MEMORANDUM

January 22, 2015

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

FROM: Tom Anastos, chair
NCAA Men’s and Women’s Ice Hockey Rules Committee.


The NCAA Ice Hockey Rules Committee is aware of a couple of recent situations and was recently asked to provide clarification. These situations are below and this communication is intended to confirm proper adjudication of NCAA rules.

**Situation 1:** Player A1 takes a pass from a teammate and is clearly offside, which is not detected by the officials. A1 has a breakaway and defensive player B1 trips A1 from behind. The referee awards a penalty shot to A1.

**Question:** May video replay be used to determine that A1 was illegally offside?

**Interpretation:** Current rules allow for reviews of this type that lead directly to the scoring of a goal. Current rules also call for all penalties to be served, even when video review overturns an on-ice call and eliminates some portion of the game.

Based on these principles, the rules committee has determined that video review may be used to determine if the play was offside; if the play was offside, the penalty shot is negated, but the minor penalty (or major penalty as applicable) must be enforced. Therefore, player B1 would be assessed a minor penalty and no penalty shot would be offered to Team A.

This interpretation and principle also applies to similar situations (e.g., awarding an obvious/imminent goal when a player is fouled, but an offside/ icing infraction is not detected) that may occur.

Another question has been presented regarding delayed penalty situations when a goal is scored. Here are two situations and interpretations:
**Situation 2:** Team A is serving a major penalty. During the penalty, Team A is assessed a minor penalty and Team B scores during the delayed penalty.

**Question:** What is the ensuing on-ice strength?

**Ruling:** Team B remains on a 5-on-4 power play and the delayed minor penalty is not served by Team A. All major penalties must be served in their entirety. The rule requiring enforcement of delayed penalties in these situations only applies to minor penalties. Team A receives relief when a one or more major penalties are in effect.

**Situation 3:** Team A is serving a major penalty. During the penalty, Team B is assessed a minor penalty and Team A scores during the delayed penalty.

**Question:** What is the ensuing on-ice strength?

**Ruling:** Team B will be assessed with the minor penalty and on-ice strength will be 4-on-4 until the expiration of penalty time.

Thank you for your attention to these clarifications. Please contact secretary-rules editor Steve Piotrowski (spiotrowski@bigten.org) with any questions.

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