

Policy Section	Change	Policy Version #	Date Approved	Date Approved
All	New Policy	0	2002	2002
All	Policy Revisions	0.1 – 0.7	2003-2011	2003-2011
All	Split Policy into sections 1.0 – 23.0, Appendix A – G	1	2012	2012
All	Wording Changes, added new sections	2	2015	2015
All	Wording Changes	3	08/13/2016	08/13/2016
All	Spelling, Punctuation	4	N/A	11/03/2017
15.4.15.3	Added punching	5	Sept 8, 2018	Sept 8, 2018

15.0 SUSPENSION POLICY (Subsequent Discipline)

15.1 Purpose

This policy establishes procedures for handling suspensions subsequent to and resulting from referee’s rulings and sets guidelines for the length of suspensions for various described acts.

15.2 Applicability

All Ringette Alberta registered participants.

15.3 Principles

- 15.3.1 Suspensions will be set by Ringette Alberta for any Misconduct and/or Match penalties assessed to a player or team staff member that is registered with Ringette Alberta (further known as the participant) which occur in any exhibition, league, tournament or provincial championship game.
- 15.3.2 Tournament Disciplinary Committees will use this policy to govern suspensions for the duration of the tournament; however, Ringette Alberta will take into account any such suspension already served and issue further suspensions, if necessary.
- 15.3.3 Further suspensions or disciplinary hearings are at the discretion of the home association or the Group Member in which the individual is registered.
- 15.3.4 The player and the coach have the prime responsibility for ensuring that the suspension is fully served. The Official Game report documents the Misconduct and/or Match Penalty and the infraction. The total number of games of the suspension is listed in Section 15.4.15. Ringette Alberta issues a letter communicating the suspension.
- 15.3.5 A participant shall be suspended for specified acts described under the section Misconduct Penalties or Match Penalties of the Official Rules of Ringette.

- 15.3.6 A suspension may be issued for acts described in a written complaint as described under section 15.4.14 – Complaints.
- 15.3.7 Participants who have been suspended may not participate in any games, whether the game counts towards their suspension or not, until their suspension has been fully served.

15.4 Requirements

15.4.1 Timelines

Original Copy of the Official's Game Report – to be forwarded, along with a copy of the game sheet, to the Ringette Alberta office by 12:00 PM the second (2nd) business day following the completion of the game.

15.4.2 Games in Alberta

15.4.2.1 For each Misconduct Penalty or Match Penalty that is assessed in any game, exhibition, league, sanctioned tournament or Provincial Championship, the official shall complete an Misconduct/Match Report at the completion of the game.

15.4.2.2 The complete Misconduct/Match Report will be distributed as follows:

- Original Copy – to be forwarded, along with a copy of the game sheet, to the Ringette Alberta office by 12:00 PM the second (2nd) business day following the completion of the game;
- 2nd Copy – to be retained by the official for their reference;
- 3rd Copy – to be given to a team staff member of the offending team.

15.4.2.3 If the game takes place in an exhibition or league game, it is the responsibility of the official to forward the report to Ringette Alberta. If the game takes place in a sanctioned tournament or Provincial Championship it is the responsibility of the event coordinator to forward the report to Ringette Alberta.

15.4.3 Games out of Province

15.4.3.1 A copy of the game sheet and Misconduct/Match Report (s) shall be forwarded to the Ringette Alberta office by a team staff member of the offending team within 24 hours of their return to Alberta

- 15.4.3.2 If any game suspensions have been served while out of province, copies of these game sheets should also be forwarded to Ringette Alberta office and will be applied to any subsequent suspensions under Ringette Alberta Policy.
- 15.4.4 Upon receipt of notification of a Misconduct Penalty or Match Penalty the Ringette Alberta office will:
- Record the particulars of the incident;
 - Send an email to the participant in the incident to ensure receipt of Misconduct/Match Report;
 - Use 15.4.15 Length of Ringette Alberta Suspension to identify how many games the participant shall be suspended;
 - An email with a notification of suspension shall be sent to the Association President, Referee In Chief, Head Coach, and the participant (or designate).
- 15.4.5 Games served under suspension must be league sanctioned tournaments including mini games, playoff, Provincial championships including mini games, or prescheduled games. Prescheduled games are defined as games that were scheduled prior to the game in which the Misconduct Penalty and/or Match Penalty was assessed.
- 15.4.6 Suspensions not completely served in one season carry over to the following season(s) until fully served.
- 15.4.7 Following the game in which a Match Penalty was assessed, the participant shall immediately sit out the Ringette Canada suspension of one game, as described in Section 15.3.4. The participant shall then sit out the number of games indicated on the Notification of Suspension.
- 15.4.8 In the event the suspension is appealed, the appellant's suspension remains in effect during the appeal process. All parties to the appeal process are to conduct themselves knowing time is of the essence.
- 15.4.9 For each game that a participant is suspended, the participant's name must appear on the game sheet with the words 'SUSPENDED – GAME # X' appearing following the player's name.
- 15.4.10 Once all games have been served copies of all game sheets will be forwarded to the League Director of the league in which the participant is registered. The League Director will forward the game sheets to the Ringette Alberta office so that it can be recorded that the suspension has been served.

- 15.4.11 Participants who have been suspended are not allowed in the playing areas of the arena, including but not limited to the dressing room, players bench or timekeeper's bench.
- 15.4.12 In the case of Match Penalty, the minimum Ringette Canada suspension of one game, in addition to the game ejection, shall be served and may not be appealed.

In addition, a Ringette Alberta suspension shall be served as recommended in section 15.4.15 - Length of Ringette Alberta Suspensions, based on the severity of the action. This suspension may be appealed as described under section 16.0 Appeals.

15.4.13 Appealing Suspensions

All appeals of suspensions will be governed by 16.0 Appeals Policy.

15.4.14 Complaints

A written complaint of an incident involving an intent to injure or verbal abuse of officials which was not observed and reported by an on-ice official may be reported to Ringette Alberta for investigation.

15.4.14.1 Such a report must be submitted within seven (7) business days from the date in which the incident occurred. The report must be signed by the Group Member of the individual submitting the complaint.

15.4.14.2 Such a report shall include:

- Videotape of the incident and/or;
- Two (2) written statements from witnesses who have no association (i.e. participating family members) with either team.

15.4.14.3 Within five (5) working days of the receipt of the complaint, the Officials Development Coordinator (or designate) shall seek a written report from the on-ice officials and other affected individuals.

15.4.14.4 Within further five (5) working days, the investigation shall be completed, and the Officials Development Coordinator will determine if a hearing is required.

15.4.14.5 If a hearing is required, an Ad Hoc Committee shall meet within five (5) working days of that decision.

15.4.15 Length of Ringette Alberta Suspensions

15.4.15.1 One (1) game for any Misconduct Penalty.

15.4.15.2 Two (2) games for the following actions:

- Hair Pulling;
- Face Masking.

15.4.15.3 Three (3) games for the following actions:

- Spearing / Butt ending;
- Head Butting;
- Stick Swinging;
- Kicking;
- Participating in a fight;
- Punching;
- Intent to injure (for actions not already specified);
- Verbal abuse of an on-ice official.

15.4.15.4 Five (5) games for the following actions:

- Instigating a fight.

15.4.15.5 Seven (7) games for the following:

- Excessive verbal abuse of an on-ice official;
- exiting the penalty box prior to the completion of a penalty to become involved in an altercation.

15.4.15.6 Ten (10) games for the following actions:

- Physical abuse of an on-ice official;
- Threat of physical violence against an on-ice official.

15.4.16 Multiple actions that result in suspensions are cumulative.

15.4.17 When a ten (10) game suspension is received, an Ad Hoc hearing will be held to determine any additional discipline up to an including permanent suspension.

15.4.18 Additional Match Penalties within two (2) calendar years from the date of a prior incident resulting in a Ringette Alberta suspension shall result in an Ad Hoc hearing to determine the length of additional suspension.



15.4.19 Compliance and Consequences

Failure to notify Ringette Alberta will result in a fine in the amount specified in Appendix A - Rates and Fees to the Group Member Association with which the official is registered or that hosted the event.

15.5 References

Appendix A - Rates and Fees