



United Prospects Hockey League Playing Rules 2009-2010

UPHL PLAYING RULES - EXCEPTIONS TO THE USA HOCKEY OFFICIAL RULE BOOK

The UPHL has adopted the current (as revised every two years) USA Hockey Official Playing Rules to govern all hockey competition under its jurisdiction, with the exceptions and additions listed hereinafter. In case of a conflict between the USA Hockey and UPHL rules, the latter will prevail.

1. RULE 103 -108: RINK MARKINGS

Rules governing outdoor rinks, USA Hockey required lines and other markings on the ice surface need not be present at all. There shall be markings vertically up the boards on such rinks for the two blue lines, the center red line, and the two goal lines.

2. RULE 109(a): PLAYERS BENCH

Dimensions of seats or benches, as required by the USA Hockey rules, for the use of the players is desirable, but not mandatory.

3. RULE 110: PENALTY BENCH

Dimensions of seats or benches, as required by the USA Hockey rules, for the use of penalized players is desirable, but not mandatory. In rink facilities in which the penalty bench is located on the same side of the rink as the players' benches, a mechanism or technique shall be provided to aid the referees in determining, at a quick glance, the status of each team regarding their penalized players. The use of cellular phones and/or pagers shall not be allowed by any person occupying the penalty timekeeper's bench unless use of the devices is mandated by the on-ice officials.

4. RULE 111: SIGNAL &TIMING DEVICES

Provisions of an electric clock as required by the USA Hockey rules is highly desirable, but not mandatory. In rink facilities where an electric clock is unavailable for use, the home team shall provide a minimum of two stop watches for the game and penalty timekeepers. Provision for electric goal lights is desirable, but not mandatory. The use of cellular phones and/or pagers shall not be allowed by any person occupying the goal judge position unless use of the devices is mandated by the on-ice officials.



5. RULE 207: UNIFORMS

The UPHL reserves the right to approve the official colors of all teams playing in the League. All players, on a team, must be dressed in similar color and design jerseys and socks. Goalies may wear sweat pants of a similar color to the team socks. Failure to have proper uniforms, during a league game, will result in a minor penalty being assessed against the offending team and the offending player will be removed from the ice and not allowed to return to the game until the infraction is corrected.

Each player will have a light uniform and a dark uniform with the players number clearly printed or sewn on the back of the uniform. Numbers made of or affixed by tape will not be allowed. No duplication of numbers shall be allowed by different players on the same team. Any player in violation of the rules regarding numbers will not be allowed to participate in a league game until the infraction is corrected.

Home teams shall wear light jerseys and socks and visiting teams shall wear dark jerseys and socks. Any deviation of a team's use of light and dark jerseys and sock shall be agreed to by both coaches and reported to the referee prior to the start of the game. The team failing to wear the proper uniform shall be assessed a minor penalty at the start of the game.

6. RULE 207(b): STOP SIGNS

In an effort to prevent checking from behind, which can result in a serious injury, all UPHL Division players participating are requested to wear a stop sign affixed to the rear of their jersey but just below the collar line and above their number.

7. RULE 3-4: FIRST AID KIT

All teams participating in UPHL play must have a first aid kit available at all games. At the start of UPHL games, the referee(s) shall check each team for the first aid kit in their possession. The penalty for failure to observe this rule shall be an automatic bench minor assessed to the offending team at the start of the game. A complete set of signed USA Hockey Consent to Treat forms should be available at all games as well.

8. RULE 304(c): MOUTHPIECES

All players are required to wear an internal mouthpiece, following the same description of this USA Hockey rule. Any player who is in violation of this rule at any level shall be removed from the game until the player secures a mouthpiece. A subsequent violation by a player shall result in the assessment of a misconduct penalty. A blanket warning to the entire team is sufficient to satisfy this rule. It is suggested that the on-ice officials have the game scorekeeper make a notation on the official score sheet when a player is removed from the ice for a violation of this rule.



9. RULE 402(a, b): MINOR and BENCH MINOR PENALTY

For all games, a "minor" penalty shall be of two (2) minutes duration. For games with running time periods, no running time penalty shall expire until play is resumed.

10. RULE 403(a): MAJOR PENALTIES

For all games a "major" penalty shall be of five (5) minutes duration. For games with running time periods, no running time penalty shall expire until play is resumed.

11. RULE 403(d): REPEATED OFFENSES

When major penalties are incurred for three offenses in any combination during one season, the offender shall be immediately and automatically suspended from any further play until such time as he has had a mandatory hearing by the Missouri Rules and Disciplinary Committee. A decision as to any further disciplinary action, and/or approval to be reinstated will be made by the R&D Committee.

12. RULE 404(a): MISCONDUCT PENALTIES

For all games a "Misconduct" penalty shall be of ten (10) minutes duration. For games with running time periods, no running time penalty shall expire until play is resumed.

12. RULE 404(g): MISCONDUCT PENALTIES

Any misconduct before or after an MAIHA - YD sanctioned game, on the premises of the rink, under the jurisdiction of the Missouri Hockey. Such matters will be referred to Missouri Hockey for consideration and possible disciplinary action.

14. RULE 501(b): APPOINTMENT OF OFFICIALS (Referee System)

Officials for UPHL games shall operate under a 2-man system for all games at all levels,

15. RULE 502: REFEREE'S DUTIES

The referee shall check for the presence of a score sheet, and if no official score sheet is available, he shall not officiate until such time as a suitable substitute is present. The substitute score sheet must contain the following information:

1. Name of home and visiting teams.
2. Level of play
3. Date, time, and game number of game.
4. Room to list penalties completely.



5. Room to list score by periods.
6. Coaches printed name and signature.

If there are any penalties of a serious nature that call for suspension of any disciplinary action, the referee shall complete an Incident Report within 48 hours.

16. RULE 502(i): ABSENCE OF OFFICIALS (addition)

- A) Failure of assigned officials to show up for a UPHL League Game shall be handled as follows:
 - 1) 8 & Under and 10 & Under Divisions:
 - a) if one properly rated official is available, the game will be played.
 - b) If no properly rated official is available, the procedures in subsections 2 through 4 below shall be followed;
 - 2) 12 & Under, 14 & Under, and 17 & Under divisions:
 - a) if two properly rated officials are not available, it shall be the option of either coach to decline to play the game.
 - b) If either coach declines to play the game, the matter shall be referred to the UPHL Commissioner for rescheduling.
 - c) The Commissioner shall determine who shall furnish the ice and officials.
 - 3) Properly rated officials may be appointed by the agreement of the coaches. Per USA Hockey rule 502(j), if the regularly scheduled officials appear during the progress of the game, they shall at once replace the temporary officials.
 - 4) If neither coach declines to play the game, it shall be played and becomes a bona fide League game, no matter what its outcome.
- B) The official(s) failing to show up shall not be paid, and will be fined per MIHOA policies and procedures.
- C) For purposes of this rule, a "properly rated" official is described as:
 - 1) Completely USA Hockey registered.



- 2) The official should be wearing the current USA Hockey officiating crest, and have a USA Hockey official's registration card. The registration for officials lasts until November 30 of the next season
- 3) Be at least one playing level higher than that of the scheduled game. (For instance, a 14 & Under-aged official is not a properly rated official for a 14 & Under scheduled game).

17. RULE 601(c): ABUSE OF OFFICIALS AND OTHER MISCONDUCT

If any player is guilty of any one of the following, his team shall be assessed a bench minor penalty:

Anywhere on the playing surface, players' bench or penalty box, using obscene, profane or abusive language to any person or using the name of any Official coupled with any vociferous remarks.

18. RULE 601(d): ABUSE OF OFFICIALS AND OTHER MISCONDUCT

If any player is guilty of any one of the following, he shall be assessed a misconduct penalty: Using obscene, profane or abusive language to any person on the ice or anywhere in the rink before, during or after the game.

19. RULE 635(c): START OF GAME AND PERIODS

The following shall be observed in reference to UPHL Regular Season League games.

- A) When the ice is clean and ready for use, the officials shall signal teams on to the ice and have the scorekeeper note on the score sheet the time at which the ice must be vacated.
- B) At the same time, the referee shall notify the timekeeper to start the clock with five (5) or three (3) minutes showing depending on age group playing.
- C) When the clock reaches the one minute mark, the referee is to blow the whistle notifying each bench to start preparing their teams for play.
- D) When the clock has reached zero, the timekeeper shall be instructed to reset the clock for the length of the first period, and the referee is to drop the puck as soon as the clock has been set.

20. RULE 637(a): TIME OF MATCH

- A) The regulation length of UPHL League games, except Midget divisions, shall be three fourteen (14) minute, stop time periods, with a one (1) minute intermissions between periods.



- B) Midget games shall be three seventeen (17) minute, stop time periods, with a one (1) minute intermissions between periods.
- C) Unless otherwise designated, all league games, except Midget divisions, shall be 75 minutes in duration, no exception.
- D) Midget divisions, shall be 90 minutes in duration, no exception.
- E) **REGULAR SEASON ONLY:** For the playing of the third period: At the first stoppage of play, when the wall clock shows five minutes of play remaining, the game (scoreboard) clock will be reset to two (2) minutes stop time **at the referee(s) direction** and the game shall be concluded.

21. RULE 637: TIME OUTS

There shall be one (1) :60 second time-out permitted per team during UPHL sanctioned games.

22. RULE 637(g): TIME OF MATCH

- A) If anytime after the completion of the second period of play, a team attains a seven goal lead over an opposing team, the game will proceed from that point as a running time game. During the running clock, the clock shall stop on goals, injuries and assessment of penalties.
- B) After the seven goal differential is reached, goals scored by the team with the lesser score shall be recorded on the scoreboard but, the seven goal differential shall be maintained on the scoreboard so long as it exists. (Note: All goals shall be recorded on the score sheet.)
- C) If the goal differential returns to less than seven (7) goals, the game shall return to stop time.
- D) Any penalties incurred during the running time shall be served in the same time duration as in stop time.

Example: Team A leads Team B by a score of 7 to 0; Team A scores again making the score 8 to 0 on the score sheet, however; the scoreboard will still reflect a 7 to 0 score. If Team B then scores a goal, then the scoreboard will reflect an 8 to 1 score, thereby maintaining the seven goal differential. If the score carries into the third period, then running time will be instituted. However, if Team B scores another goal in the third period making the score 8 to 2 then the game will return to stop time because the score differential is less than 7.

23. RULE 637(h): CONCLUSION OF GAME



- A) At the conclusion of the game, League or otherwise, the sportsmanlike display of players shaking hands at center ice is not necessarily required. However, this gesture is representative of good sportsmanship and is encouraged.
- B) At the conclusion of any UPHL game when the handshake is waived by the officials, the home team shall remain at their bench until the entire visiting team has left the ice surface.
- C) The penalty for failure to observe this rule when an altercation ensues (after completion of the game) shall be a game misconduct penalty assessed on the head coach of the home team.

24. RULE 638(a): TIED GAMES

Overtime shall not be played for regular league games which end in a tie. The results of such games shall be recorded as a tie.

25. PLAYOFFS

The UPHL shall furnish full playoff rules, series breakdowns and procedures 2 weeks prior to the final Championship Weekend.

UPHL ORGANIZATION'S RESPONSIBILITY FOR PLAYER AND SPECTATOR BEHAVIOR

- A) Each organization is responsible for the behavior of parents and children, on or away from rink areas and organization premises. They shall:
 - 1) Seek out and remove spectators whose conduct and/or language is objectionable or who are blowing whistles or making other sounds which can be mistaken for those of the officials.
 - 2) Ensure that the area directly behind the goals and the players' benches are free of spectators during the games.
- B) If a referee determines that any spectator's conduct is inappropriate and if he or she can reasonably determine the responsible team, he or she shall:
 - 1) Order the responsible team to remove the spectator(s)
 - 2) If the conduct continues, assess a bench minor against the responsible team
 - 3) If the conduct continues, order the players off the ice and declare a forfeit against the responsible team
- C) Use of other noise makers which could effect the flow of play are prohibited



- D) Alcohol of any type is not permitted inside the rink viewing area.
- E) No parents or other spectators may set foot on the ice surface, under any circumstances, including injury to his own child, without the specific permission of one of the officials
- F) Offenders shall be reported to the Rules and Disciplinary committee or the MAIHA - YD Board and will be subject to disciplinary action. Any incident requiring the removal of a spectator or forfeiture of a game shall be reported by the officials on an Incident Report and forwarded to the Rules and Disciplinary Committee for action. The Rules and Disciplinary Committee may assess a two point penalty in the standings against a team for failure to perform its duties under these rules.

UPHL MINIMUM ROSTER SIZE PER TEAM

- A) Teams must have a minimum roster of 11 players (10 out skaters, and 1 goaltender). Teams with 1 goaltender must have a rostered player available to serve as the back-up goaltender in case of injury or illness to their rostered goaltender.

UPHL POINTS AND LEAGUE STANDINGS

- A) Points in league standings for regular season games
 - i. Win = 2 points
 - ii. Tie = 1 point
 - iii. Loss = 0 points

- B) Final League Standings in the event of a tie

If the final league standings results in two or more teams having an equal number of points, their position in the standings shall be determined by the following tie-breaker format. If one tie-breaker establishes a position for one or more teams, each team is placed in the applicable position. Once a team is placed the remaining tied teams shall start the tie-breaking process over again.

- o The results of the head to head games played between the tied teams in the following order (top to bottom):
 - Has acquired the most points in head to head play
 - Has acquired the most wins in league play
 - Has acquired the greatest surplus of “goals-for” minus “goals-against” in their head to head competition.
 - Has acquired the higher quotient by dividing the goals scored by goals scored against in their head to head competition.
 - Has acquired the highest point total as determined by periods won in their head to head competition. Points awarded for each regular period won (2 points) and for each regulation period tied (1 point).



- Has acquired the greatest surplus of “goals-for” minus “goals-against” in their total regular season games.
- The flip of a coin

PENALTIES INVOLVING SUSPENSIONS

- A) A hearing must be held by the Rules and Disciplinary Committee regarding any Match Penalty, or Penalty involving more than a 30 day suspension, unless the person against whom the penalty has been assigned submits a written statement to the Committee that he does not choose to contest the decision or unless he fails to answer the notification letter within ten days. The person against whom the penalty was assessed may request the hearing be formal and/or closed to the public.
- B) A player or coach receiving a Match Penalty will be suspended from all USA Hockey activity until the next scheduled hearing.
- C) Only the Rules and Disciplinary Committee may stay, revoke, or lengthen any suspensions, whether they are covered under the USA Hockey Rules, or the UPHL policies and procedures.
- D) No member of the Rules and Disciplinary Committee shall vote on a matter involving the member’s organization.
- E) Unfulfilled year-end game suspension penalties will carry over and be served, or completed, at the beginning of the following season. Match penalties against individuals other than players will be handled similarly.
- F) The Rules and Disciplinary Committee (comprised of the UPHL Rep from each club and the Commissioner) reserve the right to assess penalties, of whatever degree of severity they deem to be appropriate, for misconduct not specifically covered by either the USA Hockey Rule Book or the UPHL Rules, Regulations, and Procedures.
- G) All suspensions shall be as follows:
- 1) Suspensions at the end of a season shall be served in the first league game(s) of the following season.
 - 2) If a player or coach receives a game misconduct or suspension during a league game, he must sit the next league game. If there is an already scheduled practice game or tournament game prior to the next league game at the time of the suspension, he must sit the practice game or tournament game and the next league game (2 games). If a game is scheduled after the game misconduct or suspension, he still must sit the already scheduled games as indicated above.



- 3) If a player or coach receives a game misconduct or suspension during a tournament game, he must sit the next already scheduled league or tournament game which ever comes first. If there is an already scheduled practice game at the time of the suspension, he must sit the practice game and the next tournament or next league game which ever comes first (2 games). If a game is scheduled after the game misconduct or suspension, he must still sit the already scheduled games as indicated above.
- 4) If a player or coach receives a game misconduct or suspension during a practice game or he must sit the next already scheduled league, tournament or practice game at the time of the suspension. If a game is scheduled after the game misconduct or suspension, he must still sit the already scheduled game as indicated above.
- 5) Teams may not schedule a game after a game misconduct or suspension and have it count toward the game(s) a player is required sit out.