Hockey Canada Rule 11 – Maltreatment (new in 2021-22)

**Rule 11.1 Unsportsmanlike Conduct**

(a) **A Minor penalty shall be assessed to any player, goaltender or team official who challenges or disputes the rulings of any Official during the game or who displays unsportsmanlike conduct.**

Note 1: A Referee is not required to assess a Minor penalty under this rule before assessing a Misconduct or Game Misconduct penalty but may assess either penalty initially.

(e) **A Misconduct penalty shall be assessed to any player who does** **not proceed immediately and directly to the penalty bench when they have been penalized.** Where the penalized player causes any delay by returning for their equipment (gloves, sticks, etc.), the Misconduct penalty shall apply. The equipment shall be delivered to them on the penalty bench by a player from their team on the ice at the time of the infraction.

**Rule 11.2 Disrespectful, Abusive, and Harassing Behaviour**

(a) A Misconduct penalty shall be assessed to any player or goaltender **who uses disrespectful language or gestures directed to the Referee or any other individual**. Any team official who engages in such behaviour shall be assessed a Minor penalty, rather than a Misconduct penalty.

Note 1: For the purpose of Rule 11.2(a), “**disrespectful” is defined as actions or words deemed rude, unpleasant, inappropriate, or unprofessional and found to be offensive to others,** but not rising to the level of conduct described in Rule 11.4.

Note 2: A Referee is not required to assess a Bench Minor or Misconduct penalty under this rule before assessing a Game Misconduct penalty.

**Rule 11.4 Discrimination**

**Any player, goaltender or team official who engages in verbal taunts, insults or intimidation based on discriminatory grounds shall be assessed a Gross Misconduct penalty. Discriminatory grounds include the following, without limitation:**

**- Race, national or ethnic origin, skin colour or language spoken;**

**- Religion, faith or beliefs;**

**- Age;**

**- Sex, sexual orientation or gender identity / expression;**

**- Marital or familial status;**

**- Genetic characteristics;**

**- Disability.**

**Rule 6.2 Boarding and Body-Checking**

(b) In divisions of U13 and below and female hockey, a Minor penalty or, at the discretionof the Referee, a Major penalty and a Game Misconduct penalty **shall be assessed any player who, in the opinion of the Referee, intentionally bodychecks, bumps, shoves or pushes any opposing player**. If a player is injured, a Major penalty and a Game Misconduct penalty must be assessed.

When the offensive player is skating towards the defensive player, the defensive player may not hit the offensive player by going in the opposite direction to that player. The body contact must be as a result of the movement of the offensive player. There must be no action where the offensive player is pushed, checked or shoved into the boards. Where, in the opinion of the Referee, accidental contact has taken place, no penalty shall be assessed.