



The Referee's Crease

A Newsletter for ALLIANCE Hockey Officials

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OFFSIDES

It is expected that everyone knows the basics of offsidess -a player precedes the puck into that player's attacking zone (R 10.8 (a)). Let's spend a bit of time on some detail.

We know from every recert exam ever given that it is the position of the player's skates which are the determining factor in deciding an offside (R 10.8 (c)). Skates can be on, above or on either side of the blueline. The player can be moving into or out of the zone, or onto or off of the ice.

With the exception of R 10.8 (a) Note 2, in order to be onside, at least one of the attacking player's skates (blade or boot -(R10.8 Sit 16)) must be in physical contact with the ice somewhere on the blueline or behind it when the puck fully crosses the blueline. A skate in the air above or behind the blueline does not keep a player onside (R 10.8 Sit 3, Sit 15).

The exception noted above is a player who has possession and control of the puck while the player has at least one skate in the neutral zone (ie on or behind the blueline). That player is entitled to carry the puck across the blueline after he enters the zone if the player continues to maintain possession and control of the puck while bringing it into the attacking zone.

If a player has both skates and the puck inside the attacking zone but stickhandles the puck completely outside the blueline, the player must tag up before bringing the puck into the attacking zone (R 10.8 (e) (2), Sit 11, Sit 14).

The bottom line is that for players moving into or out of the zone, at a minimum, one skate has to physically have a bite of the blueline to either tag up or to be onside.

The puck on the other hand, must be entirely on white ice to be considered to have moved into or out of the zone. Any bite of the blueline by the puck means that it has not yet moved from the zone it just came from.

TWISTS

If an attacking player is in the attacking zone, all deflections back into the zone are offside (R 10.8 (e), Sit 8, Sit 13, Sit 17). Only deliberate plays by the defending team back into its zone are onside (R 10.8 (d)).

If a penalty box opens into a team's attacking zone, as soon as the penalty expires, the penalized player is treated as being on the ice for offsidess (R 10.8 Sit 20).

A player who has gone to his bench in the attacking zone during a delayed offside is considered not in the zone. His substitute is offside if he enters the zone before the zone is clear of attackers (R 10.8 Sit 24).

TIME WASTING LINKS:

<http://www.versuscountrybagamonsterbuck.com/>
<http://www.aksalser.com/game.htm>

Review Board:

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