



Adult League Participants,

While we are all working hard to keep playing hockey during a world pandemic, there are a number of rules and guidelines that are under constant evaluation by Minnesota Hockey (MNH). One rule is the “no-bag” rule for all MNH affiliates. This rule has been instituted to minimize contact time and get people in and out of the rink as fast as possible. This rule has caused hardship for adult players that are different from youth players and as a result, Minnesota Hockey is conducting a test program with the sanctioned Adult Leagues: Adult Hockey Association (AHA), MN Wild Adult Hockey League, and the Women’s Hockey Association of Minnesota (WHAM) to **allow players to use bags** while adhering to strict social distancing (6 feet of distance), masking (wearing a mask at all times-including while on the ice), and following the 10-minute (15 minute for goalies) entry and exit time allotment rule.

This pilot program will go into effect on Monday, February 15 through the remainder of the season unless there are subsequent changes made by MNH. Because this is a pilot, results of this program may be used to make changes for all participants within MNH.

While MNH strongly recommends coming/leaving the arena fully dressed, it recognizes adult players have unique challenges. This pilot program is being conducted to see how well people will adhere to the mandatory time limits while using a bag. If there are issues with adherence, the pilot will be **anceled** and MNH will continue with the “no bag” and “dress-at-home” policies.

Minimizing contact time is the main priority; therefore, there will be strict penalties for not following the specific 10 minute (15 minute for goalies) time guidelines:

- First offense: entire team is suspended from all MNH participation for seven calendar days from the time the offense occurred.
- Second offense: entire team is suspended from all MNH participation for 14 calendar days from the time the offense occurred.
- Third offense: entire team is suspended from all MNH participation for an entire year from the time the offense occurred.

Arenas have been asked to set a ten minute clock prior to the ice resurface following a game. Any players remaining in the locker rooms after the clock has expired (goalies have an additional five minutes) are in violation of the time allowed and the team/incidence information will be forwarded to the Adult Hockey and Women’s Hockey Directors. Notification to the team will be within 24 hours of the Directors receiving notification. Specific league officials (AHA, Wild Hockey and WHAM) are not included in the enforcement loop and will not be involved in issuing the suspension, other than providing specific team data. This is a MNH rule and all suspensions are being issued by MNH.

Questions, please email your Adult Directors:

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