhs.org">http://www.nfhs.org</a>   |
| Ohio High School Athletic Association                 | <a href="http://www.ohsaa.org">http://www.ohsaa.org</a> |
| myOHSAA                                               | <a href="http://myohsaa.org">http://myohsaa.org</a>     |

## 10. MEDICAL AND SAFETY

The safety of our student-athletes is of the utmost concern at all times. Information regarding the following important topics can be found at [www.ohsaa.org](http://www.ohsaa.org) and at [www.nfhs.org](http://www.nfhs.org):

- Stress and Athletic Participation
- Recommendations for Hydration to Prevent Heat Illness
- Suggested Guidelines for Management of Head Trauma in Sports
- Communicable Disease Procedures (also found in the NFHS Rules Book)
- Disordered Eating
- Information on Nutritional Supplements
- Links to the following sites:
  - Joint Advisory Committee on Sports Medicine
  - Ohio Athletic Trainers Association
  - American Medical Society for Sports Medicine
  - Ohio Parents for Drug Free Youth
  - National Athletic Trainers Association (NATA)
  - Gatorade Sports Science Institute NewsHeat

### **Statement on medical hardware:**

On the advice of the National Federation of State High School Association's (NFHS) Sports Medicine Advisory Committee, the following guidelines are provided.

Unless the specific rules code stipulates otherwise, athletes in sports of a collision/contact nature should not be permitted to wear devices such as insulin pumps, heart monitoring equipment and/or other diagnostic or therapeutic appliances while participating in interscholastic contests. In its deliberations on this issue, the Sports Medicine Advisory Committee of the NFHS could find no medical reason to authorize the wearing of these appliances during competition.

However, in the event that a physician requires a student-athlete to wear a therapeutic device during competition, such medical necessity shall be specified in writing and signed by the prescribing physician and the device shall be padded and securely attached to the player's body underneath the uniform. The medical statement shall be shown to the head contest official prior to the athlete being permitted to participate.

## 11. OFFICIATING ETHICS AND CODE OF CONDUCT

(From [www.ohsaa.org](http://www.ohsaa.org) and the OHSAA Handbook for Officials)

Our member schools have entrusted officials to assist them in the education and development of their youth through athletics. This requires officials to be independent, impartial, and responsible to the people they serve. In recognition of these expectations there is an established **Code of Ethics** and **Code of Conduct** for all officials. The purpose of the code is to establish guidelines for ethical standards of conduct for all officials.

### **Officiating code of ethics:**

An Official must devote time, thought and study to the rules of the game and the mechanics necessary to carry out these rules so that one may render effective and credible service in a fair and unbiased manner.

An Official must work with fellow officials and the state association in a spirit of harmony and cooperation in spite of differences of opinion that may arise during debate of points or rules at issue.

An Official must resist every temptation and outside pressure to use one's position as an official to benefit oneself. Under all circumstances, officials must avoid promoting the special interest of any person or group of persons other than the athletes we serve.

An Official must constantly uphold the honor and dignity of the avocation in all personal conduct and relations with the student-athletes, coaches, athletic directors, school administrators, colleagues, and the public, to be a worthy example to the athletes under one's jurisdiction.

An Official will be prepared both physically and mentally, dress accordingly to expectations and maintain a proper appearance that is befitting the importance of the game.

An Official shall avoid the use of tobacco and related products at the contest site.

An Official must remember and recognize that it is important to honor contracts regardless of possible inconvenience or financial loss.

Every member of the officiating profession carries a responsibility to act in a manner becoming a professional person. The conduct of any official influences the attitude of the public toward the profession in general as well as toward the official in particular.

Sports officials bear great responsibility for engendering public confidence in sports. They are critical to the health of athletic competitions. Officials ensure games are played fairly, by the rules, within the spirit of the rules and in a safe manner. Officiating takes a great deal of preparation, continuing education and commitment of time.

## 12. OFFICIATING ETHICS AND CODE OF CONDUCT (CONT'D.)

### **Pre-season preparations:**

We have encouraged coaches to invite local officials to meet with their team during pre-season workouts. It allows the officials to meet the athletes and discuss new rules. It gives athletes an opportunity to ask questions and have a discussion prior to competition days. We also recommended inviting an official(s) to a pre-season meeting with team parents. Again, it provides a forum for healthy discussions and an opportunity for parents to learn more about the sport. Many of you already participate in such activities, but for those that do not, please get involved!

**NOTE:** Annual renewal cards are sent to the address the OHSAA has on file, failure to notify the OHSAA will result in your not receiving the renewal card.

Address changes are now to be submitted via [www.myOHSAA.org](http://www.myOHSAA.org) . Please log-on in order to make the appropriate changes.

### **Website resources:**

Our website includes a great deal of information specifically geared for officials. Go to [www.ohsaa.org](http://www.ohsaa.org) and click on “officiating” on the left side of the home page. On the officiating page you will find the following information. When you have questions, this may be a great place to start!

Topics include:

- OHSAA officiating FAQ's, clinics, hall of fame info
- OHSAA rules meetings – information on local & state meetings, how to maintain your officiating permit
- Directory of officiating information & forms – assigners, instructors, local & district secretaries, OHSAA staff
- How to become an OHSAA official – info for beginning and experienced officials, suspended and retired officials wanting to reinstate
- How to change the status of your officiating permit – information on upgrades, retired status, active military duty and address changes
- How to renew your OHSAA officiating permit – information on annual renewal procedures and fees
- Game assignments – regular season and tournament selection processes and voting results
- Officials needed posting
- Coach and player game ejections – ejection forms and procedures
- Officiating uniforms, equipment and supplies – uniform regulations, authorized dealers, pins & patches
- Officiating ethics and code of conduct