



How long are penalties and periods in a game?

SECTION 2 - TIME DURATIONS

Age Group	Minor Penalty	Major Penalty	Misconduct	Periods
Mites	1 minute	3 minutes	5 minutes	12 minutes
Squirt	1.5 minutes	4 minutes	8 minutes	12 minutes
Peewee	2 minutes	5 minutes	10 minutes	15 minutes
Bantam	2 minutes	5 minutes	10 minutes	16 minutes
Midget	2 minutes	5 minutes	10 minutes	16 minutes

What do we do if we are running out of time?

SECTION 3 - END OF TIME SLOT

A. Ice and facilities responsibilities

1. Establish the end of the time slot before the start of the game.
2. Play two (2) full periods in accordance with the DVHL time durations shown in Article VII, Section 2 using stop-clock periods.
3. Prior to the start of the third period, take the remaining time for the game slot, divide that time in half, and play that time, stop clock for the third period.
4. Do not exceed the published time period for the third period. E.g. 20 minutes left to play – 10-minute stop--clock third period.
5. At no time will a running clock be used.

B. If the third period time is cut in accordance with league rules, and there is ice time remaining when the game clock reads 0:00, the game is over.

1. The remaining ice time is not to be used for additional game time.
2. Once the third period begins, the clock will not be altered.
3. If the ice slot is over and there is still time on the clock, the game is over (curfew).

Who needs to sign the score sheet?

SECTION 4 – SCORESHEET HANDBOOK AND PLAYER ROSTER

A. Player signatures are not required on the scoresheets

B. The head coach shall be designated on the scoresheet at the beginning of the game and shall sign the scoresheet as the end of the game to verify the scoresheet unless they have been removed from the game due to a penalty being imposed. If the head coach was removed during the game, an assistant coach must sign the scoresheet.

C. The head coach of the team is the head coach that is listed on the DVHL and USA Hockey roster unless serving a suspension and an assistant coach being named “acting” head coach for that particular game.

What if one or no referees show up? When is a game an official league game?

SECTION 8 - ICE AND FACILITIES RESPONSIBILITY

A. The home team shall be responsible for providing sufficient ice time, the necessary facilities and equipment, and two (2) USA Hockey qualified referees in all age divisions, and it is their responsibility to pay for them.

Mite	1 hour 15 minutes total time
Squirt	1 hour 15 minutes total time
Peewee	1 1/2 hours total time
Bantam	1 1/2 hours total time
Midget	1 1/2 hours total time

1. A two-man referee system will be used at all levels
2. If two (2) referees are not present for the League game, the decision to play the game or not will be made by the visiting team.
3. If the decision is made to play the game, no protest can be made on the issue of number of referees.
4. If the decision is made not to play the game, it must be rescheduled by the home team, at their expense.
5. Under no circumstances will the originally scheduled game be considered a forfeit because of the lack of two referees.

B. Official's game fee: If a game is officiated by only one official, that official will be paid on and one-half times the individual game fee for that level. Under no circumstances will the official receive the entire game fee for both officials.

C. To expedite the game, it is recommended that a timed four (4) minute warm-up period be adhered to and a one (1) minute limit be observed when changing ends at the end of a period.

D. The home team shall notify the visiting team what the end of the time slot is before the start of the game.

E. A game is not an official game unless two (2) full periods are played.

1. If two (2) full periods are not played, no recognition of the game being played will occur, except in cases of serious misbehavior, such as match penalties or gross misconduct (which may have been the cause of game incompleteness).
2. Serious cases of misbehavior will be decided by the Commissioner per the rules of USA Hockey.

What does a suspended coach/player have to do?

SECTION 5 -- SUSPENDED PLAYERS AND COACHES

A. Any player or coach who is suspended cannot sit or stand on or near the bench of his team. He must watch the game from the stands.

B. A suspended player or coach is obligated to appear at the next scheduled game(s) (the actual number of games is equal to the suspension).

1. Prior to the game, the suspended player/coach is required to sign the scoresheet in the area allocated for suspended players and coaches.
2. He must also print his name, number and team.
3. If the team has a scheduled game, and a player or coach is supposed to sign, and he does not, the game does not count toward satisfying his suspension.
4. If a player or, coach signs in the game roster section instead of the area allocated for suspended players/coaches, the game does not count toward satisfying his suspension.
5. If a coach has more than one team, he must serve his suspension with the team for which he received the suspension.

6. Signing the scoresheet is required for 'game' suspensions, not 'day' suspensions such as gross misconduct and match penalty.
 7. A suspended coach is not permitted to be within 30 feet of the player's bench, penalty box or scorekeepers box during the game or games he/she is serving a suspension. The suspended coach's name and information must be printed on the scoresheet in the area allocated for suspended players and coaches. The coach must sign the scoresheet in the suspended area as proof of serving the suspension.
 8. No electronic communications with the player's bench, penalty box or scorekeepers box during the game or games he/she is serving a suspension can be used.
- C. All suspensions incurred during a DVHL scheduled League game must be served in a DVHL scheduled league game.
1. This does not relieve a suspended player or coach from serving his suspension in accordance with USA Hockey (i.e. non-league games scheduled prior to the next league game).
 2. A player or coach may in fact sit out more games than the original suspension in order to fulfill his obligation.
- D. Suspended players occupy a position on the game roster, and shall be counted toward the maximum number of players permitted on the bench even though ineligible to participate in the game or be on the team bench.
- E. If a USA Hockey and/or DVHL penalty resulting in a game suspension is assessed to a player and/or coach, that player and/or coach is suspended until that respective penalty is served.
- F. A suspended player and/or coach participating in a game while suspended will result in a forfeit. A winning score of 1-0 will be awarded to the non-offending team if a forfeit is assessed.
- G. Any suspension not served during the current season will carry over into the next season.
1. Carry-over suspensions follow the player/coach, not the team or club.
 2. If a player/coach moves up from one age classification to another, the carry-over suspension still must be served.
 3. If a player/coach moves to a different Club, the carry-over suspension still must be served.
- H. Proof of serving a suspension must be submitted to the Commissioner at or before the May Board Meeting or the suspension will carry over to the next season without exception.
1. Signature on the scoresheet in the area allocated for suspended players/coaches or indication of name, number, and team is the only proof that will be accepted for service of a suspension.
- I. Whenever a player or coach receives a game misconduct or match penalty, the coach or his designee (e.g. team manager) shall file, with the League Commissioner a written report (sent by fax or email) in the form required and shall include a copy of the score sheet from the game in which the penalty was imposed. The report shall be filed within seventy-two (72) hours following the conclusion of the game.
- J. Any party aggrieved by the decision of the Commissioner regarding the imposition of a suspension may appeal that decision to the Ex. Committee of the DVHL by written request to the Commissioner or the League President. The appeal shall be accompanied by a check for the appropriate filing fee. All appeals shall be heard following regularly scheduled monthly DVHL meetings. The filing of an appeal shall not toll the execution of the suspension unless the Ex. Committee determines that the suspension shall not be executed pending the appeal hearing. At the appeal hearing, the aggrieved may present witnesses and other evidence that it deems appropriate.
- K. Any party aggrieved by the decision made by the Ex. Committee following an appeal hearing on a suspension or any other matter, may appeal that decision in writing addressed to the DVHL President. Upon receipt of that appeal, the DVHL President shall appoint a three-member panel composed of individuals who are not members of the DVHL Ex. Committee to hear the appeal.
- L. Any party aggrieved by the decision made by the three-member appeal panel appointed for that purpose by the DVHL President may appeal that decision in writing addressed to the Atlantic District who shall administer that appeal pursuant to the Atlantic District rules.

How can I add a player to my roster or move players?

SECTION 3 -- PLAYER MOVEMENT

- A. Until December 31, each team will be allowed six (6) moves within an age division and/or between age divisions (goalies exempt). This does not include assignment of a player to an in-house program which must occur at the time of player evaluations per section 3 of the Constitution.
- B. Unless approved by the appropriate Vice President (or to any member of the Executive Committee if the appropriate Vice President is unavailable), players will not be permitted to move down and play in a lower division unless that move is a permanent one. Such player will not be eligible to be considered for any further movement for the remainder of the season. All player movement must be to a higher division or level, i.e. B to A, A to AA.
- C. A move in any direction is considered one (1) move.
- D. Notification of these moves must be made (by telephone) to the appropriate Vice President (or to any member of the Executive Committee if the appropriate Vice President is unavailable) PRIOR to the player's participating in a DVHL game.
- E. The completed "Player Movement Confirmation Form" prescribed by the Commissioner must be emailed, faxed or mailed within five (5) days of the "moved" player's effective date for participation in League play (at the new level). This form will then be marked received by the appropriate Vice-President, dated and faxed back to the originator. A return email confirming the move and/or the addition of the player by the appropriate VP to the DVHL web based roster is acceptable confirmation as well.
- F. Failure to follow the above procedures may cause the player to be declared ineligible, and the game to be forfeited.
- G. The "Player Movement Confirmation Form" is also required to follow up on roster additions and deletions.
- H. Goalies may be moved from one team to another team (at division or level within a division) on an exception basis.
 - 1. This move must be approved by the appropriate Vice President, or member of the Executive Committee, in the absence of the Vice President.
- I. NOTE: A player movement from one level to the next, e.g. mite to squirt, constitutes two (2) movements, one (1) being charged to each team.
- J. Once a player is deleted from your roster, that player cannot be added back to your roster except as described in section 3A. Any exception to this rule must be presented to the Executive Committee for final approval.
- K. Player additions and player movements to a team that had been granted their petition during the petitioning process must have the approval of the appropriate vice president of the level in question.

What if I want to reschedule or postpone a league game?

SECTION 18 -- SCHEDULING

- A. In order to eliminate ice time inequities in the League, each team will play each other an equal number of times (i.e. 1 home and home, 2 home and home, etc.).
- B. The number of League games to be played in each division and section will be determined from year to year by the Board of Directors at the August meeting.
- C. After the master schedule has been established, schedule changes shall only be permitted upon the agreement of BOTH teams involved in a particular game.
- D. Game changes must be sent to the Master Scheduler via e-mail or fax, with confirmation by both teams, not less than three (3) days prior to the affected game, by the team requesting the change.
- E. No games shall be rescheduled on a date later than the last allowable date for completion of league competition.
- F. Any team that requests a game be re-scheduled after September 15th shall pay a fine of \$100.00 for each game re-scheduled, unless waived by the Executive Committee.

- G. Any league games played between two teams from the same club within the same division must be played on or before December 31st of that current league year.
- H. When a team drops from the league after scheduling has begun and games have been played, all records of the team dropping are eliminated from the standings.
- I. No club may drop a team from the league after October 15 of the current league season.
- J. No league games may be changed after November 1 without the permission of the league president or their designee
- K. DVHL league games take precedence over any tournaments, All-star games or leagues that member teams may choose to participate in
- L. No DVHL league game can be used to satisfy the schedule of another league. If a team is found in violation of this and using the DVHL league game for multi purposes, that game will be a forfeit to both teams, both teams will forfeit their league championship and post season eligibility, and the club will be placed on probation for one year.
- M. The format for scheduling can only be voted on by club presidents or the Board of Directors

SECTION 3 -- POSTPONEMENT OF GAME

- A. In the event of extraordinary circumstances such as automobile accidents, hazardous road conditions, loss of ice surface due to rink equipment, etc. a game may be postponed. (Sickness, such as flu, is not an extraordinary circumstance.)
- B. To postpone a game, a team must follow this procedure:
 - 1. Phone call to the other team's official DVHL-listed League Scheduler explaining the extraordinary circumstances.
 - 2. If unable to reach the scheduler, to any other person listed for the opposing team's Club, e.g. the President or other representative to DVHL listed on the DVHL phone and address list.
 - 3. If unable to reach any of the above-listed people, to any Executive Board Member of the DVHL Executive Committee.
 - 4. If this procedure is not followed, the offending Club will be responsible for payment to the non-offending Club regardless of circumstances.
- C. If a team postpones a game, it will still be responsible for ice and game forfeiture.
 - 1. The Presidents of the involved Clubs (or their appointed representative) will then be responsible to agree to reschedule or ask for payment for each game postponed in this manner.
 - 2. All disputes will be referred to the League Commissioner.
 - 3. If both parties still do not agree, the matter will be referred to the February meeting of the DVHL Board of Directors.
 - 4. Visiting teams must confirm game times within seventy-two (72) hours in advance of a regularly scheduled game.
- D. Any game not played as a result of extraordinary circumstances shall be rescheduled within one (1) week of its original scheduled date.,
- E. All canceled games shall be replayed prior to February 15 of the current season.
- F. All procedures concerning forfeits and rescheduling as contained in these by-laws and/or the League Constitution shall be rigidly adhered to by all members.
- G. NOTE: By-law reads that game must be rescheduled, not replayed within one (1) week.
- H. When a team fails to appear for a game (or appears with fewer than the required number of players as described in Article III, Section 3, Paragraph 1), where the time and place appear in the official DVHL schedule, where the two teams did not agree in advance to reschedule the game and notify the league scheduler or Commissioner accordingly, and where there are not extraordinary circumstances (see above), the game will automatically be a forfeit win for the non-offending team.

1. If the non-offending team prefers to play the game, it will be rescheduled at the convenience of the non-offending team, and at the expense (ice cost and referees) of the offending team.
 2. The amount specified by the non-offending team (if it is the home team) must be received at least forty-eight (48) hours in advance of the rescheduled time.
 3. If not, the game will remain a forfeit, and the non-offending team is no longer responsible to play the game.
- I. A team which does not have a minimum of six (6) players on its bench by ten (10) minutes after the scheduled game time shall forfeit the game.
- J. If games are not played as per schedule before expiration of League play, a forfeit victory will be awarded to the non-offending team as determined by the Commissioner.
- K. Games awarded to a team by way of forfeit may be appealed by the penalized team to the Executive Committee. No fee is required. The Executive Committee will address the matter within seven (7) days and their decision will be final.
- L. All forfeits will be reviewed by the Executive Committee to determine the validity of the forfeit. Forfeits of a league game without league permission will result in a \$550.00 fine to the offending club.
1. If a forfeit is found to be invalid, disciplinary measures may be imposed.

What if I have a Tier I or Junior player who wants to play on my team?

SECTION 5--TIER 1 AND JUNIOR PLAYERS

- A. Any player or players having been registered or having participated in a league game on a Tier 1 or Junior level team during the current season may not participate on a DVHL team unless that player is deleted from the Tier 1 or Junior team roster for the current season. (Tier 1 or Junior means Atlantic League or equivalent or any Junior team whether independent or tournament bound)
1. Such a move must be approved by the Executive Committee.
 2. Once having been rostered on a DVHL team, the movement of that player or players back to a Tier 1 or junior team shall be cause for protest and possible forfeit of any DVHL games in which such player(s) participated.
 3. Tier 1 includes both Major and Minor players.

Does the DVHL have a tampering policy?

SECTION 7--TAMPERING

- A. Tampering is defined as recruiting of a rostered and/or registered player without the prior written approval from the organization of the rostered and/or registered player.
- B. No coach, manager or club official connected with a registered team may entice, influence or otherwise tamper with a player rostered with another registered team without the prior written approval of a club president or his designee. The DVHL president must be advised in writing by the club president of any designee.
- C. A release will not be effective until it has been received in writing and signed by the current officer of the association who is not a parent of the player or a member of the team involved.
- D. After investigating the matter to the fullest extent, the Executive Committee may invoke the following penalties:
1. To the player; a rostered, protected player who takes the ice with another team without prior written approval may not play for that organization for at least the remainder of the current season, regardless of obtaining a subsequent release.
 2. To all others; any individual or organization that violates the above rules is also subject to fine, probation or suspension, or may not be eligible to participate in DVHL playoffs or District Tournament.

How long does my player sit if they receive a fighting penalty?

In accordance with USA Hockey, a player who receives a fight penalty must sit out their next USA Hockey game with the team in which he receives the penalty.

If the player's next game is a non-league game, then the player must sit out that penalty to satisfy his USA Hockey suspension and then sit out his DVHL league game as per the quantity listed below based on the level of team.

If the player's next game is a DVHL league game, then the player must sit out and will satisfy both his USA Hockey suspension as well as the first game of the quantity listed below based on the level of team.

SECTION 6 -- FIGHTING

A. Fighting Penalties for Bantam, Midget 16 and Midget 18

1. If a player incurs a major penalty for fighting, which by USA Hockey rules is accompanied by a game misconduct penalty, the player shall sit out three (3) DVHL games for the first infraction, five (5) games for the second infraction, and shall be suspended for the balance of the season for the third infraction.

B. Fighting Penalties for Peewee

1. If a player incurs a major penalty for fighting, which by USA Hockey rules is accompanied by a game misconduct penalty, the player shall sit out two (2) DVHL games for the first infraction, four (4) games for the second infraction, and shall be suspended for the balance of the season for the third infraction.

C. Fighting Penalties for Mite & Squirt

1. If a player incurs a major penalty for fighting, which by USA Hockey rules is accompanied by a game misconduct penalty, the player shall sit out one (1) DVHL games for the first infraction, two (2) games for the second infraction, and shall be suspended for the balance of the season for the third infraction.

What if I want to protest a league game?

SECTION 9 -- PROTESTS

A. Protests will be recorded on the front of the original copy of the official scoresheet in the remarks area, and signed by the protesting coach. The reason for the protest must be written on the scoresheet.

1. All protests will be null and void if a written explanation of the protest accompanied by a fee of fifty dollars (\$50.00) is not received by the Commissioner within seventy-two (72) hours.

2. If the protest is won, the money is returned.

3. Protests regarding the use of an ineligible player may be made upon discovery and are not subject to the seventy-two (72) hour rule.

B. If a game must be replayed, the same player roster must be used.

1. All suspensions incurred or served during a protested/rescheduled game will count as a League suspension or service.

C. All protests and ice forfeiture bond requests must be made in writing to the Commissioner.

D. All correspondence with the DVHL Executive Committee, President or Commissioner (e.g. Appeals and Protests) shall only be through the Club President or his designee as provided to the DVHL Executive Committee

What if I want to appeal a decision?

SECTION 10 -- APPEALS

- A. Appeals on the Commissioner's decision must be presented in writing to the Executive Committee, accompanied by a fee of fifty dollars (\$50.00).
 - 1. No suspension will be reversed during the appeal.
- B. All correspondence with the DVHL Executive Committee, President or Commissioner (e.g. Appeals and Protests) shall only be through the Club President or his designee as provided to the DVHL Executive Committee.
- C. Any party aggrieved by the decision of the Commissioner regarding the imposition of a suspension may appeal that decision to the Ex. Committee of the DVHL by written request to the Commissioner or the League President. The appeal shall be accompanied by a check for the appropriate filing fee (\$50.00). All appeals shall be heard following regularly scheduled monthly DVHL meetings. The filing of an appeal shall not toll the execution of the suspension, unless the Ex. Committee determines that the suspension shall not be executed pending the appeal hearing. At the appeal hearing, the aggrieved may present witnesses and other evidence that it deems appropriate.
- D. Any party aggrieved by the decision made by the Ex. Committee following an appeal hearing on a suspension or any other matter, may appeal that decision in writing addressed to the DVHL President. Upon receipt of that appeal, the DVHL President shall appoint a three-member panel composed of individuals who are not members of the DVHL Ex. Committee to hear the appeal.
- E. Any party aggrieved by the decision made by the three-member appeal panel appointed for that purpose by the DVHL President may appeal that decision in writing addressed to the Atlantic District who shall administer that appeal pursuant to the Atlantic District rules.
- F. The Appeals Committee shall not be empowered to issue supplemental discipline except to those requesting the hearing.
- G. Any issues requiring action by the Executive Board or the Commissioner need to be referred back to those entities for investigation and action.

What if I think the ice is not safe?

SECTION 12 -- UNSUITABLE PLAYING CONDITIONS

- A. It shall be left to the judgment of the referees at the rink to decide whether the ice or conditions are suitable for play.
- B. Note: The Commissioner may order any Club to play a postponed game on 48-hour notice.

How do we determine seedings in standings?

SECTION 17 -- League Championship & PLAYOFF DETERMINATION FOR ALL SEEDINGS

- A. The League Championship will be awarded to the team accumulating the most points during the regular league season in each division and will be determined as follows:
 - 1. League standings are accumulated by awarding a team two (2) points for a win, one (1) point for a tie and no (0) points for a loss.
 - 2. Should two (2) or more teams be tied for any place seeding, the following criteria shall be used to break that tie:
 - a) The highest number of points gained in the games involving the tied teams (head to head)
 - b) The highest number of games won in League competition.
 - c) If a tie still results, a playoff game (or games) shall be held to determine the winner.
- B. Note: *Under no circumstances are goals or goal differentials used to determine League winners or second place finishers.*
- C. If teams have an unequal number of games played, the following criteria shall be used:
 - 1. The highest percentage of points obtained vs. points available.
 - 2. If tied after # 1 above, a playoff game (or games) shall be held to determine the winner.
- D. The Executive Committee will give final approval on which teams may participate in DVHL Playoffs, District Tournaments and/or USA Hockey National Tournaments.

E. No player may participate in DVHL playoffs, AAHA district tournaments or USA Hockey National Tournaments with a DVHL team unless said player has played in at least one DVHL league game and has been on a DVHL roster since at least December 31 of the season.

F. Playoff seedings in each division will be determined as follows:

1. League standings are accumulated by awarding a team two (2) points for a win, one (1) point for a tie and no (0) points for a loss.
2. Should two (2) or more teams be tied for any place seeding, the following criteria shall be used to break that tie:
 - a) The highest number of points gained in the games involving the tied teams (head to head)
 - b) The highest number of games won in League competition.
 - c) If a tie still results, a playoff game (or games) shall be held to determine the winner.

Note: *Under no circumstances are goals or goal differentials used to determine playoff seedings*

What is the maximum number of goals a player can score in the B American division?

SECTION 22 – B AMERICAN DIVISION

A. No player may score more than three (3) goals in a single game. Any player that violates this rule will receive a 2-minute minor for unsportsmanlike conduct and the goal will not count.

What will happen if I don't let my players play a high school game?

According to the Atlantic District Rules and Regulations:

E. HIGH SCHOOL POLICY

- (1) **General Rule.** The Atlantic recognizes the value of both club hockey and high school hockey to a player's development and enjoyment of the game. It is the policy of the Atlantic District, that:
 - (a) No Bantam, Midget or Junior coach or organization may prohibit any of their players from participating with their USAH registered scholastic team
 - (b) No scholastic coach or organization may prohibit a player from participating on a USAH registered Bantam or Midget team.
 - (c) In the event of a conflict between a game for one team and a practice for another team, the player shall be permitted to attend the game, with no penalties to the player for missing practice. It shall be an excused absence from practice, and not be held against the player in any way, including but not limited to any allowances a player is permitted to miss for that team
- (2) **Penalties for infraction of the above**
 - (a) 1st offense – warning to coach and club
 - (b) 2nd offense – 30-day suspension to head coach of offending organization and person responsible (if different from head coach)
 - (c) 3rd offense – 1-year suspension to head coach and \$1,000 fine to organization

What will happen if I don't wear a helmet?

According to the Atlantic District Rules and Regulations:

C. COACHING SAFETY

- (1) Helmets. All ice hockey coaches and instructors of registered USA Hockey youth/high school, disabled, girls'/women's 19 & under and below programs must properly wear an ice hockey helmet during all on-ice sessions, including practices, controlled scrimmages and coach and referee clinics (seminars), with the exception of when a team official is tending to an injured player.
 - (a) Any ice hockey coaches and instructors found in violation of this rule by their organization, league or the Atlantic Affiliate shall be subject to a recommended suspension of not less than 30 days.

What will happen if I refuse to continue to play a game?

According to the Atlantic District Rules and Regulations:

G. REFUSAL TO CONTINUE PLAY

- (1) Leaving Ice During Game. Any team playing in a league, exhibition, or tournament game that leaves the ice during the game, shall forfeit the game by a score 1-0, or by the official score at that time, the team leaving the ice is behind.
 - (a) Suspension of Coach/Manager. The coach and/or manager of the team leaving the ice will be subject to a maximum suspension for a period of one year and a minimum of thirty days.

What is the new USA Hockey Rule 411?

Rule 411 | Progressive Suspensions

(Note) USA Hockey is committed to providing a safe and fair environment for all participants. While the vast majority of players participate within the rules and respect the game and their opponents, USA Hockey recognizes the need to hold those players and coaches deemed to be repeat offenders accountable for their actions. Beginning with the 2014-15 playing season, the Progressive Suspensions rule will take affect nationally.

(a) Any player who receives their third major penalty during the same season for any combination of aggressive infractions listed below shall receive an additional three-game suspension. For any player who receives their fourth major penalty in this category, the player shall receive an additional five-game suspension. Any player who receives their fifth major penalty in this category during the same season shall be suspended until a hearing is conducted by the proper authorities (USA Hockey Affiliate). These designated game suspensions shall be in addition to any other suspensions imposed through the official playing rules. The aggressive infractions that fit into this category are:

- Rule 603 Boarding
- Rule 604 Body Checking (Body Contact categories)
- Rule 606 Butt-Ending
- Rule 607 Charging
- Rule 608 Checking from Behind
- Rule 609 Cross-Checking
- Rule 611 Elbowing
- Rule 619 Head-Butting
- Rule 620 Head Contact
- Rule 621 High Stick
- Rule 627 Kicking

- Rule 628 Kneeing
- Rule 634 Slashing
- Rule 635 Spearing
- Rule 639 Tripping/Clipping/Leg Checking
- Rule 640 Unnecessary Roughness (Roughing)

(Note) A separate progressive suspension rule for Fighting is covered under Rule 615(f) Fighting.

(b) Any team that receives three major penalties in the same game shall have its Head Coach suspended for the next game of that team. For any subsequent game where that team receives three or more major penalties in the same game, the Head Coach shall serve a three-game suspension. For a third game with three or more major penalties by the same team during the same season, the Head Coach shall be suspended indefinitely until a hearing has been conducted by the proper authorities (USA Hockey Affiliate).

(Note) The role of the Official is to enforce all playing rules at all times and they are expected to strictly enforce playing rules that fall under the aggressive infraction category. Players and coaches must be held accountable for dangerous actions and the onus is on them to teach and play the game within the rules.

What if my player receives a match penalty either on his DVHL team or High School team?

Regardless of what team a player receives a match penalty with, the player is automatically suspended from all USA Hockey activities, both games (league and non-league) and practices. This means the player cannot play club or high school until a ruling is made.

The Commissioner has 30 days to hold a hearing and 5 days after that to announce his ruling on the suspension received by the player for receiving a match penalty.

DVHL Rule

SECTION 7 -- MATCH PENALTY

C. For a match penalty, or for physical abuse to a referee, the USA Hockey rules regarding hearings, etc. shall be disposed by the League Commissioner. In no case will a player cited for these infractions be allowed to participate in any game or practice until the Commissioner has ruled or thirty (30) days have elapsed. The League Commissioner shall follow the procedure(s) outlined by USA Hockey and the Atlantic Affiliate with regard to his requirements of investigating and ruling on a match penalty.

USA Hockey Playing Rules - Rule 405 | Match Penalties

(a) A "MATCH" penalty involves the immediate removal of a player or Team Official for the balance of the game and a five-minute time penalty shall be assessed.

(Note) For all "MATCH" penalties, regardless of when imposed, or prescribed additional penalties, a total of 10 minutes shall be charged in the records against the offending player or Team Official.

(For all Youth, High School and Girls' Age Classifications) Unless immediate substitution is permitted under the coincidental major penalty Rule 403(c), the penalized team shall immediately place a substitute player on the penalty bench and such player shall not be changed.

(For Adult Classifications) Unless immediate substitution is permitted under the coincidental major penalty Rule 403(c), the penalized team shall place a substitute player on the penalty bench before the penalty expires. No other replacement for the penalized player shall be permitted to enter the game except from the penalty bench upon expiration of the penalty. For violation of this rule a bench minor penalty for illegal substitution shall be imposed.

(b) When coincidental match penalties have been imposed or when any combination of coincidental major and match penalties have been assessed to a player or players of both teams, Rule 403(c) covering coincidental major penalties will be applicable with respect to player substitutions.

(c) A player or Team Official incurring a match penalty shall be suspended from participating in any USA Hockey games and practices until his case has been dealt with by the proper authorities. A hearing by the proper authorities shall be offered to be held (including any further disciplinary action) within 30 days of the incident (“30-day period”) together with a decision in accordance with Bylaw 10D (Suspension Hearings/Domestic Competition Playing Rules). If extenuating circumstances prevent the proper authorities from conducting the hearing within the 30-day period, the player or Team Official shall be automatically reinstated after the 30-day period. The failure to offer the hearing shall not prohibit the hearing body from conducting the hearing after the 30-day period and imposing further disciplinary action.

(Note) The Referee is required to report all match penalties and the surrounding circumstances to the proper authorities immediately following the game in which they occur.

(d) If any Team Official is assessed a match penalty, he may not sit near the players’ bench of his team, nor in any way attempt to direct the play of his team.

(e) Original jurisdiction in any hearing resulting from a match penalty assessed under Rule 601(f.1) (Physical Assault of Officials) shall reside with the Affiliate (Ron Goodman).

What form do I fill out if my player/myself receive a game misconduct or match?

See attached