MEMORANDUM

February 15, 2018

VIA EMAIL

TO: NCAA Men’s and Women’s Ice Hockey Coaches, Officials, Commissioners and
Coordinators of Officials.

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

SUBJECT: Late Season Rules and Officiating Reminders.

As the regular season is quickly coming to a close, the NCAA Men’s and Women’s Ice Hockey
Rules Committee is providing some reminders on current rules which require a consistent standard
of enforcement throughout the season.

1. **End of Period – Players Leaving Bench.** The rules committee reminds all coaches and players
of the following rule and requests cooperation and compliance. Rule 90.4 states: “At the end of
each period, the home team players must proceed directly to their dressing room while the
visiting team players must wait for a signal from the official to proceed only if they have to go
on the ice to reach their dressing room.”

   “When the visiting team must proceed by the way of the ice to its dressing room at the end of a
period, the team must wait for a signal from one of the officials before proceeding. Failure to
wait for the official’s signal shall result in the assessment of a bench minor penalty for delay
of game. Players shall not be permitted to come on the ice at the end of the any period for the
purpose of warming-up, greeting the goalkeeper, etc.”

Failure to comply with either of these rules will result in a bench minor penalty for delay of
game.

2. **Rule 73 – Interference on the Goalkeeper.** The rules committee believes this rule should
continue to be reviewed by game officials and coaches to understand the rationale and direction
provided by the rules committee.

As a reminder, the rule reads: “The overriding rationale of this rule is that the goalkeeper should
have the ability to defend the goal particularly while in the goal crease. At the same time, attacking
players attempting to score a goal also have rights. The rules committee is providing discretion
and judgment to officials when making determinations on these plays. Officials must take into
account the nature of any contact that occurs and the impact of such contact or positioning on the
goalie’s ability to defend the goal. Finally, when video replay is available to review such
plays, evidence to overturn a goal must be clear and conclusive.”

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3. **New Rule: Video Review of Offsides/Too Many Men.** For the most part, the rules committee believes the new rule regarding the review of offsides/too many men has gone well. Still, it is important to review this rule as the season comes to a close.

As a reminder, the opportunity for review now exists during the time the puck entered the attacking zone illegally as the result of an offside infraction and until the puck either (new language in bold type):

1) Leaves the offending team’s attacking zone;

2) A stoppage of play occurs and a faceoff is conducted; or

3) **The defending team gains possession and control of the puck.** Officials are guided to use the same judgment in possession and control as they would use when a delayed penalty is in effect.

Additionally, during regular-season competition, a team must use its timeout to challenge these plays with the exception **of the last 10 minutes of the game** or any overtime period. Previously, the last two minutes of the game was the rule. The rules committee believes this timeframe will provide more time for officials to properly review these plays without a challenge.

The rules committee requests that this information be reviewed with all administrators, coaches, players and officials. A pdf version of the Men’s and Women’s Ice Hockey Rules Book can be found [here](#). Thank you for your time and attention.

If you have any additional questions, please do not hesitate to contact me (spiotrowski@bigten.org).

Good luck down the stretch.

SP: sb

cc: NCAA Men’s and Women’s Ice Hockey Rules Committee
    Selected NCAA Staff Members