

EFHL REFERENCE GUIDE

Discipline

Frequently Asked Questions

2026-2027 Season

This guide explains the EFHL process for suspendable offences, Notices of Suspension, serving suspensions, video review, tournament discipline, Individual Player Accumulated Penalty Minutes (IPPM), and game protests. Always follow the current EFHL and Hockey Alberta rules when they differ from a summary on this page.

Important: The official's call must be entered accurately in the electronic GameSheet. Selecting the wrong offence can prevent or delay the correct suspension review.

Suspendable Offences and Notices of Suspension

What is a suspendable offence?

A suspendable offence is a penalty that carries a suspension under Hockey Alberta's Minimum Suspensions or requires review by the applicable discipline authority. The official's call and rule number must be recorded correctly in the electronic GameSheet so the incident can be reviewed and the proper suspension applied.

How does EFHL Discipline learn that a suspendable offence has occurred?

RAMP automatically emails EFHL Discipline when a suspendable offence is entered in an electronic game sheet. Once the game is completed in RAMP, EFHL Discipline reviews the notification, the game details and the referee's incident report or write-up.

Why is it important to select the correct offence in GameSheet?

The offence selected in GameSheet determines what is recorded in the official game record and whether RAMP sends a suspendable-offence notification. An incorrect selection can result in an incorrect notice, a delayed review or a game sheet that must be corrected.

How is a Notice of Suspension sent?

After the review is complete, EFHL Discipline emails the appropriate member-association contact, such as the association Executive or Director. The Notice of Suspension includes the offence assessed, the referee's write-up and the length of the suspension. The association is responsible for communicating the decision to the team through its normal process.

Does a team need to report every suspendable offence directly to EFHL Discipline?

No. RAMP normally notifies EFHL Discipline automatically. If Team Management expects a suspension but has not received the details, it should contact its association delegate. The association delegate can then follow up with EFHL Discipline.

Are suspensions appealable?

No. Suspensions issued under Hockey Alberta's Minimum Suspensions are based on the official's call and cannot be appealed or reduced.

The length of a suspension may increase when an accumulation sanction applies to a repeat offence. This is not a separate penalty; it is an increased suspension based on the number and timing of similar offences previously assessed to that participant.

For example, a player's first major penalty of the season may result in a one-game suspension. A second major penalty assessed before the final 10 minutes of a game results in a two-game suspension. If the second major is assessed during the final 10 minutes, the suspension increases to three games.

Video Review

Can video be submitted to EFHL for review of a penalty?

No. EFHL Discipline does not review video to reconsider an on-ice penalty. The officials are responsible for on-ice game management. EFHL Discipline uses the Hockey Canada Playing Rules, Hockey Alberta Minimum Suspensions, the rule numbers and the details provided in the referee's incident report to determine the applicable suspension.

Can video be submitted to Hockey Alberta?

Hockey Alberta has a Video Review Policy, but video is accepted only for the reasons permitted under that policy. Teams should review Hockey Alberta's current policy before attempting a submission; video review is not a general appeal of an official's judgment.

What is the 2026-2027 change for an Attempt to Injure Match penalty?

For the 2026-2027 season, an Attempt to Injure Match penalty under Rule 7.1 carries a three-game minimum suspension rather than an indefinite suspension. An incident that appears exceptionally egregious may be eligible for Hockey Alberta review under its Video Review Policy.

Serving and Recording a Suspension

How is a suspension served?

A suspended player or Team Official must serve the suspension in the team's next sanctioned game or games. Sanctioned games include EFHL league play (tiering, regular season and playoffs), tournaments (including Minor Hockey Week when the team is participating) and Provincial Playoffs.

Can a suspension be served in an exhibition game?

No. An exhibition game does not count as a sanctioned game for the purpose of serving a suspension. A suspended person cannot participate in the exhibition game or be on the bench while under suspension, but the exhibition game does not reduce the number of games remaining in the suspension.

How should a suspended person be recorded in RAMP or GameSheet?

Team Management must use the suspension toggle in the GameSheet app to mark the player or Team Official as suspended for the game. Team Management should also use the RAMP note function when required to identify the suspension and the game being served, for example, "served Game 1 of 2." EFHL Discipline may also mark the participant as suspended in RAMP; this does not replace the team's responsibility to document the suspension for each game.

What happens if serving the suspension is not recorded?

If the game sheet does not show that the suspension was served, the game may not be credited toward the suspension. The player or Team Official will remain suspended until EFHL Discipline can verify that the required game or games were served.

How is a suspension recorded when a tournament uses paper game sheets?

List the suspended player or Team Official on the game-day roster, cross out the name and clearly note the suspension game being served, such as "SUSP 1/1." The team must provide EFHL Discipline with a copy of the tournament game sheet so the suspension can be verified.

How is a suspension recorded when a tournament uses electronic game sheets?

The suspended player or Team Official must be identified on the game-day roster as serving a suspension. The team must provide EFHL Discipline with a copy of the tournament game sheet or other required record so service can be verified.

Suspensions Issued at Tournaments or Exhibition Games

Who issues a suspension when an EFHL team is participating in a tournament?

The Tournament Discipline Director should issue the Notice of Suspension and provide it to the team at the time it is issued. Tournament Discipline then sends the notice through the applicable Hockey Alberta discipline process so the EFHL Hockey Alberta Discipline representative receives it.

Can an EFHL team contact EFHL Discipline about a suspension received at a tournament?

Yes. The team should send EFHL Discipline a PDF copy of the game sheet and the referee's write-up. EFHL Discipline can advise the team of the applicable suspension and notify the appropriate Hockey Alberta Discipline representative when EFHL has ruled on it.

Where is a tournament suspension served?

A suspension received during a tournament is served in that tournament whenever games remain. If the suspension is issued in the team's final tournament game, or is not fully served before the tournament ends, the remaining suspension carries over to the team's next sanctioned game or games in league play or Provincials.

What happens when a suspension is issued in an exhibition game?

The suspension carries forward and must be served in the team's next sanctioned game or games, such as league play, a tournament or Provincials.

Individual Player Accumulated Penalty Minutes (IPPM)**What is IPPM?**

IPPM means Individual Player Accumulated Penalty Minutes. It is supplemental discipline applied when a player reaches the published penalty-minute threshold for the player's division and category.

What are the 2026-2027 IPPM thresholds?

The published thresholds are shown below. Teams should always confirm the current EFHL IPPM publication before relying on a threshold.

Division and category	Threshold
U18	80 minutes
U15 Tier 1 Body Checking	65 minutes
U15 Tiers 2-3 Body Checking	55 minutes
U15 Tiers 1-3 Non-Body Checking	55 minutes
U13 Tier 1	50 minutes
U13 Tiers 2-6	50 minutes
U11 Tier 1	50 minutes
U11 Tiers 2-6	40 minutes

What happens when a player reaches an IPPM threshold?

At the first threshold, the player receives a one-game suspension. For every additional 15 accumulated penalty minutes, the suspension doubles: the next threshold results in two games, followed by four games at the next threshold.

Do IPPM totals continue into playoffs and Provincials?

If a player does not reach the first threshold before playoffs, the player's penalty-minute total does not continue to accumulate during playoffs or Provincials. If the player reaches the first threshold before playoffs, the player continues to accumulate penalty minutes and may receive additional IPPM discipline during playoffs and Provincials.

Do penalties earned while playing as an affiliate count toward IPPM?

No. Penalty minutes earned while a player is participating as an affiliate do not count toward the player's IPPM total. Only the applicable penalties accumulated with the player's registered team in league play and playoffs are included.

Game Protests

How does a team protest a game?

A team must follow the Game Protests section of the current EFHL Rules and Regulations. Only one of the two teams involved may file a protest, and a referee's judgment or interpretation of the playing rules cannot be protested. The member-association President must submit the protest, supporting evidence and the required fee within the deadline stated in the current regulations.

Where can teams find the complete discipline rules and procedures?

Use the current EFHL and Hockey Alberta publications. These documents remain the authoritative sources if a rule or procedure changes after this FAQ is posted.

Related Resources

[EFHL Rules and Regulations](#)

[Hockey Alberta Coach/Manager Discipline Handbook](#)

[Hockey Alberta Bylaws and Regulations](#)