MEMORANDUM

February 11, 2014

To: NCAA Ice Hockey Coaches, Officials, Conference Commissioners and Coordinators of Officials.

From: Steve Piotrowski, secretary-rules editor
NCAA Ice Hockey Rules Committee.

Subject: Shootout Rules and Goal Cage Dislodged.

This communication is a follow up to a recent shootout situation that occurred this weekend between Michigan State and Minnesota. This is a good opportunity to provide some guidance and clarification. The video link below is provided for your information:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7H92VbpwRTM

Please refer to Rule 91.3 and Appendix B in the NCAA Ice Hockey Rules Book for additional information on shootouts.

The pertinent part of this rule is listed below:

“The goalkeeper may attempt to stop the shot in any manner except by throwing the stick or any object, in which case another shot shall be awarded. If the referee determines the goalkeeper deliberately dislodges the goal, the shot shall be re-taken.

During the shot, should the goalkeeper, in an attempt at making a save and in the normal course of playing the position, dislodge the goal accidentally, the Referees shall proceed as identified below:

- Allow the shot to be taken.
- Apply Rule 83.5 - Goal Cage Dislodged as applicable (See rule below).
- Work together to ensure an initial on-ice call is made by the referee.
- Use Video Replay as needed. Remember, conclusive video evidence must be present to overturn an initial on-ice call.”

The applicable portions of Rule 83.5 (Goal Cage Dislodged) are listed below, with some emphasis added:
“In the event that the goal post is displaced, either deliberately or accidentally, by a defending player, prior to the puck crossing the goal line between the normal position of the goalposts, the Referee may award a goal.

In order to award a goal in this situation, the goal post must have been displaced by the actions of a defending player, the puck must have been shot (or the player must be in position to shoot) at the goal prior to the goal post being displaced, and it must be determined that the puck would have entered the net between the normal position of the goal posts.”

The play in the Minnesota-Michigan State game brings several parts of the rules in play. In accordance with the current rules, the officials handled the situation properly and there is no rules allowance for awarding another shot to the offensive team. This issue will be placed on the rules committee’s agenda for possible adjustment this summer.

Should you have any questions regarding this communication, please contact me at spiotrowski@bigten.org.