

# REFEREE RULES EMPHASIS

## College Hockey East 2022-23



### PROTOCOL ENFORCEMENT

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- All teams are required to adhere to their division's pre-game format for each game.
  - No protocol adjustments shall be made unless truly warranted and approved by the referees.
  - The home team is to post a copy of the pre-game protocol in the officials' locker room.
  - Teams are not permitted to skip ice resurfacings, adjust the game clock, or modify any standard proceedings of a game for any reason, unless specifically cited in the CHE Game Manual.
  - The CHE does provide for a Mercy Rule, applicable only in the third period and outlined in the CHE Game Manual.
- Referees are expected, with some discretion, to issue penalties for protocol violations, including:
  - Players continuing warm-up activities (including skating laps, shooting pucks, stretching on the ice) after the warm-up period has expired.
  - Players entering the ice prior to the start of any period, including the warm-up period.
  - Players not proceeding "directly or indirectly" to their team bench at the start of any period.

### HELMET REQUIREMENTS

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- Players skating on the ice prior to the start of a period without a helmet shall be penalized as either a protocol violation or an equipment violation.
  - This includes players leaving their helmets on the bench before exiting the ice at any time, including the pregame period.
  - If more than one player is violating the rule, a protocol violation is more applicable; if it is isolated to an individual player, an equipment violation is more applicable to penalize that specific player.
  - This is an important safety matter and must be enforced by the referees.
- Backup goaltenders are required to wear a helmet on the bench.
  - It is understood that referees are best to not act as "equipment police" for periphery matters throughout a game, so a goaltender sitting near the back of the bench may not be within the purview of the on-ice officials.
  - A warning should be issued to the head coach when a helmetless goaltender is hanging over the boards during play; a repeat offense should be penalized as a bench minor.

### DISQUALIFICATION PENALTIES

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- Proper in-game application of Disqualification Penalties (DQs) is expected of all officials.
  - A DQ is never issued as a "5 + DQ" for any single penalty; a DQ is a standalone penalty that includes 5 minutes of penalty time on the clock (unless coincidental).
  - The referee is responsible for ensuring a DQ is recorded correctly on the scoresheet at the time it is issued; confer with the Official Scorer and assume the Scorer is unfamiliar with the penalty.
  - The DQ must meet the requirements of the NCAA Rulebook; there are too many instances of USAH Match Penalty rules being applied to NCAA scenarios (such as a helmet becoming dislodged during an altercation/scrum).
- An incident report is not required for any DQ (nor GM) in a CHE game unless the referee feels that more context should be supplied to the league, especially if supplemental discipline may be warranted.
  - The League Office will seek a incident report for any other matter, only when necessary.
- Teams should always be redirected to the CHE League Office when seeking the correct disciplinary application (e.g., suspension) in conjunction with a DQ.