

## SUSPENSION PROTOCOL

Any player who is involved in a fight during the course of a game and so penalized by the referee in that game; or any player that receives a major penalty for spearing, butt-ending, or any penalty involving intent to injure will receive an automatic game disqualification (DQ) and an additional one game suspension from his team's next game (regular season game or playoff game). Multiple game suspensions will be assessed for any combination of the above offenses. Every DQ will be reviewed by the Commissioners and additional discipline may be added if warranted. Each player is limited to a maximum of 3 disqualifications and then will be automatically subject to league disciplinary review and potential subsequent discipline.

### ***Club Responsibilities Related to Suspensions:***

Club team coaches are responsible to ensure players properly serve their suspensions. **If a player receives a DQ penalty, the team must email the Commissioners after the game.**

Follow the guidelines below.

- Next regularly scheduled game is defined as a game which appears on the schedule that was submitted prior to the first game of the season.
- In the event that the next regularly scheduled game is a game that was originally scheduled (prior to the first game of the season) but was postponed or rescheduled due to an emergency situation, that rescheduled game will be considered the next regularly scheduled game if it appears as the next game on the schedule prior to the DQ being issued.
- If a player receives a DQ in a NEIHC League game\*, that player must serve that suspension in the next regularly scheduled game. ***Should that regularly scheduled game not be against a NEIHC League opponent, then that player must serve an additional game suspension against his team's next regularly scheduled NEIHC League opponent.***  
(\*League game is defined as any game which directly affects that team's NEIHC standings in league play)
- ***NCAA Rule 23 - Disqualification Penalties/Progressive Discipline:*** A player may be assessed more than one disqualification penalty in a game. The progressive game-disqualification structure shall be:
  1. First disqualification penalty—that game plus 1.
  2. Second disqualification penalty—that game plus 2.
  3. Third disqualification penalty—that game plus 3.
  4. Fourth disqualification penalty—that game plus 4.  
(The progression shall continue after the fourth disqualification penalty.)
- Any game-disqualification penalties will carry over to the next season for players with remaining eligibility. The team of the disqualified player(s) will be permitted

to dress a substitute player or players (equal to the number of disqualified players) in the next scheduled game. A player who receives a disqualification penalty in any game (including exhibition games) will not be permitted to play in the team's next played regular-season or tournament game. Exhibition games cannot be used to fulfill the disqualification penalty.

- The team of the suspended player must indicate suspended player(s) and uniform number(s) on subsequent game score sheets in the "Sitting Game DQ's" section. A suspended player's uniform/number may not be worn by another player. Using ineligible player(s) and not self-reporting may result in the team being ineligible for regional and national tournament consideration.
- Failure to comply with serving proper suspensions will result in a forfeiture of said game(s) by the offending team. In addition, the offending player(s) will receive an additional automatic suspension of the same duration plus 1 game.