

# Hockey

## SEASON REGULATIONS

(Rules in this section are specific for sport involved. Refer to Constitution, Bylaws and Rules of Eligibility for regulations related to age, residence, scholarship, amateur status, etc.)

**ALERT: State Law (175.22) prohibits use of cell phones (and other image-recording devices) in locker rooms except in emergency situations.**

### 1. PRESEASON AND OUT-OF-SEASON

- a. Organizational meetings may be conducted outside the season provided no instruction or practice is included and the meeting(s) has been approved by school administration.
- b. So long as participation is voluntary and available to all interested students, there shall be no restrictions upon schools, school teams and school coaches (grades 9-12) relative to assembling in the summertime, for up to 5 days which do not need to be consecutive for all WIAA sports sponsored by the school. Sanctioned school contact days must conclude no later than July 31.
- c. It is the philosophy of this Association that athletes should not be unreasonably restricted, except during the actual school season of a sport. Subsequently, students may voluntarily assemble at any time without school and/or school coach involvement. With school consent, in the summertime, members of a school's team may voluntarily assemble with their teammates and coaches for purposes of instruction and/or competition for up to 5 days in all WIAA sports sponsored by the school, without restriction. **Note: Whether an opportunity is school sponsored or not, coach contact may not exceed Board of Control approved contact days.**
- d. Other than during the actual school season and those days designated as sanctioned school coach contact days in the summertime, the following provisions shall apply to nonschool participation in accordance with the above:
  - (1) An acceptable nonschool program or activity is one which is not limited to students on the basis of a school affiliation, athletic experience, team status, etc. and no school monies or resources can be applied.
  - (2) The person who will be coaching a student in the following school season shall not be permitted to coach that student other than during the designated school season and Board of Control approved coach contact days in the summertime. Board of Control approved summertime contact is as follows:
    - (a) Sanctioned School Coaching Contact - Coaches in all WIAA recognized sports (baseball, cross country, football, golf, gymnastics, lacrosse, softball, swimming & diving, tennis, track & field, volleyball, soccer, basketball, hockey and wrestling) have been afforded up to 5 days of sanctioned school coaching contact between the end of school and July 31, in accordance with the Bylaws and as described in item B of this section. The five days do not need to be consecutive.
      - 1) There must be a minimum of one calendar week (Sun.-Sat.) of no sanctioned school coaching contact prior to (i.e. the week immediately preceding) the first allowed practice in a fall sport. This does not affect nonschool programming.
      - 2) Football must follow the WIAA Fall Acclimatization policy.
    - (b) Nonschool Programming - Coaches in all sports except football have been afforded nonschool program contact beyond the five sanctioned school contact days that is permitted to continue throughout the summertime (when school is not in session from the last day of school to the start of school) in accordance with the Bylaws and as described in Section 2 - A and C-1) of Rules of Eligibility, Article VI - Nonschool Participation.

Note: Coaches or others may not mandate participation or provide any incentives to athletes for participating in summertime/out-of-season activities/programs. Participation may not be a requirement for making a school team or earning a letter award, etc.

### 2. LENGTH OF SEASON

The earliest day practice may begin is Monday of Week 19 (November 6). The season ends with the State Tournament concluding on the Saturday of Week 35 (March 2).

### 3. MINIMUM DAYS OF PRACTICE

- a. There must be practices on a minimum of ten different days before the first competition may be conducted.
- b. The first seven days of practice may not involve a team from outside the school.
- c. The minimum days of practice prior to the first competition is a team requirement. While it is desirable for each participant to satisfy this requirement, schools will determine when individual athletes may begin competition.
- d. Teams must rest from all physical activity for at least one calendar day after six consecutive days of practice or competition. In the event extreme weather forces a WIAA tournament contest to be cancelled, school administration may request relief.

### 4. SCRIMMAGES

- a. One scrimmage, over one day, with another school, or schools, may be conducted in addition to the maximum allowed games, meets, or contests, provided all athletes participating meet all WIAA and school eligibility requirements (exceptions: students ineligible due to academic deficiency, code of conduct violations, or those required to miss the next competitive event, due to being ejected from their last competitive event, may participate at the discretion of the school), and:
  - (1) Seven different days of practice have elapsed.
  - (2) There is no loss of academic class time.
  - (3) It is prior to any school involved playing their first game in the WIAA tournament series.
  - (4) There is no score in a book, or on a scoreboard.
  - (5) A format other than three 17-minute periods is used.
- b. Each high school team, i.e., varsity, JV, sophomore, freshman, is allowed one scrimmage.
- c. An individual student is allowed to participate in only one day of scrimmage activity. Note: An individual student may participate in multiple levels of scrimmages conducted on the same day.
- d. A scrimmage does not count in a team's win/loss record.
- e. Any other interschool scrimmage counts toward the maximum allowed games except there may be two "shared ice" exposures provided each team involved does not intermingle with the other team (remains on its half of the ice).

Note: If either school counts a scrimmage as a game, it must be counted as a game for both programs, schools or teams.

**5. DATE OF FIRST GAME**

The first game may not be played before Friday, November 17.

**6. MAXIMUM ALLOWED GAMES**

- The maximum number of games is 24.** Schedules of all teams should be clearly published and separated by level for each team sponsored by a school.
- Conference tournaments must be included in count of regular season maximums.
- No game may be scheduled (but a game may be rescheduled if postponed) after either of the schools involved in the rescheduled event has begun WIAA tournament series play.
- The WIAA tournament series is not part of the maximum allowed games.
- Except for events held in bordering states (MN, IL, MI and IA), no approval shall be provided for more than one out-of-state competition, event and/or scrimmage per team each school season.

**7. INDIVIDUAL PARTICIPATION LIMITATIONS**

- A student may be a member of two different school level teams in the same calendar week. When a student plays in two different levels of competition on the same day, (e.g., JV/varsity) they may not participate in more than five periods in any single day. In such cases, it is the responsibility of a coach to be particularly concerned about overexposing students to the point of adversely affecting their health and safety. It is highly recommended that coaches who use players at more than one level of competition document the number of periods played for each individual.
- For information about non-school participation, refer to Rules of Eligibility, Article VI, Section 1 of the Senior High Handbook and consult with Athletic Administration.

**8. FLAGRANT OR UNSPORTSMANLIKE CONDUCT AND INELIGIBLE ATHLETES**

- A student, disqualified from a contest for flagrant or unsportsmanlike conduct, is suspended from interscholastic competition for no less than the next competitive event (but not less than one complete game or meet) at the same level of competition as the disqualification.
- Athletes who are ineligible during the WIAA Tournament (for any reason) may not appear in uniform, participate in warm-ups, and may not participate in the awards ceremony at the WIAA Tournament. Exception: An injured athlete will be allowed to participate in the awards ceremony provided he/she is included in the roster allotment for that game. During the regular season, schools should establish their own policy as to whether athletes are allowed to be in uniform and participate in pregame and postgame activity, if they are ineligible to compete due to flagrant and/or unsportsmanlike conduct, athletic and/or academic code violations, or for any other reason.
- Any player who in the judgment of the official, intentionally spits on, strikes, slaps, kicks, pushes or aggressively physically contacts an official at any time shall be immediately ineligible for competition a minimum of 90 calendar days from the date of the confrontation. In addition, the player is ineligible to compete for the first 25% of the next season in that same sport.

**9. PROHIBITION OF PRACTICE AT GAME SITE**

Member schools are prohibited during the regular season and the WIAA tournament series from scheduling practices for purposes of regional, sectional, and state tournament preparation at sites and facilities hosting WIAA tournaments.

**10. CONTEST CONTROL**

- All schools are responsible before, during and after a contest for the proper conduct of their coaches, athletes, students and other spectators and, when requested, a school must complete a report regarding the contest in which a problem occurred (WIAA Bylaws, Article X).
- It is the responsibility of schools to eliminate pranks and/or mischief such as throwing objects onto the ice, or any other activity involving destruction and/or theft of game equipment and materials (season and WIAA tournament series).

**11. LICENSED OFFICIALS**

- Three WIAA licensed officials (two referees and one linesman) are required for all interscholastic competition.
- It is recommended that licensed officials be contracted as goal judges.

**12. MEDICAL COVERAGE**

For all contests and practices, emergency procedures should be in place as per DPI and Wisconsin Statute 121.02 (1) (g) Emergency Nursing Service. These should include, but are not limited to, such things as:

- A physician available by phone or on location.
- Phone location and phone numbers available for contacting physician and/or ambulance service.
- A designated physician or licensed athletic trainer will determine whether an injured athlete may continue whether or not consciousness is involved. They may consult with another physician if they desire, but their decision will be final. Coaches cannot keep medical personnel from examining athletes that are or may be injured.

**13. CONCUSSION AND/OR UNCONSCIOUS PARTICIPANT**

No athlete shall return to play or practice on the same day of being diagnosed with a concussion. Any athlete suspected of having a concussion must be evaluated by an appropriate health-care professional that day. Any athlete with a concussion must be medically cleared by an appropriate health-care professional prior to resuming participation in any practice or competition. Return to play must follow a step-wise protocol which includes provisions for delaying return to play based upon the return of any signs or symptoms. Any athlete deemed unconscious must have medical evaluation and clearance before being allowed to return to participation.

**14. OXYGEN AND FLUIDS PROVIDED INTRAVENOUSLY**

- Oxygen administered by mechanical means for recuperative purposes is not permitted.
- Fluids provided intravenously is an invasive procedure to be used only in emergency situations. An athlete may not return to competition the same day.

Note: See WIAA Medical Policies and Procedures for additional medical information.

**15. RULES GOVERNING COMPETITION**

The official rules for all interscholastic competition are contained in the (a) current edition of ICE HOCKEY RULES and (b) related publications and interpretations of the National Federation with these additional provisions:

**NATIONAL FEDERATION ALLOWED ADAPTATIONS**

- There is no limit to squad size and no limit on nonplayers in the team box during the regular season.
- Any player receiving a total of four penalties (minor, major, or misconduct) in a game shall be removed from participation for the balance of that game. This does not include bench penalties served by the player or violations resulting in penalty shots. The ejection is not considered a game misconduct or game disqualification.

- c. Players ejected for any reason are to remain on their team bench under the supervision of their coach. If off bench, adult, school personnel must be provided.
- d. Game disqualification penalties will be applied from the end of one season to the beginning of the next season of varsity sports the player is involved in.
- e. If at any time, starting in the second period, when a team is leading by six goals, the clock shall run continuously except for:
  - (1) When a goal is scored.
  - (2) When a penalty is assessed.
  - (3) An injury.
  - (4) A timeout.
  - (5) Any emergency situation requiring repairs to the ice, Plexiglas, lights, scoreboard, etc., (not to include player equipment other than goalies). If a penalty terminates during a stoppage of play in a running clock situation, the player serving the penalty will not be allowed to return to the ice until play resumes following that stoppage of play.
- f. Overtime procedures for regular season games are as follows:
  - (1) A three-minute rest period.
  - (2) An eight-minute five (5) on five (5) overtime sudden victory period.
  - (3) If still tied, a three-minute rest period, followed by a five-minute three (3) on three (3) sudden victory period.
  - (4) If still tied, the contest ends in a tie and is to be listed as a tie on a team's season record.
  - (5) An alternate tie-breaking procedure may be determined in addition to the procedures identified above by the host school. However, any hockey game where an alternate tie-breaking procedure is used (not including a sudden-victory during an eight-minute overtime period or a sudden-victory during a five-minute three (3) on three (3) period) is to be listed as a tie on a team's season record.
- g. Following the assessment of the third set of coincident minor penalties for infractions occurring between two opposing players, after a stoppage of play for "chippy conduct" the Referee will inform both teams. Any further infractions of this type will result in automatic misconduct penalties being assessed (coincidental minor shall not be assessed in these situations). Some examples of these types of "chippy" penalties occurring after a stoppage of play are: roughing, head contact, unsportsmanlike conduct, avoidable contact after stoppage, slashing, high sticking, and cross checking.
- h. **A game disqualification penalty issued for fighting shall result in a three game suspension for the player(s) assessed the penalty.**

#### STATE ASSOCIATION REGULATIONS

- a. Schools are to play 17-minute periods for all regular season and tournament series games.
- b. A 12-minute warm-up and a 12-minute intermission must be used unless extenuating circumstances (senior night, parents night, local youth program, etc.) are indicated to the officials and visiting team.
- c. All school-aged, team attendants (managers, student trainers, statisticians, etc.) are required to wear an ice hockey helmet with full facemask and chin straps which are securely fastened to the head, when in exposed team areas.
- d. It is required that all facilities (indoor and outdoor) have a screen or Plexiglas beginning at the top of the side and endboards and to a height adequate to (a) protect spectators at rink side from the puck and sticks and (b) prevent spectators from leaning over the boards and interfering with play. A screen shall be of heavy enough wire and small enough mesh to ensure that it will stop the puck and not allow it to become lodged in the screen. This screen or Plexiglas shall completely encircle the rink except for the player and penalty bench area.
- e. The referees' duties shall include certification of the official scoresheet by their signatures and official's number.
- f. Members of teams below the varsity level will not be penalized for failing to wear uniforms prescribed in the rules provided: 1) a reasonable attempt is made to conform to the regulations and 2) participant safety is not jeopardized. The WIAA office should be informed about questionable situations.
- g. Any school whose players, during the regular season, collectively receive a total of three or more game disqualifications over two or more games, or four game disqualifications during the same game, will be prohibited from participating in the WIAA State Tournament series. This ruling may be appealed by the school involved.  
This rule does not apply to game disqualifications received during the tournament series.
- h. JV ice hockey players and their JV teams will be suspended at the conclusion of any game/tournament when the second game disqualification penalty of the year is assessed. The suspension will continue until a review by the WIAA office determines the JV team can be allowed to compete.
- i. Coaches must report DQs to their school administration within 48 hours following a contest where a DQ penalty was assessed to their school's hockey team. School administrators must then report the DQ to the WIAA office via written communication within three (3) school days following the contest where the DQ penalty was assessed. This written communication must also include a plan of action to prevent future Game Disqualification penalties by their school team. Officials will continue to provide electronic reports to the WIAA office.

#### STATE ASSOCIATION RECOMMENDATIONS

- a. At the discretion of home management, cheerleaders may be permitted to lead cheers from on the ice. They must be limited to before the game and between periods only. They are not to be allowed on the ice:
  - (1) During a period.
  - (2) Between periods when players are on the ice.
  - (3) After the contest.

#### 16. NON-VARSITY TEAMS WITH ONLY GRADE 9 STUDENTS

The season ends on Saturday of Week 35 (March 2).

#### 17. GRADE 9 STUDENTS PARTICIPATING ON GRADE 8 TEAMS

- a. Rules governing junior high/middle level competition are contained in the Junior High/Middle Level Handbook.
- b. A school may not allow its students in Grades 9, 10, 11 and/or 12 to compete against another member school's students in Grade 8 and/or below.  
Note: In emergency situations a waiver may be requested allowing 9th grade student(s) at member middle schools to compete at the 8th grade level at member middle schools.
- c. Rules governing Grade 9 season length apply for teams with students Grade 9 and below.