

HOCKEY NL ICE TIME ALLOCATION POLICY IN-BRANCH PLAY ONLY

*The ice time allocation policy is a program to ensure equitable ice time for players during game play.

Division							
	U9		U11		U13/U13 Female		
Category							
Game Type	Select	Non-Select	Select	Non-Select	Select	Non-Select	Regional
Regular Season/League	N/A	Equal	Equal	Equal	Discretion 1	Equal	Discretion 1
Exhibition and/or Invitational Tournament	N/A	Equal	Equal	Equal	Discretion 1	Equal	Discretion 1
Provincial Championships	N/A	N/A	Equal	N/A	Discretion 1	N/A	Discretion 1
Goaltenders All Game Types	N/A	Equal	Equal	Equal	Equal	Equal	Equal

Division						
	U15/U15 Female			U18/U18 Female		
Category						
Game Type	Select	Non-Select	Regional	Select	Non-Select	Regional
Regular Season/League	Discretion 1	Equal	Discretion 2	Discretion 1	Equal	Discretion 2
Exhibition and/or Invitational Tournament	Discretion 1	Equal	Discretion 2	Discretion 1	Equal	Discretion 2
Provincial Championships	Discretion 1	N/A	Discretion 2	Discretion 1	N/A	Discretion 2
Goaltenders All Game Types	Equal	Equal	Equal	Equal	Equal	Equal

DEFINITIONS

Equal: Defined as equal ice time every game. There must be a variable allowed due to the uncertainty in the frequency in stoppages of play. With respect to goalies' coaches have the option of changing during the mid-way point of each game or playing full games as long as they have equal game time throughout a season, invitational tournament and/or provincial championship. The championship game in a provincial tournament and invitational tournament is excluded from this definition for goaltenders only. Coaches may play either goaltender.

The only exception for goalies is for the Male U18 AAA hockey league. This league plays a series of playoff rounds. In this case, teams have the option to play whichever goaltender they choose for the entirety of the

playoffs. Regular season play for Male U18 AAA should still be equal for goaltenders. (September 2022)

Discretion 1: Is defined as equal ice time every game however, there is the ability for a coach to use select players in the following situations:

- In all special team situations in the third period
- In the last three (3) minutes of the third period
- In any overtime period(s) that ensues

Discretion 2: Is defined as the ability for a coach to use players anytime during the game as they decide; however, each player must receive a minimum of 3 shifts per period

Special Team Situation: Any situation that does not require 5 skaters vs 5 skaters

Select: Any team that is formed based on a selection process or any team participating in a provincial championship

Non-Select: Any team formed that is not based on a selection process. Teams are formed based on other factors (age, random assignment, house league).

Regional: Any team formed based on a selection process involving several Associations (U18 AAA, U13/15 AAA, U18AA)

GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE

GAME TYPE:

Regular Season/League, Exhibition &/or Invitational Tournament:

Any member (Parent, Player, Coach, Official, Organizers) of Hockey NL are permitted and encouraged to report violations of the Ice time allocation policy Via the Hockey NL Provincial Scoring website.

Provincial Championships:

Any member (Parent, Player, Coach, Official, Organizers) of Hockey NL are permitted and encouraged to report violations of the Ice time allocation policy Via the Hockey NL Provincial Scoring website. Participating coaches can register their complaints directly with the Hockey NL Coordinator.

Investigations

- Coaches will not be informed that there has been a grievance issue against them until after the investigation has been completed.
- It is recommended that the next 2 to 3 games be observed to determine if the grievance submitted has merit and requires sanctions.
- Hockey NL representatives, Hockey NL Provincial Tournament Coordinators, and Associations Executive members have the authority to issue ice time allocation sanctions anytime they witness such a violation.
- When grievances are received via the Hockey NL Provincial Scoring website: The Hockey NL Area Member will be notified and can complete an investigation if practical. The Hockey NL Area Member shall also contact the host association president so that the association is aware and should complete or assist in an investigation. If the grievance is submitted during provincial tournament play the Hockey NL Area Member will reach out to the Hockey NL Tournament Coordinator to complete the investigation, issue any sanctions, and notify the Hockey NL office.
- When grievances are received directly by the Hockey NL Coordinator for Provincials tournaments, the coordinator shall submit the grievance via the Hockey NL Provincial Scoring website and complete an investigation and any

complaints go to the Hockey NL Area Member and sanctions shall be forwarded to Hockey NL office for tracking purposes.

SANCTIONS

THERE ARE NO VERBAL WARNINGS

Violations will carry over from season to season. If a coach has no sanctions in three consecutive years, previous sanctions will be cleared from their record.

All coaches registered with Hockey NL coaching any minor teams who are not adhering to the Hockey NL Ice Time Allocation Policy will be assessed with the following disciplinary action and informed in writing of the sanctions.

Coach Sanctions:

First Offence: Any coach found not to be adhering to the Provincial Ice Time Allocation Guidelines Policy will be issued a first-time written warning by the President of the Minor Hockey Association or Hockey NL Coordinator for Provincial Championships.

Second Offence: Any coach found not to be adhering to the Provincial Ice Time Allocation Guidelines Policy will be immediately issued a one-month suspension, from the date of the offence.

Third Offence: Any coach found not to be adhering to the Provincial Ice Time Allocation Guidelines Policy will be immediately issued a three-month suspension.

Fourth Office: Any coach found not adhering to the Provincial Ice Time Allocation Guidelines Policy will be immediately suspended for one (1) year from the date of the offence.

Fifth Offence: Any coach found not adhering to the Provincial Ice Time Allocation Guidelines Policy will be suspended indefinitely upon review by Minor Council.

Association Sanctions

Should Minor Council determine that an association is in violation of the ice allocation policy, the association may be subject to sanctions.

Reporting mechanism

Complaints can be filed using the online reporting form located at the link below.

<https://hnlprovincials.ca/>

Updated: October 2023