



The Referee's Crease

A Newsletter for ALLIANCE Hockey Officials

You've Got to Have a Fight

Most penalties in the Hockey Canada rule book stand on their own. They are independent penalties (eg. hooking, tripping etc.). They do not need to involve another penalty to make the action a violation of the rules. However, some penalties can only be called if another penalty is also called. Almost all of these "dependent" penalties involve a fight situation.

The key point to remember in all of the penalties which follow is that if there is not at least a 5 + GM30 (fighting) being called, the dependent penalty cannot be called.

Instigator / aggressor penalties (R 59 (a) (1)) are only available against a player "in a fight". The instigator is the player responsible for starting the fight by throwing or attempting to throw the first punch (Glossary, p 23).

An aggressor, who may or may not also be the instigator of the fight, is a player who attempts to continue the fight after the other player clearly indicates a desire to either not become involved in or to continue the fight (Glossary, p 20). **REMEMBER** - if only one player is getting a 5 + GM for fighting, (s)he only gets an aggressor minor added on, not both an aggressor and instigator (R 59 Sit 4).

Goalies can leave their crease whenever they want during a game, except when there is a fight. If there is a fight and the goalie leaves the crease without being directed to do so by the referee, a minor penalty is assessed against the goalie (R 37 (c)).

"2nd fight same stoppage" penalties mean that there has been at least one earlier fighting penalty assessed during that same stoppage in play (R 59 (c)). The 2nd (or 3rd etc.) fight can involve one or both of the same players as the 1st fight, or different players. A 5 + GM30 + GM31 applies.

Peacekeepers and others who involve themselves in any ongoing fight are considered 3rd (or 4th etc.) players into that fight (R 59 (c)) - a 5 + GM30 + GM32 is applied.

Players are not allowed to leave the bench or penalty box at any time during a fight (R 70 (a), (b) & (c)). However, if they are in the midst of a substitution and are already on the ice when the fight breaks out, they earn no penalties if they go to their bench area (or otherwise as directed by the referee) and do not involve themselves in the fight (R 70 (a) & R 59 (a) (5)).

Fighting is not defined in the rulebook. What the rulebook does tell us is that you can have a one person fight - if the other player does not retaliate (R 59 (a) (3)). You can have a one punch fight (R 59 Sit 21).

What you cannot have is any of the above penalties unless you also assess a 5 + GM30 for fighting. Those listed actions (and others) depend on a fighting major to make them penalties.

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PROUD TO BE CELEBRATING 15 YEARS OF ALLIANCE HOCKEY

