



# The Referee's Crease

A Newsletter for ALLIANCE Hockey Officials

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## GAME MANAGEMENT TIPS FOR LINESMEN – AFTER GOALS

Nobody questions that referees can impact how a game proceeds by the choices that ref makes on the ice – penalty choices, penalty standard, positioning for calls, etc. What is less realized is how linesmen can contribute to a well managed game.

There are a number of things that a linesman can do to help properly manage a game. Many steps will go unnoticed by coaches and fans, but all will be greatly appreciated by the ref (and any Supervisors in the crowd).

In concept, most techniques are simply a matter of positioning yourself to reduce the chances of a conflict developing. Just as children misbehave less when an adult is nearby and watching, so too do players when any stripes are near and paying attention.

The next few editions of the Referees' Crease are going to focus on game management tips for linesmen. The hope is that by familiarizing yourself with these techniques, the HC procedures will be much more commonly used and players will learn to expect and respect them.

## AFTER GOALS

The front linesmen immediately skates into the end zone, positioning him/herself between the players celebrating the goal and the defending players or goaltender. The back linesman moves towards the celebrating players and positions him/herself between those players and the opposition bench, controlling what happens between the two.

Once it is clear that no altercations will develop in the end zone, the front linesman retrieves the puck and goes to the center ice face-off spot to await the referee. The back linesman moves with the players to prevent any possible confrontations.

If the players' benches are on the same side of the ice and the scoring team's bench is the near bench, the back linesman moves ahead of the celebrating players and positions him/herself at about center ice, along the boards, just beyond the bench of the team that scored. This forces the team which scored, after the glove slaps at the bench, to skate off of the boards and not cross in front of the opposition's bench.

If the scoring team's bench is the far bench, the back linesman moves with the celebrating players, keeping him/herself between those players and the opposition bench. The linesman stops at center ice, along the boards, just past the opposition bench acting as a buffer between the celebrating players and the other team's bench.

Once all is clear, "happy bench" positioning takes place and the game continues.

## COMMENTS / QUESTIONS

Email us at: [refscreeze@alliancehockey.com](mailto:refscreeze@alliancehockey.com).

Review Board: Lorne Campbell, Rick Mophew, Marshall Copp, Sean Reid, Dave Beech, Doug Ryerson and Chris Perkins.

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