



## NORTHERN ONTARIO HOCKEY ASSOCIATION

110 LAKESHORE DRIVE  
NORTH BAY, ONTARIO P1A 2A8  
PHONE: (705) 474-8851 • FAX: (705) 474-6019  
www.noha.on.ca



Date: September 8, 2011

To: NOHA Membership

From: Bryce Kulik

Re: Head Contact Rule

---

Please be advised that at the 2011 Hockey Canada Annual General Meeting, a new rule to address contact to the head was approved. The following rule changes will come into effect immediately for the 2011/12 season:

### **Rule 6.5 – Head Contact**

- (a) In minor hockey and female hockey, a minor penalty shall be assessed to any player who accidentally contacts an opponent in the head, face or neck with his stick or any part of the player's body or equipment.
- (b) In minor hockey and female hockey, a double minor penalty or a major and a game misconduct penalty, at the discretion of the referee and based on the degree of violence of impact shall be assessed to any player who intentionally contacts an opponent in the head, face or neck with her stick or any part of the player's body or equipment.
- (c) In junior hockey and senior hockey, a minor and a misconduct penalty, or a major and a game misconduct penalty, at the discretion of the referee based on the degree of violence of impact, shall be assessed to any player who checks an opponent in the head in any manner.
- (d) A major and a game misconduct penalty, or a match penalty shall be assessed any player who injures an opponent under this rule.
- (e) A match penalty shall be assessed any player who deliberately attempts to injure or deliberately injures an opponent under this rule.

*Note: All contact above the shoulders (neck, face and head) is to be called Head Contact under one of the above (In minor hockey and female hockey).*

The NOHA has been proactive in educating our Officials about the new rule. A presentation has been developed to be shown to all NOHA Officials at re-certification clinics held this season.



## NORTHERN ONTARIO HOCKEY ASSOCIATION

110 LAKESHORE DRIVE  
NORTH BAY, ONTARIO P1A 2A8  
PHONE: (705) 474-8851 • FAX: (705) 474-6019  
[www.noha.on.ca](http://www.noha.on.ca)



At all Development 1 Clinics hosted this season, the District Referee-in-Chief or designate, will discuss this rule with new Coaches. Presentations will also be made to Coaches at the NOHA Grassroots Festivals held across the North.

We are currently in the process of having posters printed to be distributed to all Associations/Arenas in the NOHA. When completed, the posters will be sent to the appropriate locations.

In addition to these measures, it is equally important that the Associations and Teams in the NOHA educate their players, coaches and parents about the new head contact rule. Additional resources, including video examples of head contact, are available through Hockey Canada ([www.hockeycanada.ca/headcontactrule](http://www.hockeycanada.ca/headcontactrule)).

Referees, team officials, players and parents share an equal responsibility for safety in our game, and it is very important that we all support this initiative.

Should you have any questions about the new head contact rule, please contact NOHA Director of Officials, Glen Campbell at [campbelg@ontera.net](mailto:campbelg@ontera.net).

Yours truly,

Bryce Kulik  
NOHA President