COMPETITION

DISCIPLINARY, TRIBUNAL & SUSPENSION REGULATIONS

Version 2.0

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

Section **Page**

1. Introduction 3
2. Objective 3
3. Definitions and Interpretations 3
4. Jurisdiction 5
5. The Purpose and Powers of the Competition Tribunal 6
6. Composition of the Competition Tribunal 6
7. Citing Before a Tribunal 7
8. Matters Referred to a Committee of Management 8
9. Pre-Tribunal Hearing Procedure 8
10. Attendance at the Tribunal 9
11. Accepting an Automatic Suspension 9
12. Representation at a Tribunal 9
13. Conduct of the Tribunal 9
14. Investigation &Tribunal Process 10
15. Decision of the Tribunal 11
16. Suspended & Probationary Sentences 12
17. Appeals 12
18. Schedule A: Tribunal, Suspension & Appeal Process 14
    Schedule B: NZIHF Game Referee's Incident Report 15
    Schedule C: Notification of Automatic Suspension Advice 17
    Schedule D: Notification of Tribunal 18
    Schedule E: Tribunal Hearing Results Report 20
    Schedule F: Tribunal Result Advice Notification 22
    Schedule G: NZIHF Competition Automatic Suspension Regulations 23
    Schedule H: Offences & Automatic Suspensions 26
    Schedule I: Fisticuffs & Roughing 35
19. Document Changes 36

1. Introduction

The Competition Disciplinary, Tribunal and Suspension Regulations are made by New Zealand Ice Hockey Federation **(NZIHF)** pursuant to Section 18 "Discipline of Members" of the NZIHF Constitution.

This Regulation forms part of the body of 'Rules' governing the operations of New Zealand Ice Hockey Federation, as defined in New Zealand Ice Hockey Federation's Constitution and Sport Regulations.

The penalties, fines, suspensions, Tribunal bodies and processes contained in this Regulation are binding on all New Zealand Ice Hockey Federation Members who compete in New Zealand Ice Hockey Federation sanctioned games and/or events.

2. Objectives

2.1. To facilitate the expeditious resolution, in accordance with the principles of natural justice, disciplinary actions for misdemeanors occurring in NZIHF sanctioned competitions. In order to facilitate this and to reduce the need for time-consuming Tribunal Hearings, an automatic suspension schedule will be invoked. This schedule can be found in Section 18: Schedule H "Offences and Automatic Suspensions".

2.2. To ensure that all players, officials and other associated individuals and organisations observe the rules of Ice Hockey, including the Constitution, By-Laws, Regulations, Rules of Competition and Policies of the International Ice Hockey Federation (**IIHF**), NZIHF and its affiliated Member Organisations as shall be applicable from time to time.

2.3. To provide a system which sets out procedures, processes, guidelines and penalties for breaches of the NZIHF's Constitution, Regulations or Policies.

2.4. To ensure that all charges brought against a party at a Tribunal, and any appeal from a Tribunal decision, shall be conducted fairly and in accordance with the principles of natural justice.

2.5. To provide a clear understanding and an overview of the Suspension, Tribunal and Appeals processes by using the Tribunal Suspension and Appeals Process Flowchart as contained in Schedule A. The flowchart is intended as a "guide" only to aid in the understanding of the relevant processes.

3. Definitions & Interpretation

In these Regulations, unless the context otherwise requires, the following terms shall mean-

3.1. **Additional Suspension -** means any suspension in addition to an automatic suspension.

3.2. **Automatic Suspension -** means an immediate suspension without the need for review or a Tribunal unless noted as requiring a Tribunal. Such suspension may be appealed with the provision of new evidence.

3.2.1 Notwithstanding, in the case that a person accepts an automatic suspension, this cannot be appealed at a later date.

3.3. **Committee of Management** - used in this Regulation applies to the NZIHF Board and any properly constituted and elected committee of management or equivalent of an NZIHF member association or organisation.

3.4. **Competition Season -** means the schedule of Regular Competition Games, Finals, Tournaments or Championships as organised and/or sanctioned by NZIHF or an NZIHF member organisation.

3.5. **Competition Tribunal** – means a Tribunal as formed by the NZIHF, or NZIHF member organisation or league.

3.6. **Defendant** – means a person brought under charges of this Regulation.

3.7. **Entering the Ice -** means a person entering onto the ice surface without prior permission from the Senior Match Official or an Assistant Match Official unless as prescribed by Rule 565 of the 2010-2014 IIHF Rule Book.

3.8. **Fine** - shall mean a monetary amount is set for a misdemeanour as determined by the NZIHF and/or a member organisation or the Tribunal.

3.9. **Fixed Penalty -** means a suspension of a prescribed number of games as set out in Schedule H "Offences & Automatic Suspensions".

3.10. **Offence -** means any of the offences as set out in Schedule H "Offences & Automatic" for which a set penalty can apply.

3.11. **Form -** means any of the forms as set out in Schedules B, C, D, E & F of these Regulations.

3.12. **Game** - means any game of ice hockey under the sanction of the NZIHF or a NZIHF Member Organisation.

3.13. **Game Official -** includes the following:

3.13.1. an appointed game referee; or
3.13.2. an appointed linesperson; or
3.13.3. any other person appointed as an off-ice official, including without limitation, Referee Supervisor, Timekeepers, Score-keepers, Goal Judges, Announcer, Video Goal Judge and Penalty Box Attendants as designated by NZIHF or a member or sanctioned organisation.

3.14. **In-Game Penalty** - means any penalty served by a player or team official during a game in accordance with the penalties provided in Schedule H "Offences and Automatic Suspensions".

3.15. **Member Organisation –** means a club, region or league that is a registered member of the NZIHF.

3.16. **New Zealand Ice Hockey Federation (NZIHF) –** The organisation tasked to govern the sport of Ice Hockey in New Zealand.

3.17. **Player** - means a registered individual member of the NZIHF and/or a NZIHF Member Organisation and who is a player on a team that is a member of the NZIHF and/or a NZIHF Member Organisation at the relevant time.

3.18. **Protest** - means a formal written protest against a game result arising from an allegation that a team has fielded an ineligible player.

3.19. **Relevant Team -** means any team or teams which a player or team official represents (whether formally or informally), or with which the player or team official is connected in any way, as determined by the NZIHF or a NZIHF Member Organisation.

3.20. **Serious Misconduct** – shall mean any act of omission by a player, team official or a game official which constitutes:

3.20.1. a breach of the NZIHF's or a NZIHF Member Organisation's Regulations which may be in place from time to time;
3.20.2. participating, assisting or arranging the participation or assistance of others in any game fixing, gambling or betting activities in relation to a game;
3.20.3. in the opinion of the NZIHF or a NZIHF Member Organisation, conduct which is or may be prejudicial to the interests of the NZIHF, its Member Organisations or the sport of ice hockey in New Zealand, including any of their sponsors.

3.21. **Suspension** – means a disciplinary action for offences occurring in NZIHF or a NZIHF Member Organisation game(s), competition(s), tournament(s) or championship(s) and affiliate organisation games operated, managed or sanctioned by the NZIHF or NZIHF Member Organisations and include Automatic Suspensions and any Additional Suspension.

3.22. **Suspended Suspension** - means a probationary suspension in addition to an Additional Suspension.

3.19 **Team -** means a team participating in, affiliated with, or in any other way connected to the NZIHF or a NZIHF Member Organisation and for the removal of doubt includes any entity which has entered into a Team Licence Agreement with a NZIHF or NZIHF Member Organisation sanctioned League.

3.20 **Team Official** - means one or more of the following, whether individually or collectively:

3.20.1 Team Office Bearers; and
3.20.2 Team Officials (coach, assistant coach, manager, assistant manager, equipment manager or anyone who is officially associated with the Team).

3.21 **Tribunal** - means a Tribunal established pursuant to this Regulation.

3.22 **Tribunal Members** – means members of a Tribunal Panel.

3.23 **Tribunal Panel** – means an appointed person (s) with the responsibility to investigate, hear and resolve matters brought before them in accordance with these Regulations.

Any term defined in an NZIHF Member Organisation's Constitution or Licence Agreement, as effective from time to time, shall have the same meaning as set out in that document unless otherwise expressed in this Regulation.

<u>Headings are for convenience of reference only and do not affect interpretation</u>.

4. Jurisdiction

4.1. All NZIHF members (in this Regulation "defendant") will be subject to, and submit unreservedly to the jurisdiction, procedures, penalties, appeal and suspension mechanisms of the NZIHF as set out in this Regulation.

4.2. All NZIHF members agree that they will not become a party to any suit, at law or equity, against the NZIHF, the NZIHF Board, the Committee of Management, a NZIHF Official or any other person who may be the subject of this Regulation until all remedies allowed by this Regulation have been exhausted.

4.3. NZIHF Member Organizations (clubs, regions, leagues, affiliated associations and all other affiliated organisations are responsible for the establishment and operation of Tribunal processes for matters arising in their sanctioned games.

4.4. The NZIHF is responsible for the establishment and operation of the NZIHF's Tribunal

processes for matters arising in competitions, tournaments and championship games operated, managed or sanctioned by the NZIHF, and on matters of dispute between NZIHF Member Organizations and for matters referred to it by a member club, region, league, affiliate association or affiliate organizations.

4.5. The NZIHF may intervene in disciplinary matters that are within the jurisdiction of a Member Organisation. The NZIHF in considering an exercise of its discretion under this Regulation must determine whether all disciplinary or judiciary avenues available to a Member Organisation under the relevant organisation's Constitution has been exhausted.

4.6. The NZIHF may remit any matter referred to it by a Member Organisation where:

4.6.1. it considers that the matter is not of relevant significance or importance, or
4.6.2. the matter has not been exhausted at all lower levels of appeal, or
4.6.3. the matter has not been properly dealt with at the lower level.

5. The Purpose and Powers of the Competition Tribunal

5.1. The purpose of the Competition Tribunal is to determine all reports and charges arising out of the conduct of Ice Hockey in the NZIHF, both on and off the ice. This includes charges against:

5.1.1. players, team officials and game officials as reported by the game referee(s);
5.1.2. any person reported under IIHF Rule 510, which covers Supplementary Discipline.

5.2. In all matters, the object of the Tribunal shall be to ensure the maintenance of an orderly disciplined sport, consistent with fair play and the current rules of ice hockey.

5.3. Suspended members cited for, or in the course of a Tribunal, where criminal legal action has been initiated, shall remain suspended until the criminal legal proceedings have been concluded.

6. Composition of the Competition Tribunal

6.1. The NZIHF and its Member Organisations shall form and appoint a Tribunal Panel consisting of such person or persons as they shall, from time to time, deem fit.

6.2. The Tribunal Panel shall consist of a Tribunal Chairperson, plus two (2) other members as appointed by the NZIHF or a Member Organisation's, Committee of Management, or in the case of national championships, the National Championship Supervisor.

6.2.1 **Chairperson**: The Chairperson of the Panel shall be appointed by the appropriate authorities. The role of the Chairperson is to:

6.2.1.1 Normally chair disciplinary proceedings held in their local area or as required by the NZIHF or Member Organisation, except that the Chairperson shall not sit on any Disciplinary panels involving members of his/her own Team or where he/she has a close personal interest unless the charged party agrees.

6.2.1.2 Rule on points of order or matters of procedure and his or her ruling shall be final.

6.2.1.3 Ensure a copy of all documentation is forwarded to the NZIHF Disciplinary Coordinator, the charged person/s, their club and the Regional Disciplinary Chairperson which is usually the regional Referee in Chief.

6.2.2 **Members:**

6.2.2.1 A minimum of two additional approved members are required for each panel. No member (including the Chairperson) shall be from the same team.

6.2.2.2 Members of the Disciplinary Panel shall not participate in any hearing where they have a close personal interest in the outcome - i.e. Family member, relative, employee etc.

6.2.3 **Disciplinary Panel Secretary**:

6.2.3.1 A Disciplinary Panel Secretary may be present to record the panel, attendees, evidence and the outcome. Alternatively, the Chairperson or one of the Members may be called upon to act as Secretary. In the event that the Secretary is not one of the Members, then they shall not have a vote in determining the outcome of any particular report/charge. All documentation shall be forwarded to the NZIHF Disciplinary Coordinator and a copy of the decision forward to the charged person/s, their club or team and the Regional Disciplinary Chairperson which is usually the Regional Referee in Chief.

6.3. No Tribunal Member may represent a defendant, team official or team in any proceedings before a Tribunal whilst a Tribunal Member, or within 12 months from the end of their term of appointment as a Tribunal Member.

6.4. In special cases where the Tribunal Chairperson sees fit, other experts may be called to sit on a Tribunal.

6.5. The party reported or charged shall have the right to object to a particular member of a Tribunal hearing the matter, providing an objection is received on the basis of actual bias. The Tribunal Chairperson shall have the authority to dismiss a member citing bias.

6.6. In the event that a Tribunal Member has been dismissed because of bias, a replacement Tribunal Member is to be appointed. The matter is to be referred to the Committee of Management to convene a new Tribunal of three persons. The Defendant shall remain under suspension during the course of these proceedings, unless deemed otherwise by the Committee of Management.

7. Citings Before a Tribunal

7.1. Any NZIHF member participating in an NZIHF sanctioned competition may be required to appear before a Tribunal if:

7.1.1. they incur a reported penalty by the Game Referee as per the rules under which the competition is being played and NZIHF's Competition Suspension Regulations, where such penalty includes appearing before a Tribunal; or

7.1.2. they are reported on a "supplementary discipline" charge under IIHF Rule 510, especially if reported by a Referee Supervisor; or

7.1.3. the person is reported by an Official of the NZIHF or a Member of the NZIHF as having:

7.1.3.1. Breached, failed, refused or neglected to comply with a provision of the Rules, these Regulations or any other resolution or determination of the Assembly, Board or duly authorised Management Committee; or

7.1.3.2. Acted in a manner unbecoming of a Member which is prejudicial to the objects and interests of the NZIHF, the competition and/or the sport of ice hockey; or

7.1.3.3. Their actions have brought the NZIHF, the competition or the sport of Ice Hockey into disrepute whilst attending, or participating in, a competition, league, tournament and/or championship game operated, managed or under the sanction of the NZIHF.

7.2. In addition to the matters in Section 7.1, a Committee of Management, or the NZIHF Board in its sole discretion, may refer to a Tribunal any other matter which they consider requires investigation or determination.

7.3. The Tribunal is empowered to discipline by method of reprimand, suspension, disqualification or expulsion. The Tribunal is not to deal with matters that are the subject of a criminal legal action and shall cease until the criminal legal action is resolved.

7.4. Any player or person receiving a Tribunal related penalty as reported by the Game Referee in an NZIHF sanctioned competition is not entitled to play or participate in any other NZIHF

sanctioned game until the suspension has been served, or if in the case of a Tribunal, a final decision has been determined. Special consideration may be given to a suspended player who:

7.4.1. Has been selected to and wishes to participate with a NZIHF national team in a World Championship; or
7.4.2. Is entering into a playing contract with an overseas team.

Each will be considered on its own merit by the NZIHF Board and the player's relevant Member Organisation.

7.5. Any Individual Member who wishes to report an alleged infringement of the rules of the game shall lodge all particulars in writing, within 48 hours of the alleged offence taking place, to:

7.5.1. Their relevant Member Organisation for club, region, league or Organisation matters; or
7.5.2. The NZIHF President for NZIHF sanctioned national competitions, tournaments and championships.

Out-of-Competition matters are to be referred to the Tribunal process as outlined in the NZIHF Out-of-Competition Disciplinary and Tribunal Regulations.

7.6. Any Individual Member wishing to make a charge against any club, official or player under The NZIHF's Member Protection Policy shall lodge all particulars in writing with the relevant NZIHF Member Organization or the NZIHF President.

7.7. Trivial or frivolous charges will not be considered by the Tribunal. Any member making such a charge may be subject to the provisions governing bringing the game into disrepute.

7.8. Game Referees making reports against clubs, teams, officials or players arising out of a game at which they have officiated must:

7.8.1. Ensure the incident and subsequent penalty is recorded on the Official Game Sheet. This should be done immediately at the end of the game in which the offence occurred and prior to handing the Official Game Sheet to the Game Scorer.
7.8.2. Once the game sheet has been signed by the Game Referee, the Game Scorer is responsible to advise managers of the participating teams which player(s) or team official(s) have been cited and for what offence(s).
7.8.3. Immediately following the game, the Game Referee must complete the Game Referee's Incident Report (Schedule B) and forward the completed report to the relevant person (s) as appointed by Management Committee of the NZIHF or the relevant Member Organisation with which the competition is registered. This must be done within 24 hours of the conclusion of the game.

7.9. Once a report has been posted by the Game Referee, it cannot be withdrawn, and the report, and any Tribunal matter pertaining to that report, must be heard by a Tribunal.

7.10. It is the responsibility of the charged or reported person or appropriate officials of the player's team management, to collect all supporting documentation (i.e. details of the charge or report) prior to leaving the venue. In the event that this is not possible, the documents will be available from the NZIHF Disciplinary Coordinator, the Regional Disciplinary Coordinator, the Member Organisation's Committee of Management, or the NZIHF National Championship Supervisor for national championship games.

8. Matters Referred to a Committee of Management

8.1. Where a charge or report is to be submitted to a Committee of Management, the charge or report is to be forwarded to the NZIHF Office (for national matters) or the President/Chairman of the respective Member Organisation who will then advise their respective Committee of Management. The Committee of Management may either:

8.1.1. refer the complaint to a Tribunal; or
8.1.2. refuse to refer the complaint to a Tribunal on the basis that there is insufficient evidence to constitute a prima facie case.

9. Pre-Tribunal Notification Investigation & Hearing Procedures

9.1. Any appointed person of the NZIHF or of a Member Organisation may investigate alleged misconduct to determine whether there is sufficient evidence to forward the matter to a Tribunal. Until such time as the matter is before the Tribunal, the reported person(s) is free to continue their participation in their usual role(s) as normal.

9.2. For Tribunal type penalties or incidents, the game sheet and referee's report is to be immediately reported to the appointed person responsible for the management and coordination of Hearings and Tribunals. This may include, but is not limited to the NZIHF's National Championship Supervisor, the Member Organisation's Referee-in-Chief, the National Association Referee-in-Chief or an appointed person.

9.3. If a penalty decision constitutes a Tribunal, automatic or otherwise:

9.3.1. Every attempt will be made to immediately notify the offending person personally or by telephone, email or standard post;
9.3.2. Notwithstanding this, the cited person is to be advised in writing of the charges against them and the details of the Tribunal using the appropriate forms and a covering letter as is exampled in the schedules of this document.
9.3.3. The reported person shall not participate in any further NZIHF sanctioned games until a final decision of the Tribunal has been determined.

10. Attendance at the Tribunal

10.1. NZIHF individual members are required to attend a Tribunal if so cited. The cited member may choose not to attend the Tribunal. However, this action may be taken as an uncontested admission to the charges. Cited members are required to advise the Tribunal Chairperson prior to commencement of the Tribunal if they accept the automatic suspension as charged under Schedule H "Offences" or in the case of an automatic Tribunal, do not intend to be present.

10.2. If the cited person chooses not to attend the Tribunal, the Tribunal will still proceed, taking into account the evidence before it. In choosing not to attend a tribunal, the cited member waives their right to have an advocate present their case or have witnesses speak on their behalf.

11. Accepting an automatic suspension

11.1. The cited member, upon receiving notification of a report or charge emanating from a game or incident, may choose to accept the decision as outlined in Schedule H "Offences". If the charged person chooses not to accept the reported charge and subsequent automatic suspension, they must submit notification in writing within three working days of the Notification of Suspension being received.

11.2. In cases requiring a Tribunal, and/or where an additional penalty may be imposed, the charged person may choose not to accept an automatic suspension. If the charged person chooses not to accept the reported charge then they must do so in writing within three working days of the notification being received. If the member does not intend to be present at the Tribunal, then the Tribunal will proceed.

12. Representation at Tribunals

12.1. Whilst it is the right of the reported person to have legal representation, the NZIHF discourages this practice. Should the reported person reserve the right to be legally

represented, they must officially inform the Tribunal Chairman, as the Tribunal may also wish to have legal representation. All parties must bear all ensuing costs associated with their legal representation regardless of the outcome.

12.2. The person or persons reported or charged may use the services of an Advocate to represent them. Those under 18 years of age must have a parent or guardian present.

13. Conduct of the Tribunal

13.1. Hearings by the Tribunal shall be of an informal nature. It is accepted that if proceedings do not follow the sequence set out in this Regulation, then the Tribunal cannot be seen to be improperly conducted, provided that all parties have been afforded the opportunity to state their case and bring forward appropriate evidence according to this regulation.

13.2. If a "Not Guilty" plea is submitted, then the tribunal is to proceed and the Tribunal Chairperson shall conduct the proceedings according to his/her discretion in accordance these Regulations. However the rights and interests of the parties are to be safeguarded at all times, and on the basis of full equality, in order that natural justice should occur.

14. Investigation & Tribunal Process

14.1. The Tribunal Panel may choose to first conduct an Investigation, or go direct to a Tribunal Hearing in any manner as they see fit, including but not limited to by way of teleconference or video conference and may, if it considers it appropriate, allow an amendment to the charges or adjourn the Hearing provided that:

14.1.1. All parties affected are given a reasonable opportunity to be heard;
14.1.2. The Investigation or Hearing is conducted with as little formality and technicality and with as much expedition as proper consideration of the matters before it permits;
14.1.3. The Investigation or Tribunal is not bound by the rules of evidence or by the practices or procedures applicable to courts of record but may inform itself as to any matter and in such manner it deems appropriate; and
14.1.4. The Investigation or Tribunal at its sole discretion may determine a matter before it in the absence of any parties.

14.2. Subject to this Regulation, the Tribunal may make guidelines with respect to practice and procedure of a hearing provided that such guidelines are not inconsistent with these Regulations. Any such guidelines are not binding on the Tribunal and any decision by the tribunal will not be invalid by reason of a guideline not being followed.

14.3. Video evidence shall be permissible where the Tribunal Panel deem relevant.

14.4. Notwithstanding the above, the Tribunal may follow the following sequence of procedures:

14.4.1. The Tribunal must satisfy itself that the person or persons reported have had due notice and that they understand the report or charge against them by Tribunal Chairman reading out each charge;
14.4.2. The Tribunal Chairman must also ensure that each Tribunal Member has copies of all relevant correspondence and documents;
14.4.3. The Defendant, if present, shall then be asked if they plead "GUILTY" or "NOT GUILTY". The Defendant may reserve their plea, in which case the Tribunal Chairperson will note that an informal plea of "NOT GUILTY" has been entered;
14.4.4. If the Defendant enters a plea of "GUILTY" to the charges against them, then the Tribunal may proceed with sentencing;
14.4.5. If the Defendant enters a plea of "NOT GUILTY" then the Tribunal will proceed as detailed below. The Defendant shall remain present for the complete duration of the Tribunal Hearing and shall only be required to leave when the Tribunal Panel deliberates the evidence;
14.4.6. Tribunal Members have the right to examine and cross-examine any persons participating at or appearing before a Tribunal Hearing as they deem fit:

14.4.7. The Game Referee or person making the report or charge may be asked to present their evidence to the Tribunal if it deems necessary, and may call witnesses if they deem necessary;

14.4.8. The evidence of the game referee or person laying the report or charge is then examined by the Tribunal and may be cross-examined by the reported person or their Advocate. The Game Referee need not be present and cross-examination may take place by telephone as deemed appropriate.

14.4.9. After any cross-examination has taken place, the person having given evidence may be re-examined to explain matters arising from the cross-examination;

14.4.10. The Defendant may then give evidence in their defense, and may call any witness or Advocate supporting their evidence.

14.4.11. The Defendants evidence is then examined by the Tribunal, and may be cross-examined by the person making the report. This cross-examination may take place by telephone as deemed appropriate.

14.4.12. After any cross-examination of the Defendant, no further examination should take place, except with the expressed consent of the Tribunal Panel; and

14.4.13. After all evidence is presented, Defendant or their Advocate has the right to sum up their case, including making the Tribunal aware of any mitigating circumstances which the Tribunal Panel is to take into consideration before reaching their decision.

14.4.14. At the completion of the evidence:

(a) The parties shall, if requested by the Tribunal, leave the hearing room or otherwise absent themselves from hearing the deliberations of the Tribunal. The Tribunal will consider all the evidence and submissions made during the hearing and make a determination on the balance of probabilities with respect to whether or not the matter, charge or charges have been proven;

(b) The Defendant should be advised that they can wait while the matter is decided or take their leave, having been assured that if they take their leave they will be advised orally within one hour of the decision if this is possible, or by telephone and/or email and formally in writing within three (3) working days;

(c) Where the Tribunal is constituted by three (3) persons then it will be sufficient for a majority of those persons to agree on the decision;

(d) Having considered all the material before it, including oral evidence and representations of the parties, the Tribunal will make a determination of guilty or not guilty on each of the charges against the reported person. The Tribunal will then consider what penalty is appropriate, in the event that a finding of guilty has been reached;

15. Decision of the Tribunal

15.1. The Tribunal, having considered all the evidence and submissions made during the hearing, may make the following findings:

15.1.1. the charge/s are not proven - dismissed, or

15.1.2. the charge/s are proven, but in the circumstances, are not to be recorded in the Disciplinary records, or

15.1.3. the charge/s are proven, but in the circumstances no penalty imposed and a reprimand may be given, or

15.1.4. the charge/s are proven, and a suspension imposed for a period of time as deemed appropriate by the Disciplinary Panel, or

15.1.5. the charge/s are proven, and a penalty is imposed pursuant to the automatic suspension schedule (Schedule H), or

15.1.6. some other measure may be deemed appropriate by the Disciplinary Panel.

15.1.7. In addition to other suspension, a recommendation to the NZIHF Executive that the guilty person be expelled from membership of the NZIHF.

15.2. Having reached their determination of guilty, the Tribunal may also have regard to any matters which it considers relevant to the question of penalty and, without limitation, take into consideration:

15.2.1. the seriousness of the conduct with which the party is charged or found guilty of by the Tribunal;
15.2.2. any loss or damage sustained by any person howsoever arising from the conduct;
15.2.3. evidence of prior proven Misconduct by the party charged; and
15.2.4. insofar as they are relevant, the objectives of the NZIHF's and/or its Member Association's or Member Organisation's Constitutions.

15.3. Where a Defendant is found guilty by the Tribunal of an offence listed in "Offences & Automatic Suspensions" (Schedule G), the Tribunal shall impose the corresponding penalty listed. The Tribunal may award an additional penalty as deemed necessary. In the case of other offences, The Tribunal may impose such penalty as the Tribunal considers reasonable in the circumstances.

15.4. Subject to Clause 15.3 the Tribunal may impose, in its own absolute discretion, any one or more of the following penalties or outcomes on such terms as it sees fit:
15.4.1. Expulsion;
15.4.2. Disqualification;
15.4.3. Suspension;
15.4.4. A monetary fine;
15.4.5. A reprimand or caution;
15.4.6. Deduction of points;
15.4.7. Suspended Suspension
15.4.8. Compulsory attendance at a course or courses of education or rehabilitation, including without limitation, an anger management course; or
15.4.9. Any such other sanction or penalty as the Tribunal sees fit except any form of suspended penalty or a bond.

15.5. Any form of discipline determined is effective immediately on conclusion of the Tribunal. If an appeal is lodged, the Tribunal's judgment will stand, pending the outcome of an Appeal if one is submitted.

15.6. The decision of the Tribunal is to be recorded on the Tribunal Hearing Results Report (Schedule E) which is to be signed by each of the Tribunal Members.

15.7. On the conclusion of the Tribunal, the person cited before the Tribunal is to receive written confirmation of the Tribunal's decision by telephone and/or email and in writing of the outcome of the appeal within three (3) working days after the Tribunal or in the case of a National Championship, at least one hour prior to the next game for which they would be eligible, whichever is the sooner. A suggested format for notification of the result of the Tribunal's findings to the cited person should be processed as per "Tribunal Result Advice Notification" (Schedule F).

15.8. The Tribunal is not obliged to give reasons for any decision made by it.

16. Suspended or Probationary Suspension

16.1. Where it is considered by the Tribunal that a "Suspended" or "Probationary" Suspension should be included in a punishment to act as a deterrent to further offences, then the Suspended or Probationary Suspension must be given in conjunction with the ***minimum*** automatic suspension for the relevant offence. For example:- If the penalty schedule provides for a minimum automatic suspension of one (1) week or game up to a maximum of ten (10) weeks or games, then the tribunal may award a one week or game suspension plus up to a further nine (9) week or game suspended or probationary sentence. The minimum automatic suspension must be served in the first instance.

17. Appeals

17.1. Subject to these Regulations, a party subject to a determination of the Tribunal may appeal a determination to an Appeals Tribunal ("**Appeals Board**"), in accordance with the NZIHF's or

NZIHF Member Organisation's Disciplinary Tribunal and Suspension Regulations in force at the relevant time.

17.2. Appeals to reopen the matter are allowed where a party can demonstrate there has been a lack of natural justice, or new evidence has come to light ***"AFTER"*** the original Tribunal. In these circumstances, the matter should be referred back to the relevant Member Organization or the NZIHF's Committee of Management (for national matters) in which the Tribunal was first heard. New evidence can also include taking evidence from someone outside of the NZIHF. Video evidence shall be permissible where deemed appropriate by the Appeals Board.

17.3. An Appeal **"cannot"** be made against:

17.3.1. the severity of a punishment awarded by the Tribunal, unless new and mitigating evidence can be presented; or

17.3.2. a decision by a Committee of Management not to proceed with a complaint on the grounds that there is insufficient evidence to constitute a prima facie case for a Tribunal Hearing.

17.4. A Notice of Appeal must be lodged with the Tribunal Chairperson by telephone, email and in a formal written request of the outcome of the appeal within three (3) working days of notification of the decision of the Tribunal. The Notice of Appeal must also be accompanied by an "Appeals Fee".

17.5. The Appeals Fee is set at NZD $500.00 and applies for all appeals to the Appeals Board. It is to be submitted at the time the appeal is lodged. The Appeals Fee is lost where the appeal is dismissed. Payment of the Appeals Fee must be received within the same three (3) working days as the Notice of Appeal.

17.6. Where the appeal is in relation to a suspension, such suspension shall remain in place pending the determination of the appeal.

17.7. Appeals are to be heard by an Appeals Board as established by the Committee of Management of the NZIHF.

17.8. The Appeals Board has the power to hear appeals under these Regulations or Policies. The Appeals Board shall convene and conduct its proceedings in accordance with NZIHF's Disciplinary Tribunal and Suspension Regulations in force at the relevant time.

17.9. The Appeals Board will consist of any two members of the Committee of Management plus the Disciplinary Tribunal Chairperson.

17.10. The Appeals Hearing is to be held as soon as practical, but no later than seven days of receipt of a formal written appeal. The Appeal Hearing is to be conducted using the same procedures as those used for the original Tribunal Hearing.

17.11. An Appellant shall attend and appear before the Appeals Board at the date, time and place fixed for hearing of the appeal. Where an Appellant fails to attend before the Appeals Board, the Appeals Board may hear and determine the appeal in the Appellant's absence.

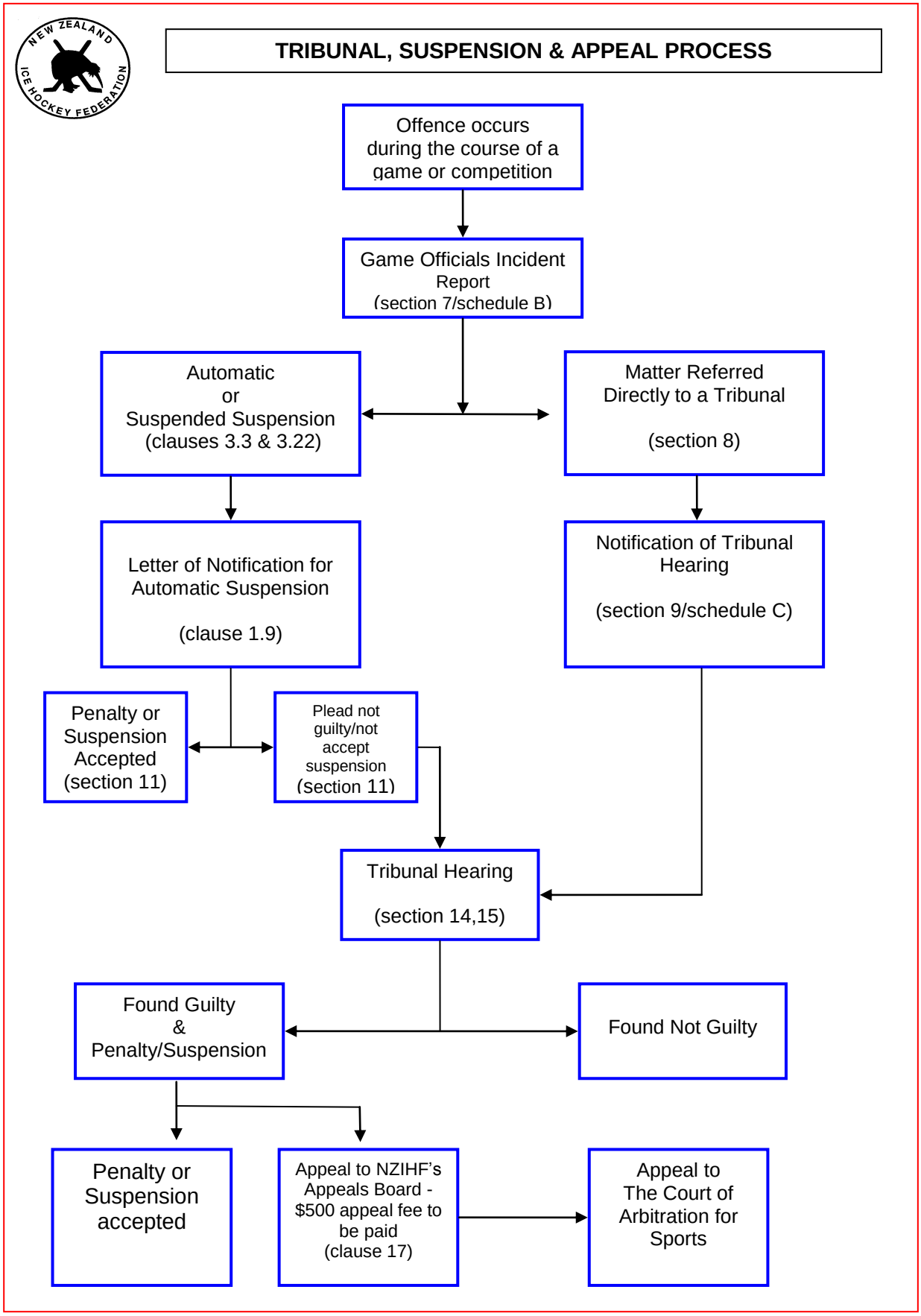
17.12. Whilst it is the right of the reported person or persons to have legal representation, the NZIHF discourages this practice. Should the reported person reserve the right to be legally represented, then they must bear all ensuing costs associated with their legal representation regardless of the outcome.

17.13. The Appeals Board may elect to uphold the original decision, vary it, or uphold the appeal. The appellant is to be immediately advised by telephone and/or email and formally in writing of the outcome of the appeal within three (3) working days of notification of the Appeals Board's decision.

17.14. Should an appellant not be satisfied with the Appeals Board's decision, then the appellant may submit an appeal to the Court of Arbitration for Sport.

17.15. At all times, members have the right to submit an appeal to the Court of Arbitration for Sport. Such appeals should only be lodged when all avenues of recourse available under these Regulations have been exhausted.

Schedule A: Tribunal, Suspension & Appeal Process



Schedule B: **Game Referee's Incident Report**

GAME REFEREE'S INCIDENT REPORT

Event:..... Game #: ..... Date:.....

Home Team:..... Visiting Team:.....

Referee:..... Linespersons:..... / .....
(printed name) (printed name) (printed name)

Referee:..... Final Score:..... /.....

1. Please state the reason for this Referee Game Report:.....
.....
.....
.....
.....

2. Time of the incident:..... Period:..... Score at that time:..... / .....

3. Please provide a description of the events leading up to the incident, describe the incident as it happened, list any injuries that may have occurred and list any events that may have occurred after the incident. Use the rink diagram on the second page of this report to assist in the explanation of the incident. Print clearly.....
.....
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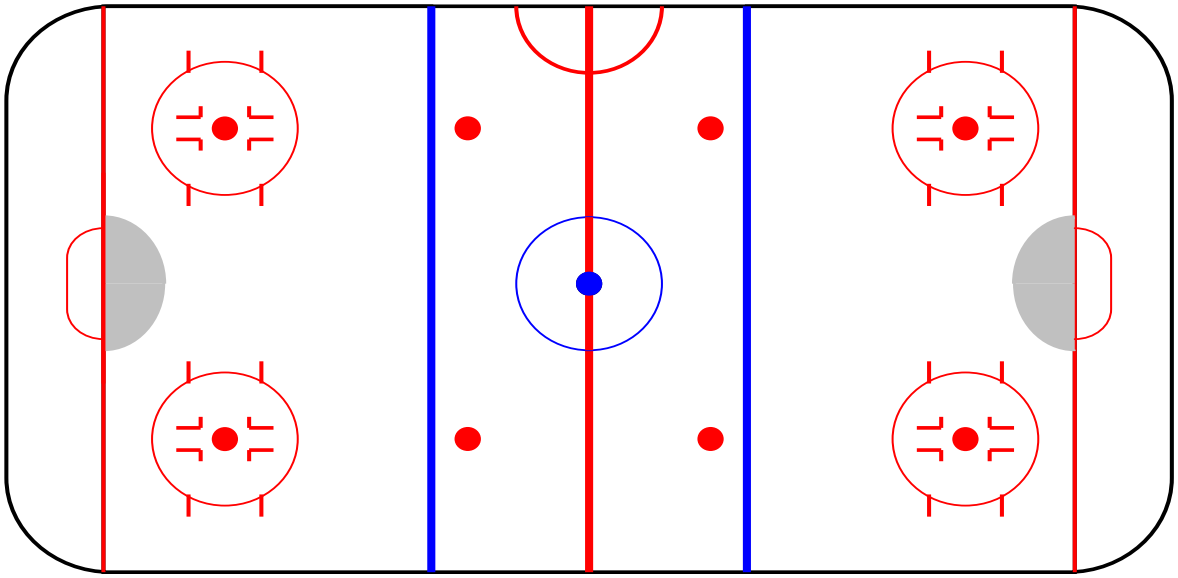
.....

4. Please provide a summary of any penalties assessed to each team in this incident including the jersey number of the penalised player, the penalty assessed, the number of minutes assessed and the IIHF Rule number.

Home Team:..... Visiting Team:.....

Rule # /	Penalty /	Min.	Rule # /	Penalty /	Min.
..... /	..... /	..... :	..... /	..... /	..... : .....
..... /	..... /	..... :	..... /	..... /	..... : .....
..... /	..... /	..... :	..... /	..... /	..... : .....

Please use this rink diagram to assist in explaining the incident:



*The **"Game Sheet"** only is to be signed off by the Game Referee and submitted to the Score Keeper for forwarding to the team managers prior to them leaving the premises.*

Date:.....

Referee Signature:.....

Referee Signature:.....

Linesperson Signature:.....

Linesperson Signature:.....

In the case of a national championship, the National Championship Supervisor or Referee-in-Chief has read this report and has nothing to add.

National Championship Director:..... Signature:.....

Referee-in-Chief:..... Signature:.....

The Game Referee and/or NZIHF Referee-in-Chief shall submit a copy of this Report along with the Game Sheet to the NZIHF Office and all relevant member organisation bodies immediately following the game.

Schedule C: Notification of Automatic Suspension Advice

NOTIFICATION OF SUSPENSION ADVICE

Date:.....

Name:.....

Address:.....
[suburb] [state] [post code]

Attention: [team] and [suspended player]

You are hereby advised that **[players name]** of the **[team]** has received a Penalty at [time] of the ***[period number]*** period in [competition/league] [***Game #] (if req'd)*** between the **[home team]** and the **[visiting team]** on the ***[date]*** **at** the **[ice venue or location]**.

As a result, the called and recorded penalty constitutes an automatic game (s) suspension as stated in the NZIHF's "Offences & Automatic Suspensions" (Schedule H) and as stated below.

[Rule #] *Offence*: **[penalty category – game misconduct, match, etc.]**

Any player assessed a [penalty category] under [Rule #] during the game shall be assessed the minimum automatic suspension of [#] games**.** The suspended number of games must be served concurrently in [competition/league] games. (If NZIHL, AIHA, CIHA or Southern Ice Hockey League or local league games then signify as exampled below):

Example: ***#50 July 4th 2011 Canterbury Red Devils vs Southern Stampede***
Example: ***#29 July 5th 2011 Botany Swarm vs West Auckland Admirals***
Example: ***#55 July 11th 2011 Dunedin Thunder vs Canterbury Red Devils***

Until such time as the numbers of games applied are served, you will not be allowed to participate in any NZIHF sanctioned games. The suspension does not prevent you from continuing to train with your team.

[signature]

[printed name]
[position title
[contact numbers]

Schedule D: **Notification of Tribunal**

New Zealand Ice Hockey Federation

NZ Postal address

[date]

[name]
[address]
[suburb] [post code]

Subject: **NOTIFICATION OF TRIBUNAL**

Dear [name]

You are hereby advised that the .....
[Member Organization / NZIHF]

have convened a Tribunal to investigate an incident which occurred on.....
(date)

at ..... during a game between.....
(venue) (team / club / division)

and..... in which it is alleged you were involved.
(team / club / division)

Specifically, the Tribunal will be hearing the following charge/s against you in regards to NZIHF / IIHF Rule #: (detail the offence or offences including the rule number) .....

The Tribunal will be hearing the matter against you as follows:

Date: ....
(day) (date) (time)

Location: .....
(specify exact location where the Tribunal will be held)

Tribunal Chairperson: ....
(printed name) (signature) (contact phone number)

For your information, you are advised of the following:

a. You are required to appear at this Tribunal. Failure to appear will result in your continued suspension and the matter will be determined in your absence. If you do not appear at

the Tribunal, you will forego the right to be represented by any adviser or to have any witnesses there on your behalf;

b. If, because of some serious and urgent reason, you are unable to attend the Tribunal as scheduled, you must contact the Tribunal Chairperson with your request for deferment. The Chairperson's decision on whether or not to agree to defer your Tribunal hearing will be final. If a deferment is granted, you continue to remain suspended from playing in any game organised by, or under the control of the NZIHF until the conclusion of your Tribunal;

c. In appearing before the Tribunal you may be represented by an Advocate (adviser, club official or parent if you are under 18 years of age);

d. At the Tribunal you are entitled to bring two (2) witnesses to substantiate your version of the incident;

e. At the Tribunal you will be fully apprised of the complaint against you, and you will be given the opportunity to give your version of the incident. You will also be required to answer any direct questions the Tribunal may ask you in relation to the incident;

f. The Tribunal will consist of three persons, the Tribunal Chairperson and two other members who may or not be members of the NZIHF. The Tribunal will be conducted in accordance with the NZIHF's Competition Tribunal & Automatic Suspension Regulations, a copy of which is enclosed with this letter for your further information;

g. If you are cited at a national championship or during a member organisation's game, event or competition and choose to admit to the charges and accept the charges as detailed in the NZIHF's Competition Tribunal & Automatic Suspension Regulations or not attend a Tribunal where one is warranted under the NZIHF's Competition Tribunal & Automatic Suspension Regulations, you must immediately inform the National Championship Supervisor or your respective member organisation's Referee-in-Chief and/or Chairperson;

h. If you are cited at a game in normal competition and choose to admit to the charges and accept the charges as detailed in the NZIHF's Competition Tribunal & Automatic Suspension Regulations or not attend a Tribunal where one is warranted under the NZIHF's Competition Tribunal & Automatic Suspension Regulations, you must advise your intention to admit in writing to your respective NZIHF Member Organisation's President/Chairperson within 24 hours on completion of the game in which the alleged charge took place;

i. The decision of the Tribunal will be advised as soon as possible after the hearing. Your NZIHF Member Organization and/or Club and/or League will also be advised of the decision of the Tribunal; and

j. Pending the decision of the Tribunal, you may continue training with your team, subject to your Club's direction.

Yours faithfully,

....
[signature] [printed name] [position]

..... [date]

Schedule E: Tribunal Hearing Results Advice

Tribunal Details

Date:..... Time:..... Location:.....

Tribunal Chairperson:.....
[printed name]

Member-1:..... Member-2:.....
[printed name] [printed name]

Charge Details

Date of Game:..... Venue:.....

Game:..... Vs ..... Grade:.....

Defendant's Name:..... Player No:..... Team:.....
[printed name]

Alleged Offences:

Rule No.	Offence	Plea (Guilty/Not Guilty)
1.	.....	.....
2.	.....	.....
3.	.....	.....

Representative:.....

Witnesses: ....

Game Referee:..... Did Referee Testify? Yes No

Linesperson 1:..... Linesperson-2:.....

Other Witnesses:..... ....

Summary of Hearing:.....
.....
.....

Findings:	**Guilty/Not Guilty**	**Penalty**
Charge 1	.....	.....
Charge 2	.....	.....
Charge 3	.....	.....

Defendant Advised? YES NO

Tribunal Members: (Signed)

Chairperson: ..... ……..
(printed name) (signature)

Member 1: ..... ……..
(printed name) (signature)

Member 2: ..... ……
(printed name) (signature)

Schedule F: Tribunal Result Advice Notification

Date:.....

Player's name:.....

Players address:.....
[suburb] [post code]

RESULT OF TRIBUNAL HEARING

The purpose of this letter is to officially advise you of the outcome of the NZIHF Disciplinary Tribunal held on *(date)* at *(location)* to investigate an incident in which you were involved.

Having heard the evidence against you, and your own evidence, the Tribunal has reached the following decisions in regard to the charges against you:

Offence: guilty not guilty suspended suspension automatic suspension

Suspended Suspension:.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

Automatic Suspension:

Based on the above suspensions awarded, you are suspended from playing any game organised By, or under the control of, the NZIHF or a Member Organisation of the NZIHF until .....
(date)

Unless otherwise advised and subject to the direction of your Club, League, Region or Team officials, you may continue to train with your team.

Yours faithfully,

Tribunal Chairperson

Schedule G: Automatic Suspension Regulations

In an effort to provide clarity and consistency of procedure and process, and to meet the expectations of all NZIHF members, the NZIHF'S Competition Tribunal & Automatic Suspension Regulations are presented in this document.

The prime objective of the Regulations is to place the onus of responsibility on players and team officials to reduce the incidence of match and major plus automatic game misconduct penalties. The second objective is to alleviate the need for a Tribunal in many cases. The Automatic Suspension Schedule does not remove the right of the penalised person, the NZIHF, a NZIHF Member Organization, or the Tribunal Committee to request a Tribunal.

Included in the Regulations is a table giving definition to the various match, major plus automatic game misconduct penalties as they are written in the IIHF Rule Book. The table also indicates the minimum number of suspended games which will apply to each of these penalties.

It is expected that all NZIHF Member Organization teams understand that the current IIHF Rule Book, Case Book, Rule Emphasis Bulletins and Rule Interpretation Bulletins are the adopted rules under which all NZIHF sanctioned games are played.

Introduction

During the course of a game, an official must use judgment in determining many infractions. However, there are numerous areas of the rule book which call for certain actions or rules to be followed that are not necessarily determined to be judgment calls or critical to the playing of the game, but none the less are important to ensure a game is played in a "fair" and "safe" manner. By teams observing strict adherence to these "fringe" rules, the official and NZIHF Member Organisation's teams can focus on the "playing of the game" rather than the fringe issues that make up the Rule Book.

To that end, NZIHF Member Organization teams are required to abide by the aforementioned rules, with the onus on Coaches to ensure understanding of said rules with their team. Adherence to these rules is mandatory. Failure to abide by these rules will result in the assessment of the appropriate penalties by the game officials.

If, during the course of the New Zealand Ice Hockey League (NZIHL), a NZIHF national championship, tournament or Member Organisation's games, a player or team official is assessed a second game misconduct or match penalty, the person shall be automatically suspended from any further participation in the championship, tournament or Member Organisation's games unless a Tribunal takes place to hear the offence. The allocated number of suspended games will continue to apply.

Note 1: With reference to the NZIHL, if a player is suspended near the end of a given season or in the final game of the season, all suspensions incurred will carry over to the following season and the player shall be ineligible to play in that competition until the suspension has been realized without exception.

Note 2: With reference to NZIHF National Championships, the same provisions shall apply as for note 1 whereby the player shall remain suspended from participation in another National Championship until the suspension has been realized without exception.

Note 3: In the case that a penalty is incurred in an age-group championship and the player is ineligible to participate in the same age-group category tournament the following year, it is permissible that the suspension is realized in the new age-group category, be that a league such as the New Zealand Junior Elite League (NZJEL), NZIHL or at the next appropriate national championship event.

Discretion may be given to players selected to a national team or seeking a contract with an overseas team by the NZIHF Board upon application.

The automatic suspension(s) awarded in NZIHF sanctioned games as per the NZIHF's Competition Suspension Regulations are to be applied by all NZIHF Member Organizations.

All match and major plus automatic game misconduct penalties shall be reported to the NZIHF office, the NZIHF Referee-in-Chief, and the Member Organisation's Referee-in-Chief immediately following the game by phone and/or by email.

Major and Game Misconduct Penalties

Major plus automatic game misconduct penalties are considered as "judgment calls".

For clarification:

Any player who receives a major plus automatic game misconduct or Match Penalty shall be ejected from the current game they are playing in and will serve any additional penalty over and above this as prescribed by Schedule H of the Competition Tribunal & Suspension Regulations.

The suspension does not include the game in which the penalty was assessed, (i.e. Major penalty + Automatic Game Misconduct, Game Misconduct, or Match Penalty), but the automatic suspension will be the next game or games.

For example, a player is assessed a Match Penalty for Checking to the Head causing Injury under Rule 540b at time 5.00. The player shall be ejected from that game and shall then serve an additional three game suspension pursuant to Schedule H.

The nominated NZIHF or NZIHF Member Organisation's Authorities shall have the power to further suspend the player or team official from participating in any further NZIHF sanctioned games. It is to be understood that a hearing will not be convened by the Proper Authorities to discuss a Referee's judgment call (i.e. If the call is a Match penalty for spearing, then the automatic number of game(s) suspended will apply).

All major plus automatic game misconduct penalties, or incidents requiring the aforementioned disciplinary actions, are to be entered on the IIHF Referee Game Report Form (Section B) by the game Referee and shall be reported to the NZIHF office, the NZIHF Referee-in-Chief and the NZIHF Member Organisation's Referee-in-Chief immediately following the game. Dependent on the severity of the incidents, further disciplinary action may be imposed by the Proper Authorities.

A formal Letter of Notification will be sent to the offending player advising them of the automatic suspension and the right of appeal to the suspension as per these Regulations.

Match Penalties

Where a player is assessed a match penalty by the game Referee for one of the offences listed in the Automatic Suspensions Schedule, the corresponding automatic number of game(s) suspended will apply without the need to refer the matter to a Tribunal.

All match penalties, or incidents requiring the aforementioned disciplinary actions, are to be entered on the IIHF Referee Game Report Form (Section B) by the Game Referee and, shall be reported to the NZIHF office, the NZIHF Referee-in-Chief and the NZIHF Member Organisation's Referee-in-Chief immediately following the game. Once the Referee's call on a match penalty has been confirmed by the NZIHF Referee-in-Chief, the minimum suspension shall be effected. Dependent on the severity of the incidents, further disciplinary action may be imposed by the appropriate NZIHF or NZIHF Member Organisation's Proper Authorities.

At the same time, the application of an automatic suspension does not remove the right of the player to request a Tribunal if they disagree with the decision. Where “Tribunal” is listed against an offence, then the matter must go before a Tribunal for decision.

In addition to the automatic suspension imposed under these rules, the proper NZIHF or NZIHF Member Organisation’s Authorities may, at any time after the conclusion of the game, investigate any incident and may assess additional suspensions for any offence committed on or off the ice at any time before during and after the game, whether or not such offences have been penalized by the game referee. If an investigation is requested by a club, a league, a region or by a NZIHF Member Organisation of its own initiative, it must be initiated within forty-eight (48) hours following the completion of the game in which the incident occurred.

With the exception of decisions made in response to "Indefinite Suspensions", all discipline decisions made by the NZIHF Referee-in-Chief, Tournament Directorate and/or NZIHF Representative shall be the final NZIHF decision. Decisions that are made in response to an “Indefinite Suspension” may be appealed to the NZIHF President or the NZIHF Member Organisation’s President. It is to be understood that the time required for the President to respond may be delayed because of availability or the gathering of facts.

Schedule H: Offences & Automatic Suspensions

IIHF Rule Number	OFFENCE	Number Of Games
Match Penalty 507	For a **Match** penalty, any player, goalkeeper or team official shall be ruled off the ice and ordered to the dressing room for the balance of the game and substitution shall be permitted after five minutes.	
Supplementary Discipline 510	In addition to the suspension imposed under these rules, the Proper Authorities may, at any time after the conclusion of the game, investigate any incident and may assess additional suspensions for any offence committed on or off the ice at any time before, during and after a game, whether or not such offences have been penalized by the Game Referee.	
Boarding 520	a) A player who body checks, elbows, charges or trips an opponent is such a manner that it causes the opponent to be thrown violently into the boards, shall be assessed at the discretion of the Game Referee, a: • **Major** penalty + **Automatic Game Misconduct** penalty (5'+GM) or • **Match** penalty (MP) b) A player who injures his opponent as a result of boarding shall be assessed at the discretion of the Game Referee, a: • **Major** penalty + **Automatic Game Misconduct** penalty (5'+GM) or • **Match** penalty (MP)	1 1 1 2
Butt-Ending 521	a) A player who attempts to butt-end an opponent shall be assessed a: • **Double Minor** penalty + **Misconduct** penalty (2'+2+10') b) A player who butt-ends an a opponent shall be assessed at the discretion of the Game Referee, a: • **Major** penalty + **Automatic Game Misconduct** penalty (5'+GM) or • **Match** penalty (MP) c) A player who injures his opponent by a butt-ending shall be assessed a: • **Match** Penalty (MP)	2 2 3
Charging 522	a) A player who runs, jumps or charges an opponent or who runs, jumps or charges the opposing goalkeeper in his crease shall be assessed at the discretion of the Game Referee, a: • **Major** penalty + **Automatic Game Misconduct** penalty (5'+GM) or • **Match** penalty (MP) b) A player who injuries his opponent as a result of charging shall be assessed at the discretion of the Game Referee, a: • **Major** penalty + **Automatic Game Misconduct** penalty (5'+GM) or • **Match** penalty (MP)	1 1 1 2
Checking from Behind 523	a) A player who runs, jumps, charges or hits in any manner an opponent from behind shall be assessed at the discretion of the Game Referee, a: • **Minor** penalty + **Automatic Misconduct** penalty (2'+10') or • **Major** penalty + **Automatic Game Misconduct** penalty (5'+GM) or • **Match** penalty (MP) b) A player who injures an opponent as result of checking from behind shall be assessed a:	1 2

	• **Match** penalty (MP)	3

Clipping 524	a) A player who lowers his own body position to deliver a check on or below an opponents' knees shall be assessed at the discretion of the Game Referee, a: • **Major** penalty + **Automatic Game Misconduct** penalty (5'+GM) or • **Match** penalty (MP) b) A player who injures his opponent by a clipping action shall be assessed at the discretion of the Game Referee, a: • **Major** penalty + **Automatic Game Misconduct** penalty (5'+GM) or • **Match** penalty (MP)	1 1 1 2

Cross Checking 525	a) A player who cross-checks an opponent shall be assessed at the discretion of the Game Referee, a: • **Major** penalty + **Automatic Game Misconduct** penalty (5'+GM) or • **Match** Penalty (MP) b) A player who injuries an opponent by cross-checking shall be assessed at the discretion of the Game Referee, a: • **Major** penalty + **Automatic Game Misconduct** penalty (5'+GM) or • **Match** penalty (MP)	1 1 1 2

Elbowing 526	a) A player who uses his elbow to foul an opponent shall be assessed at the discretion of the Game Referee, a: • **Major** penalty + **Automatic Game Misconduct** penalty (5'+GM) or • **Match** penalty (MP) b) A player who injures an opponent by elbowing • **Major** penalty + **Automatic Game Misconduct** penalty (5'+GM) or • **Match** penalty (MP)	1 1 1 2

Excessive Roughness 527	a) Any player who commits an action not permitted by the rules that may cause or causes an injury to an opponent, or to a team or game official • **Match** penalty (MP) b) The circumstances shall be reported to the Proper Authorities	2 or Tribunal

Fisticuffs or Roughing 528 (Refer to Schedule 1 for Procedure)	a) A player who intentionally takes off his glove/s in a fight or altercation shall be assessed at the discretion of the Game Referee, a: • **Misconduct** Penalty (10') b) A player who starts fisticuffs shall be assessed a: • **Match** penalty (MP) c) A player, having been struck, retaliates with a blow or attempts a blow shall be assessed a: • **Minor** penalty (2') d) Any player or goalkeeper who is the first to intervene in an altercation already in progress, shall be assessed in addition to any other penalties incurred in the incident a: • **Game Misconduct** penalty (GM) e) If a player, after he has been ordered by the Referee to stop, continues the altercation, attempts to continue, or resists a Linesman in the discharge of his duties, shall be assessed at the discretion of the Game Referee, a: • **Double Minor** penalty (2'+2') or • **Major** penalty + **Automatic Game Misconduct** penalty (5'+GM)	1 1 1

	or • **Match** penalty (MP) f) ***A player or goalkeeper who is on or off the ice and is involved in an altercation or fisticuffs with a player or goalkeeper off of the playing surface shall be assessed, at the discretion of the Referee, a:*** • ***Misconduct penalty (10')*** ***or*** • ***Game Misconduct penalty (GM)*** ***or*** • ***Match penalty (MP)*** g) ***A team official who is on or off the ice and is involved in an altercation with a player or team official on or off the playing surface shall be assessed at the discretion of the Game Referee, a:*** • ***Game Misconduct penalty (GM)*** ***or*** • ***Match penalty (MP)*** h) If a player is deemed guilty of unnecessary roughness, shall be assessed at the discretion of the Game Referee, a: • **Minor** penalty (2') or • **Double Minor** penalty (2'+2') or • **Major** penalty + **Automatic Game Misconduct** penalty (5'+GM) i) A player who grabs or holds the face mask or helmet or pulls the hair of an opponent, shall be assessed at the discretion of the Game Referee, a: • **Minor** penalty (2') or • **Major** penalty + **Automatic Game Misconduct** Penalty (5'+GM) j) ***A goalkeeper using his blocker glove to punch an opponent in the head, neck or face area shall be assessed a:*** • ***Match penalty (MP)***	2 ***NEW*** 1 2 ***NEW*** 1 2 1 2 ***NEW*** 2

Head Butting 529	a) A player who attempts to or deliberately head-butts an opponent shall be assessed a: • **Match** penalty (MP)	2

High Sticking 530	a) A player who carries or holds his stick or any part of it above the height of his shoulders that makes contact with an opponent shall be assessed at the discretion of the Game Referee, a: • **Minor** penalty (2') or • **Major** penalty + Automatic Game Misconduct penalty (5'+GM) or • **Match** penalty (MP) b) A player who carries or holds his stick or any part of it above the height his shoulders that makes contact with an opponent and causes an injury with his stick or any part of it to an opponent shall be assessed at the discretion of the Game Referee, a: • **Major** Penalty + **Automatic Game Misconduct,** (5'+GM) or • **Match Penalty** (MP) c) However, if the high sticking action that caused the injury was judged accidental, the offending player shall be assessed a: • **Double Minor** penalty (2'+2')	1 1 1 2

Holding an Opponent 531	a) A player who holds an opponent with his hands or stick or in any other way shall be assessed a: • **Minor** Penalty (2')	

Holding the Stick 532	a) A player who holds an opponent's stick with his hands or in any other way shall be assessed a: • **Minor** penalty (2')	

Hooking 533	a) A player who impedes or seeks to impede the progress of an opponent by hooking him with his stick shall be assessed at the discretion of the Game Referee, a: • **Minor** penalty (2') or • **Major** penalty + **Automatic Game Misconduct**, (5'+GM) or • **Match** penalty (MP) b) A player who injures an opponent by hooking shall be assessed at the discretion of the Game Referee a: • **Major** penalty + **Automatic Game Misconduct**, (5'+GM) or • **Match** penalty (MP)	1 1 1 2

Interference 534	a) A player who interferes or impedes the progress of an opponent who is not in possession of the puck shall be assessed a • **Minor** penalty (2') b) A player on either the player's bench or penalty bench who, by means of his stick or body, interferes with the movement of the puck or any opponent on the ice during the progress of play, shall be assessed a: • **Minor** penalty (2') c) A player who, by means of his stick or body, interferes with or impedes the progress of the goalkeeper while he is in the goal crease, shall be assessed a: • **Minor** Penalty (2')	

Kicking 535	a) A player who kicks or attempts to kick another player shall be assessed a: • **Match** penalty (MP)	4

Kneeing 536	a) A player who uses his knee to foul an opponent shall be assessed at the discretion of the Game Referee, a: • **Minor** penalty (2') or • **Major** penalty + **Automatic Game Misconduct** penalty (5'+GM) or • **Match** penalty (MP) b) A player who injuries an opponent by kneeing shall be assessed, at the discretion of the Game Referee, a: • **Major** penalty + **Automatic Game Misconduct** penalty (5'+GM) or • **Match** penalty (MP)	1 1 1 2

Slashing 537	a) A player who impedes or seeks to impede the progress of an opponent by slashing with his stick shall be assessed, at the discretion of the Game Referee, a: • **Minor** penalty (2') or • **Major** penalty + Automatic Game Misconduct penalty (5'+MP) or • **Match** penalty (MP) b) A player who injures an opponent by slashing shall be assessed at the	1 1

	discretion of the Game Referee, a: • **Major** penalty + **Automatic Game Misconduct** penalty, (5'+GM) or • **Match** penalty (MP) c) A player who swings his stick at another player in the course of any altercation shall be assessed at the discretion of the Game Referee a: • **Major** penalty + **Automatic Game Misconduct** penalty (5'+GM) or • **Match** Penalty (MP)	1 2 1 Tribunal

Spearing 538	a) A player who attempts to spear an opponent shall be assessed a: • **Double Minor** penalty + **Misconduct** Penalty (2'+2'+10) b) A player who spears an opponent shall be assessed at the discretion of the Game Referee, a: • **Major** penalty + **Automatic Game Misconduct** penalty (5'+GM) or • **Match** penalty (MP) c) A player who injures an opponent by spearing shall be assessed a: • **Match** penalty (MP)	1 2 2

Tripping 539	a) A player who shall place his stick, leg, foot, arm, hand or elbow in such a manner that it shall cause his opponent to trip or fall shall be assessed at the discretion of the Game Referee, a: • **Minor** penalty (2') or • **Major** penalty + **Automatic Game Misconduct** penalty (5'+GM) or • **Match** penalty (MP) b) A Player who injures an opponent by tripping shall be assessed at the discretion of the Game Referee, a: • **Major** penalty + **Automatic Game Misconduct** penalty (5'+GM) or • **Match** penalty (MP)	1 1 1 2

NEW Checking to The Head and Neck Area 540 *(see definitions in IIHF Rule Book -Page 82)*	a) A player who directs a check or blow, with any part of his body or equipment to the head and neck area of an opposing player or "dives" or "forces" the head of an opposing player into the protective glass on boards, shall be assessed at the discretion of the Game Referee, a: • **Minor** penalty + **Automatic Misconduct** penalty (2'+10') or • **Major** penalty + **Automatic Game Misconduct** penalty (5'+GM) or • **Match** penalty (MP) b) A player who injures an opponent as result of checking to the head and neck area shall be assessed a: • **Match** penalty (MP) c) This rule supersedes Rules 520, 522, 525, 526, and 537 with regards to all actions described under articles a) and b). d) Blows to the head area during a fight or altercation are covered and are to be penalised under Rule 528 Fisticuffs or Roughing.	1 2 3

Women's Body-Checking 541	a) In women's ice hockey, if a player makes a direct body-check, she shall be assessed, at the discretion of the Game Referee, a: • **Minor** penalty (2') or • **Major** penalty + **Automatic Game Misconduct** penalty (5'+GM)	1

Abuse of Officials and **Unsportsmanlike** Conduct by Players 550	a) If any player, 1. When penalized, does not go directly to the penalty bench or the dressing room; or 2. While off the ice, uses obscene, profane or abusive language; or 3. While off the ice, interferes in any manner with any official, his team shall be assessed a: • **Bench Minor** penalty (2') b) A player who, 1. Challenges or disputes the ruling of any official during the game; or 2. Shoots intentionally the puck out of reach of an official who is retrieving it; or 3. Enters or remains in the Referee's crease while the Game Referee is reporting to any official, shall be assessed a: • **Misconduct** penalty (10') For any further dispute, the player shall be assessed a: • **Game Misconduct** penalty (GM) c) If a player on the ice who: 1. Uses obscene, profane or abusive language on the ice or anywhere in the rink before, during or after the game except in the vicinity of the bench; or 2. Bangs the boards with a stick or other object at any time; or 3. Fails to go directly and immediately to the penalty bench following a fight or any altercation which he has been involved or causes any delay retrieving his equipment; or 4. Persists to incite an opponent into incurring a penalty. the player shall be assessed a: • **Misconduct** penalty (10') d) If a player on the ice, persists in any course of conduct for which he has been previously assessed a Misconduct Penalty, the player shall be assessed a: • **Game Misconduct** penalty (GM) e) A player who uses or makes any racial remarks or ethnic slur shall be assessed a: • **Game Misconduct** penalty (GM) f) Any player who: 1. Intentionally touches with hands or stick, holds or pushes or checks with hands, stick or body, trips, slashes, hits in any manner or spits at a game official; or 2. Makes a travesty of, or interferes with, or is detrimental to the conducting of the game; or 3. While on or off the ice or anywhere in the rink before, during or after the game makes any obscene gesture to any game official or any person; or 4. Spits on or towards any person on the ice or anywhere in the rink; or 5. Whilst bleeding at the nose or mouth takes his hand, wiping the fluid onto his hand and then throws this fluid at his opponent. the player shall be assessed a: • **Match** penalty (MP) g) If an ***"identified"*** (recognised) player, who is off the ice, throws a stick or any other object onto the playing surface from the player's bench or from the penalty bench, or any part of the ice venue, the player shall be assessed a: • **Minor** penalty + **Automatic Game Misconduct** penalty (2'+GM) h) If an ***"unidentified"*** (unknown) player, who is off the ice, throws a stick or any other object onto the playing surface from the player's bench, or any part of the ice venue, the player shall be assessed a: • **Bench Minor** penalty (2')	1 1 Tribunal Tribunal ***NEW*** Tribunal ***NEW***

	a) If any team official:	

Abuse of Officials And Unsports-Manlike Conduct By Team Officials 551	1. Uses obscene, profane or abusive language to any official or any person; or 2. Interferes in any manner with any of the officials of the game; or 3. Bangs the boards with a stick or other object at any time. the team official's team shall be assessed a: • **Bench Minor** penalty (2') b) If he persists, or if he is guilty of any type of misconduct they shall be assessed a: • **Game Misconduct** penalty (GM) c) A team official who uses or makes any racial remarks or ethic slur shall be assessed a: • **Game Misconduct** penalty (GM) d) If any team official, 1. Holds or strikes an official; or 2. Makes a travesty or is detrimental to the conducting of the game; or 3. Makes any obscene gesture to any official or person; or 4. Spits at a game official. he shall be assessed a: • **Match** penalty (MP) e) If an ***"identified"*** (recognised) team official throws a stick or any object onto the playing surface from the player's bench, or any part of the ice venue, the team official shall be assessed a: • **Game Misconduct** penalty (GM) and the team official's team a: • **Bench Minor** penalty (2') f) If an ***"unidentified"*** (unknown) team official throws a stick or any object onto the playing surface from the player's bench, he shall be assessed a: • **Bench Minor** penalty (2')	1 Tribunal Tribunal 1

Illegal or Dangerous Equipment 555	a) A player or goalkeeper who, i. Wears their equipment or visor in a way that may cause an injury to an opponent; or ii. Wears any non-approved equipment; or iii. Uses or wears illegal or dangerous skates, sticks or equipment; or iv. Does not wear his equipment, except gloves, head protection and goalkeepers leg guards, entirely under his uniform; or, v. A player who wears a glove in play from which all or part of the palm has been removed or cut to permit the use of bare hand shall be ruled off the ice and a ***WARNING*** shall be issued to the player's team. b) For a second violation by any player or goalkeeper of the same team for any offence, the Game Referee shall assess a to the offending player or goalkeeper a: • **Misconduct** penalty (10') c) If a player or goalkeeper refuses to surrender or destroys his stick or any part of his equipment for measurement when requested by the Game Referee, this equipment shall be regarded as illegal and the player or goalkeeper shall be assessed a: • **Minor** penalty + **Misconduct** penalty (2'+10')	

Interference With Spectators 561	A player who physically interferes with a spectator shall be assessed, at the discretion of the Game Referee: • **Match** penalty (MP)	Tribunal

NEW Players Leaving	a) Except at the end of a period or for entering the game legally, no player or goalkeeper may, at any time, enter the ice surface from the players bench or the penalty bench b) Except at the end of a period, a penalized player who leaves the penalty and enters the ice surface before his penalty time has expired shall be	

The Penalty Or Players Bench 562	assessed a: • **Minor** Penalty (2') c) Any player who, having entered the penalty bench, leaves the penalty bench prior to the expiration of their penalty for the purpose of challenging a game official's ruling, shall be assessed a: • **Minor** penalty + **Game Misconduct** penalty (2'+GM) d) The first player to leave the players or penalty bench during an alteration shall be assessed a: • **Double Minor** penalty + **Automatic Game Misconduct** penalty (2'+2'+GM) e) Any other player(s) who leaves the players bench during an altercation shall be assessed a: • **Misconduct** penalty (10') f) Any other player(s) who leaves the penalty bench during an altercation shall be assessed a: (This will be served at the expiration of his previous penalty.) • **Minor** penalty + **Game Misconduct** penalty (2' + GM)	Tribunal Tribunal Tribunal Tribunal

Team Officials Leaving The Players Bench 565	a) Any team official who goes on the ice during any period without the permission of the Game Referee, other than to tend to an injured player shall be assessed a: • **Game Misconduct** penalty (GM)	Tribunal

Throwing A Stick or Any Object Out Of The Playing Area 568	Any player or goalkeeper who throws a stick, part of it or any other object out of the playing area shall be assessed a: • **Game Misconduct** penalty (GM)	1

Additional

	Ineligible players – as per NZIHF, or NZIHF Member Organisation Regulations	Tribunal
	Eye Gouging	Tribunal
	Fighting – During / After handshakes	Tribunal
	Serious Misconduct at a Tribunal	Tribunal
	Abuse of an official – Molesting	Tribunal
	Abuse of a spectator – Molesting	Tribunal
	Team official – Pulling the team from the ice and not returning	Tribunal
	Team official – Allowing his team to go on the ice for a bench clearing altercation	Tribunal
	Deliberate attempt to injure resulting in injury to an opponent	Tribunal

	Taking of banned substances	As per WADA & NZIHF Policy
	Stick swinging during the course of an altercation	Tribunal
	Third-Man-In rule only to the first player of each team to intervene in an altercation where a game misconduct or match penalty is to be assessed to one or more participants.	Tribunal
	Pre/Post Game Altercation - any player(s) involved where major plus automatic game misconduct or match penalties are assessed	Tribunal
	Pre/Post Game Altercation - coach or official of a team that is so penalized	Tribunal
	Coach of a team whose player is penalized as the first player(s) to leave the players bench or penalty bench during an altercation, fight or fisticuffs.	Tribunal
	Any player who shoots or attempts to shoot a puck at a on-ice official in any manner after the stoppage of play shall be assessed a: • Match Penalty (MP)	Tribunal

Schedule I: Rule 528 – Fisticuffs or Roughing

A – Referee Procedure

1. If a situation that involves pushing and shoving after the whistle, the Game Referee shall issue a warning to the coach or captain of each team.

2. If the situation continues after the warning, the Game Referee shall assess Minor penalties for Roughing. If incidents continue at future stoppages, the Game Referee may assess Misconduct penalties.

3. If a situation arises that warrants the assessment of multiple Game Misconduct penalties, the Game Referee shall ensure that all assessed Game Misconduct Penalties are recorded on the Official Game Sheet.

4. When a Major plus Automatic Game Misconduct Penalty is assessed under this rule, it is to be recorded and announced as “Roughing”.

5. When a Match penalty is assessed under this rule, it is to be recorded and announced as “Fisticuffs”.

6. Fisticuffs or Roughing may be called even though the players still have their gloves on.

7. In a situation involving Fisticuffs, it is possible that one player may be assessed a Match Penalty and the other a Major plus automatic Game Misconduct Penalty.

8. A Minor, Double Minor or Major plus automatic Game Misconduct penalty may be assessed for Roughing.

9. Whenever a Match Penalty is assessed for Fisticuffs, whether one, two or more players receive such penalties, the incident must be classified as a fight. In the case of retaliation by a player, a Major Penalty plus automatic Game Misconduct penalty may be assessed in this case.

10. A player cannot be assessed a Match Penalty plus a Game Misconduct penalty for continuing to fight.

11. Two players may be assessed Match Penalties for Fisticuffs without having an aggressor or instigator.

12. Where it is obvious that one player is the instigator or aggressor, that player may be assessed a Match penalty and the other player a Major plus automatic Game Misconduct, depending upon the degree of retaliation.

13. The “third man in” rule applies only to the first player of each team to intervene in an altercation. The assessment of only one penalty constitutes an altercation however the ruling requires judgment as to whether the player actually became involved.

14. A Game Misconduct penalty is to be assessed to the first player of each team who intervenes in an incident where a Match or Major plus automatic Game Misconduct penalty is assessed. A Game Misconduct penalty is also to be assessed to one or both players.

When a fisticuffs or roughing incident occurs, all other players except the goalkeeper shall immediately retire to the front of their respective benches (unless the fisticuff, fight or roughing is occurring in front of one of the team benches), or to a neutral zone as designated by the Game Referee and remain there until the Game Referee calls them back to resume play. The goaltenders must stay in their goal creases or proceed to a neutral zone if so designated by the Game Referee. Any player(s) refusing to do so after being instructed by the Game Referee shall be assessed a Misconduct Penalty, plus any other penalty that may be incurred.

Section 19: Document Changes

2th May 2012 – version 1.0 approved. Document prepared by Peter Haxell.

4th February 2013 - version 2.0. Document amended by Peter Haxell.

Changes:
Section 3.2 - Add option to accept automatic suspension negating need for Tribunal.
Section 3.2 - Add proviso that once an automatic suspension has been accepted, no appeal can then be entered into.
Section 3.13.3 - Add Referee Supervisor to list of Off-Ice Officials
Section 5.1.3 - Removed.
Section 6.2 - Add definitions and roles of Tribunal Chairperson and Members. Revise constraints on who can be a Tribunal Member.
Section 7.1 - Add “may need to appear”.
Section 11 - Revision of wording to “accepting an automatic suspension” for ease of understanding.
Section 15.1 - Revise Decisions of the Tribunal to add additional possible findings.
Section 17.2 - Reworded to allow for reopening a case where additional evidence comes to hand.
Schedule G - For clarification, explanation added to describe intent of rule.