

## Suspension Instructions

EAHC Rules pertaining to suspensions & hearings are on pages 18-21 of the Guidebook.

Suspensions fall into 3 categories:

1. USA Hockey Mandated: Any Game Misconduct incurs a game suspension which must be served in the next game (scrimmage, Tournament or EAHC) on the team's schedule at the time of the infraction. Note that anyone who suspects that a team has scheduled a scrimmage for the express purpose of allowing a player or coach to serve a suspension in an accelerated manner MUST report it so it can be investigated. USA Hockey expressly discourages this and any coach caught scheduling games to serve suspension is likely to be suspended and the home organization sanctioned.
2. EAHC Suspensions: For exceeding penalty minute limits, 3 Game Misconducts for a Coach, 3 Majors for a player, exceeding Aggressive Play Limits. Suspensions must be served in EAHC games only.
3. Match Penalty: A more severe form of #1. Any player or coach receiving a Match Penalty is suspended from ALL on-ice USA Hockey sanctioned events (both practices and games) for ALL USA Hockey teams they participate on (Youth, Girls, JV). A hearing is held within 1 month at which point the player may be returned to the ice or given an additional suspension. Contact EAHC President to schedule a hearing at the next regularly scheduled EAHC Meeting.

Failure to serve suspensions due to "I didn't know" syndrome:

The head coach is responsible for tracking penalty minutes, Aggressive Play penalties, and knowing the rules for Major Penalties, Game Misconducts and Match Penalties. If they are unsure, they should contact their Commissioner, Empire Rep or knowledgeable authority within their organization. A coach's failure to have a player serve an EAHC suspension results 1. The player serving the penalty in the next game(s), 2. The coach will serve an equal number of games to the ones where the suspension was not served. Commissioners should report all occurrences to the EAHC Board, the org's EAHC Rep, and the EAHC President. Further disciplinary action can be recommended.

Game Misconduct "What do I do?" :

1. The suspended player or coach is not required to attend the game where they serve the suspension. We do recommend it. If the player or coach does attend, they must sit in the stands during the game. They may NOT: stand by the bench; serve as a timekeeper, scorekeeper or penalty box attendant; or communicate with players or coaches during the game.
2. Game Sheet: The suspended player or coach should NOT sign the scoresheet. The player's name should be listed and the word "SUSPENDED" written clearly next to his/her name. In the Comments area, the phrase "Name XXXX serving Suspension". The player or coach may initial next to this statement in the Comments area if they wish to indicate they were present.

Majors, Game Misconducts and Match Penalties:

1. The referees are required to report all Majors, Game Misconducts and Match Penalties on the USA Hockey website. The lists of reports are checked to make sure that suspensions for Game Misconducts are served, hearings for Match Penalties are held, and suspensions for Rule 411 (suspensions for 2+ Majors) and Multiple Fighting Majors are served.
2. Coaches are required to report all Majors, Game Misconducts and Match Penalties using the NEW Empire Reporting Form. This includes those incurred in scrimmages and Tournaments as these may result in suspensions to be served in EAHC games.