

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	09/08/2018	09/08/2018
15.4.18	Added misconduct penalties	6	09/15/2019	09/15/2019
All	Wording changes, added new sections	7	09/30/2023	10/3/2023
15.5.2	Updated Process	7	09/30/2023	10/3/2023
	Removed section on video submission	7	09/30/2023	10/3/2023
15.11	Added Appendices	7	09/30/2023	10/3/2023

## 15.0 GAME SUSPENSION and Subsequent Discipline POLICY

### 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 game suspensions for various described acts.

### 15.2 Definitions

**Participant** - A Player or Team Staff Member that is registered with Ringette Alberta

**Match Penalty/Misconduct Penalty** - An ejection penalty from a game, according to rules in Sections 16 and 18 in the Ringette Canada rule book.

**Sanctioned Event**- An event that was sanctioned by Ringette Alberta, Ringette Canada, or a Provincial or Territorial Association

### 15.3 Applicability

This policy applies to all Ringette Alberta registered participants, regardless of whether the infraction occurs at a Ringette Canada, Ringette Alberta, or other provincial or territorial Ringette Association event.

### 15.4 Principles

15.4.1 All Match Penalties carry a ONE (1) game AUTOMATIC suspension from Ringette Canada, this suspension cannot be appealed.

15.4.2 All additional Suspension durations will be set by Ringette Alberta for any Misconduct and/or Match penalties assessed to a participant which occur in any sanctioned events.

15.4.3 Tournament Disciplinary Committees will use this policy to govern game 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.

- 15.4.4 The player and team staff member have the prime responsibility for ensuring that the suspension is fully served. The total number of games of the suspension is listed in Section 15.9 - Ringette Alberta Length of Suspensions. Ringette Alberta issues a letter communicating the suspension to the suspended person, the Team Staff, the home association or Group Member in which the individual is registered, and the League, Referee-In-Chief, as required.
- 15.4.5 A participant shall be suspended for specified acts described under the section Misconduct Penalties or Match Penalties of the Official Rules of Ringette.
- 15.4.6 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. If a participant receives a suspension under one role, that suspension must end before returning to any roles.
- 15.4.7 Following Ringette Alberta's suspension notice, further suspensions or disciplinary hearings are at the discretion of the home association or the Group Member in which the individual is registered.

## 15.5 Requirements

### 15.5.1 Timelines

Submission of Match/Misconduct Report Form (Appendix G) from the Official, along with a copy of the game sheet, must be received by the Ringette Alberta office by 12:00 noon the second (2<sup>nd</sup>) business day following the completion of the game.

### 15.5.2 Process

15.5.2.1 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 electronic Match/Misconduct Report Form at the completion of the game.

15.5.2.2 If the game takes place in an exhibition or league game, it is the responsibility of the official to submit a Match/Misconduct Report Form 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

Match/Misconduct Report Form to Ringette Alberta, using 15.4.3.

- 15.5.2.3 If any game suspensions have been served while out of province, copies of these game sheets SHALL also be forwarded to the Ringette Alberta office and will be applied to any subsequent suspensions under Ringette Alberta Policy.
- 15.5.3 Upon receipt of notification of a Misconduct Penalty or Match Penalty the Ringette Alberta office will:
- Collect the Match/Misconduct Report Form;
  - Collect the Game Sheet;
  - Send an email to the participant in the incident, attach Match/Misconduct Report Form and Game Sheet, email is also sent to their Association President, League President, League Referee-In-Chief, and Head Coach;
  - Allow time for participant to reply, using the Suspension Reply Form (Appendix H);
  - Use 15.9 - Ringette Alberta Length of Suspensions to identify how many games the participant shall be suspended;
  - An email with a notification of suspension shall be sent to the Association President, League President, League Referee-In-Chief, Head Coach, as well as the Participant, including Game Sheet, Suspension Reply Form, and Match/Misconduct Report Form.

## **15.6 Serving the Suspension**

- 15.6.1 Games to be served under suspension must be league sanctioned tournaments including mini games, playoff, Provincial championships including mini games, or pre-scheduled games. Pre-scheduled games are defined as games that were scheduled prior to the game in which the Misconduct Penalty and/or Match Penalty was assessed.
- 15.6.2 Suspensions not completely served in one season carry over to the following season(s) until fully served.
- 15.6.3 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.

- 15.6.4 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.
- 15.6.5 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.
- 15.6.6 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.
- 15.6.7 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 15.9 - Ringette Alberta Length of Suspensions, based on the severity of the action. This suspension may be appealed as described under section 16.0 Appeals.

### **15.7 Appeals**

All appeals of suspensions will be governed by the Ringette Alberta Appeals Policy.

### **15.8 Ringette Canada Length of Suspensions**

One (1) game for ALL Match Penalties (Ringette Canada automatic suspension, no appeals) - A Ringette Alberta Suspension will follow.

### **15.9 Ringette Alberta Length of Suspensions**

- 15.9.1 One (1) game for any Misconduct Penalty.
- 15.9.2 One (1) games for the following actions:
- A Match Penalty for hitting from behind without intent to injure.
- 15.9.3 Two (2) games for the following actions:
- Verbal abuse of an on-ice official;
  - Hair Pulling;
  - Face Masking.
- 15.9.4 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, with profanities.

15.9.5 Five (5) games for the following actions:

- Instigating a fight.

15.9.6 Seven (7) games for the following:

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

15.9.7 Ten (10) games for the following actions:

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

### **15.10 Details of Suspension Lengths**

15.10.1 Game lengths shown are maximums.

15.10.2 Multiple actions that result in suspensions are cumulative.

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

15.10.4 Additional Match and Misconduct 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.

15.10.5 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.

### **15.11 References**

Appendix A - Rates and Fees

Appendix G - Match/Misconduct Report Form

Appendix H - Suspension Reply Form