



6.14 POLICY ON THE SERVING OF SUSPENSIONS IN HEO

Rev. 1 July 2016

Rev. 2 March 2022

Rev. 3 May 2022

Hockey Eastern Ontario (HEO) player and bench staff suspensions may only be served through meaningful games. A meaningful game is a regular season, play-off (league or inter-branch) or sanctioned tournament game.

Players or Bench Staff (**time assessed suspensions do not qualify**) are allowed to practice with their teams, but may not participate in any regular season, playoff, exhibition, or tournament games until their suspensions have been served in their entirety.

NOTE: Player's who have carry over suspensions from the previous season may (with the approval of their District Chair or Junior League Commissioner) take part in pre-season exhibition games for the purposes of team selection. The remainder of their suspension must be served beginning with the first meaningful game played with the selected team.

Players or bench staff serving a two-game or fewer original suspension and having been selected to participate in a League All-Star game may apply to the League President for approval to do so. The League President shall consult with the appropriate District Chair prior to reaching a decision. Final decision-making authority on such AllStar game matters rests with the League President.

Suspensions at one level of hockey apply to all levels of hockey within HEO.

Bench staff who are registered/rostered with more than one team within or outside of HEO must serve their suspension in full with the team that the suspension was incurred. If the team where the suspension was incurred has concluded their season (includes all playoff, regional or national championships or tournaments), the suspended Bench Staff may apply to their District Chair or Junior League Commissioner for permission to serve their suspension with the other team that the person is registered. (Refer to HEO Policy 6.49 section 15.7.6)

Suspended players must serve their suspensions with the team they are registered (rostered on the Hockey Canada Registry System) unless the suspended player's team has been eliminated from further play that season (including sanctioned tournaments). Suspended players whose registered team's season has ended and who are affiliated with higher level teams, may serve their suspensions with the affiliating team (see below).

The following requirements must be followed for a player to serve their suspension with their affiliated team. This pertains to Junior to Junior, Minor to Junior, and Minor to Minor affiliations:

1. Registered team must be fully eliminated from further play in their current season, including sanctioned tournaments.
2. Player must play an equal number of games with the affiliated team that matches the number of suspended games served. **(e.g., Player assessed a 2-game suspension in last game of season with the registered team, the Player can serve the 2-game suspension with the affiliated team, however the player must play 2 games in the affiliated team's remaining games).**

3. Any games not played to match the suspended games served will have to be served at the start of the next season regardless of how many games were served with the affiliated team. **(e.g., Player receives a 4-game suspension, serves all 4 games with the affiliated team, however, is only able to play 2 games with the affiliated team, the player would have to serve 2 games at the start of the next season).**
4. All affiliations to suspended players must be submitted by the minor hockey players' registered team District Chair and for a Junior registered player to the League Commissioner for their registered teams' league. Approval must be granted if all criteria in points 1, 2, and 3 are met.
5. Any player who re-offends with a subsequent offence which carries a suspension, prior to fulfilling the terms of this policy will immediately forfeit their rights to the provisions of this policy and will be removed from further competition for the balance of the season. All remaining suspensions will be served at the beginning of the following season.
6. Tracking and reporting of suspended games served, and subsequent games played is the responsibility of the District Chair and League Commissioner or their delegate.
7. Any team's Head Coach using a suspended player in regular season, playoff, exhibition, or tournament games without the appropriate permission shall be liable to immediate suspension pending a hearing with HEO Minor or Junior Council Discipline and Appeals.
8. Any person responsible for a team having used a suspended player without appropriate permission shall also be suspended pending a hearing with the HEO Discipline and Appeals Committee.
9. Any team found guilty of having used any ineligible player in any regular season, play-off, exhibition, or tournament game, shall lose any points earned in any game in which the ineligible player participated. The player and/or team officials shall be liable for further disciplinary action pursuant to Regulation O of the Hockey Canada Regulations.

Junior Hockey:

All player suspensions in Junior A, B and C incurred in pre-season exhibition games must be served at the beginning of the regular season with the team that the player is officially registered and rostered on in the Hockey Canada HCR. Player suspensions incurred in the previous season's regular season, play-off or tournament games may not be served in preseason exhibition games.

Minor Hockey:

Out of Branch Tournament Suspension Guidelines (Refer to HEO Policy 6.49 Section Applying the Code of Discipline 15.4.2 Out of Branch)

