MEMORANDUM

March 02, 2017

VIA EMAIL

TO: NCAA Ice Hockey Commissioners, Coaches, Coordinators of Officials and Game Officials.

FROM: Steve Piotrowski, secretary-rules editor
       Men’s and Women’s Ice Hockey Rules Committee.

SUBJECT: Use of Video to Review Major Penalty Situations during Conference Postseason Play.

This memorandum is being distributed to communicate the permissive use of Rule 93.7 of the Video Replay criteria, which states: “During NCAA and conference postseason competition, game officials may use replay during the game to review major penalties that would result in the removal of a student-athlete to ensure proper enforcement.”

Conferences are reminded that all rounds of conference tournaments are eligible in this rule; however, this is not a requirement, but a permissive rule, should the conference choose to utilize it. With the increasing number of games on television and replay capabilities at home sites, this rule will provide officials with the opportunity to use replay in the game to review major penalties that would result in the removal of a student athlete.

Additionally, the video replay criteria for offside and too many players on the ice includes the following language: “In postseason competition, offside and too many players infractions are part of the criteria for review without a coach’s challenge.”

The complete protocol for reviewing major penalties is included in this communication. Thank you and good luck the rest of the season.

2016-17 NCAA Championship and Conference Postseason Competition Major Penalty Video Review Protocol

Rule 93.7 - During NCAA Championship and conference postseason competition, game officials may use replay during the game to review major penalties that would result in the removal of a student-athlete to ensure proper enforcement.

Reminders/Protocol
- NCAA Division I Men’s Ice Hockey Championship and conference postseason tournament play ONLY.
- MUST be when a MAJOR PENALTY is being considered.
- Referees will notify coaches prior to review.
- Instruct Public Address Announcer to make an announcement so fans and media are aware.
- Officials have the following three options for their final determination in situations where the game has been stopped for a penalty:
1. Minor or Major Penalty Only;
2. Major and Game Misconduct; or
3. Major and Game Disqualification.

- Where there is a possible infraction that was not observed and a major penalty may be considered, officials may use video to review the incident. Should the officials ascertain the infraction would be a minor penalty only, they may not assess this penalty by video review. However, should the officials ascertain that a Major penalty, Major and Game Misconduct or, Disqualification is warranted they may enforce such under this rule.
- A team may not use its time out to challenge a situation under this provision.

Examples:

**Situation 1:** Player A1 makes contact with B1 driving the player into the boards. The referee signals for a delayed minor penalty for boarding. After discussion with the rest of the crew, there is at least the potential that this penalty could be a major penalty for hitting from behind. **Guidance:** Because the crew came to the conclusion that a major penalty should be considered, this play is now reviewable. The officials have all penalty options at their disposal when reviewing this play.

**Situation 2:** Team A moves the puck through the neutral zone on a rush. The trail official observes a player from Team B down on the ice behind the play with an apparent injury. After play is stopped, the officiating crew huddles. None of the officials saw what occurred to the Team B player. **Guidance:** The officials may use video replay to determine if a major penalty occurred. In this case, the review may result in no penalty being called OR a minimum of a major penalty. A game misconduct/disqualification may also be assessed. A minor penalty may not be assessed in this situation since there was not an initial penalty being called.

**Situation 3:** Player A1 makes high contact with Player B1 after B1 releases a pass. B1 is injured on the play. The referee signals for a major penalty for contact to the head on Player A1. **Guidance:** This play is reviewable to determine if the contact was directly to the head or neck area. The officials have all penalty options at their disposal when reviewing this play, but a minimum of a minor penalty must be enforced.