

# IIHF OFFICIAL RULE BOOK IN-LINE HOCKEY

## INTERNATIONAL RULES GOVERNING THE GAME OF IN-LINE HOCKEY

### SECTION ONE - THE RINK

#### Rule 101 Rink

- (a) The game of "in-line hockey" shall be played on wood, cement, asphalt or plastic surface known as a "RINK".
- (b) The rink may be an outdoor, partially enclosed or indoor facility.

#### Rule 102 Dimensions of Rink

- NEW** (a) As nearly as possible, the dimensions of the rink shall be 58m long and 30m wide. The minimum size for a rink shall be **40m** long and 20m wide. In all rinks used for IIHF Championships, the surface dimensions shall be **58-61m** long and **27-30m** wide.

It is recommended that the corners be uniformly rounded in the arc of a circle with a radius of 7m minimum to 8.5m maximum.

- (b) The rink shall be surrounded by a permanent or temporary wall or fence known as the "BOARDS", which shall extend not less than 20cm and not more than 1.22m in height above the playing surface. The ideal height of the boards shall be 1.08m. It is recommended that the kick plate at the bottom of the boards be yellow or light in color.

The boards shall be constructed in such a manner that the surface facing the playing surface shall be smooth and free of any obstruction or object that could cause injury to players. All doors giving access to the playing surface must swing away from the playing surface.

It is highly recommended that the entire rink, including players and penalty benches, be enclosed with safety glass, fencing and/ or other protective screens designed to separate players from spectators. All gear used to hold such equipment in place shall be mounted on the boards on the side away from the playing surface.

#### Rule 103 Goal Posts and Nets

- (a) The goal frame shall be made of metal, or other approved material. The goal posts shall be set 1.83m apart measured from the inside of the posts and the

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crossbar shall extend vertically 1.22m above the playing surface, connecting the tops of the goal posts.

The goal posts and cross bar shall be painted red and all other exterior surfaces shall be painted white.

- (b) Attached to each goal frame shall be netting strong enough to withstand any shot by a puck or ball.
- (c) A minimum of 3.50m to a maximum of 4.50m from each end of the rink a red line 5cm wide known as the "GOAL LINE" shall be painted extending completely across the rink and continuing vertically up the side boards.

The goal shall be centered on the goal line and shall be fixed in such a manner as to remain stationary during the progress of the game. The goal posts shall be anchored in such a manner as to permit a goal post to become dislodged when hit by a player with a significant degree of force.

Play shall be stopped immediately when the goal post has been displaced from its normal position.

## **Rule 104 Goal Crease and Goalkeeper's Privileged Area**

- (a) In front of each goal, a "GOAL CREASE" shall be marked by a line 5cm wide. The goal crease shall be laid out as follows: A semicircle 180cm in radius and 5cm in width shall be drawn using the center of the goal line as the center point. In addition, an "L" shaped marking of 15cm in length (both lines) at each front corner shall be painted on the surface. The location of the "L" marking is measured by drawing an imaginary line 1.22m from the goal line to the edge of the semicircle. At that point, the "L" shall be drawn.
- NEW** (b) The goal crease area shall include all the space outlined by the semicircular crease lines (including goal crease lines) and extending vertically **1.22 meters** to the bottom of the cross bar.
- (c) The goalkeeper's "PRIVILEGED AREA" is an area bounded in the rear by the end boards, in front by an imaginary line connecting the end zone face-off spots and on the sides by imaginary lines extending perpendicular from the end boards to the end zone face off spots.

## **Rule 105 Division of Rink**

- (a) The playing surface shall be divided into two halves by a "CENTER RED LINE" 30cm wide, extending completely across the rink and continuing vertically up the side boards.

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- (b) The center red line shall be considered to be a part of the zone in which the puck/ ball is located.
- (c) The half of the playing surface in which the goal is situated shall be called the "DEFENDING ZONE" of the team defending that goal. The half of the playing surface furthest from the defending goal shall be known as the "ATTACKING ZONE".

## **Rule 106 Center Face-Off Spot and Circle**

- (a) One 30cm diameter blue face-off spot shall be at the exact center of the rink.  
**NEW** With this spot as a center, a 4.50m radius circle shall be marked with a **red** line 5cm wide. On both sides of the circle there shall be two lines 60cm long, 5cm wide and 1.20m apart.

## **Rule 107 Special Face-Off Spots and Circles**

- (a) Four red face-off spots 60cm in diameter shall be marked on the surface 9.90m from the end zone face-off spots along an imaginary line connecting the end face-off spots. Within each face off spot drawn two parallel lines 10cm from the top and bottom of the spot. The area within the two lines shall be painted red.

## **Rule 108 End Zone Face-Off Spots and Circles**

- (a) In both ends and on both sides of each goal, red face-off spots and circles shall be  
**NEW** marked on the playing surface. The face-off spots shall be **60cm** in diameter. Within each face-off spot drawn two parallel lines 10cm from the top and bottom of the spot. The area within the two lines shall be painted red.  
With this spot as a center, a 4.50m radius circle shall be marked with a red line 5cm wide. On both sides of the circle there shall be two lines 60cm long, 5cm wide and 1.20m apart.
- (b) The End Zone face-off spots shall be located equidistant from the side boards and **6.10m** from each goal line. It is recommended that there be a 13.50m distance between the End Zone face-off spots in the same zone.  
**NEW**

## **Rule 109 Player Benches**

- (a) Each rink shall have seats or benches for the use of each team. Each player bench shall have accommodations for at least 10 people and shall be placed immediately alongside the playing surface, as near as possible to the center of the rink.

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All doors opening to the playing surface shall swing away from the playing surface.

- (b) None but players in uniform, and Team Officials (up to a maximum of four) shall be permitted to occupy the bench area.
- (c) During a game, Coaches, Managers, and Trainers are restricted to the length of the player benches.

## **Rule 110 Penalty Bench**

- (a) Each rink must be provided with seats or benches to be used for the seating of a penalized player, the Game Timekeeper, and Official Scorer. The penalty bench must be separated from the player's benches, ideally on the opposite side of the rink.
- (b) On the playing surface immediately in front of the Penalty Timekeeper's seat there shall be marked in red a semicircle of 3m radius and 5cm wide which shall be known as the Referees Crease.

## **Rule 111 Signal and Timing Devices**

- (a) Each rink shall be provided with some form of electrical clock for the purpose of keeping the spectators, players and Game Officials accurately informed as to all time elements at all stages of the game, including the time remaining to be played.

Timing devices for both game time and penalty time shall show time remaining to be played or served.

- (b) Each rink shall be provided with a siren, or other suitable sound device to signify the end of playing time.
- (c) Behind each goal electric lights or similar devices shall be set up for the use of the Goal Judges. A red light or other signal shall signify the scoring of a goal.