

CVHL Playing Rules

All league participants shall abide by the CVHL Playing Rules as set forth below.

The following protocol will be used when deciding which rules are applicable.

1. **CVHL Rules** – will apply 1st in making decisions
2. **CARHA Rules** – will apply when no CVHL rules come into effect
3. Hockey Canada – will apply if there are no CVHL and CARHA rules that come into effect

Comox Valley Hockey League rules, suspension guidelines and the referees used for CVHL games will help to ensure safe play. The referees will be using all of these rules to regulate play of the games.

All Penalties and Suspensions are subject to review by the Discipline Committee or CVHL Executive for further disciplinary action.

CVHL Penalties

Penalties – CARHA Rule 27

Minor	2 stop time minutes
Bench Minor	2 stop time minutes
Major	5 stop time minutes
Match	5 stop time minutes
Misconduct	10 stop time minutes

RED Penalties System

Boarding
Body Checking
Butt Ending
Charging
Cross Checking
Elbowing
Goaltender Interference
Head Contact
High Sticking (Major)
Kneeing
Roughing
Slashing
Spearing
Unsportsmanlike

Misconduct – NOT in last 10 minutes

RED penalty Major = 2 RED penalties

4 Cumulative on the Season – Automatic 1 Game Suspension
6 Cumulative on the Season – Automatic 3 Game Suspension
8 Cumulative on the Season – Suspended Rest of Season and to be reviewed by Discipline Committee for if/when they may return to the CVHL.

ALL RED penalty suspensions carry over to the next season but RED penalties will start at zero

Major Penalty – CARHA Rule 30

A player, including a goalkeeper, assessed a Major penalty shall be ruled off the ice for the remainder of the game (Major penalty plus Game Misconduct). The penalized team shall place a substitute player on the penalty bench to serve 5 stop time minutes, during which no on ice substitutions shall be permitted.

The exception to this rule is when a Major Penalty has been assessed for an ACCIDENTAL high stick, in which case the Game Misconduct shall not apply. (CARHA Rule 61b)

A player shall receive an automatic one game suspension as a result of receiving a Major and Game Misconduct penalty. (CARHA Rule 32d)

Match Penalty – CARHA Rule 34

Any player or team official incurring a Match penalty shall be ordered to the dressing room immediately for the balance of the game and shall be suspended until his case has been dealt with by the Discipline Committee. A player from the penalized team shall serve the 5 stop time minutes penalty.

Fighting – CARHA Rule 59

A Match penalty shall be assessed to any player who is identified by the referee as the instigator or aggressor in a fight. The opposing player may then be assessed a Match penalty if he fights back or continues the altercation in any way other than self defence, a Minor penalty for roughing or no penalty at all, depending on the circumstances.

The CVHL suspension for Fighting is suspension for the rest of the season, with the discipline committee deciding if/when that player may return to the CVHL. If a second offence occurs within 1 calendar year, the suspension will become an expulsion from the CVHL.

Misconduct Penalties – CARHA Rule 31

A player, except a goalkeeper, incurring a Misconduct penalty shall be ruled off the ice for a period of 10 stop time minutes. A player receiving a second Misconduct penalty in the same game shall automatically be assessed a Game Misconduct penalty.

A player receiving a Misconduct penalty in the final 10 minutes of a game shall be assessed a Game Misconduct penalty.

Gross Misconduct Penalties – CARHA Rule 33

Any player or team official incurring a Gross Misconduct penalty shall be ordered to the dressing room immediately for the balance of the game and the incident shall be reported to the Discipline Committee.

Game Misconduct Penalties – CARHA Rule 32

A player assessed a Game Misconduct penalty shall receive an automatic 1 game suspension.

Game Ejection – CARHA Rule 32

Any player that is assessed 3 minor penalties in one game shall be ruled off the ice for the remainder of the game (Game Ejection). That player's team must place a substitute in the penalty box to serve the 3rd penalty.

Any player receiving 2 Game Ejection (3 minor penalties in a single game) penalties in a single season shall receive an automatic 3 game suspension. A 3rd offence within a season will result in an indefinite suspension and hearing with the Discipline Committee to determine if/when they may return to the CVHL.

Physical Abuse of Official(s)

Physical abuse of officials will result in minimum of ONE year suspension and will come under review by the Discipline Committee or CVHL Executive for possible further disciplinary action.

Goaltender Interference:

The CVHL will strive for **minimal contact** with goaltenders with enhanced enforcement.

***Contact with Goaltender: Minor penalty**

Most incidental contact with the goaltender in his crease, whether accidental or not, shall be assessed a minor penalty.

Players are permitted to play a loose puck once it has entered the crease area. If the player makes contact with the goalie's glove while both are making a play on a loose puck simultaneously, the referee can use their discretion to call no penalty.

Players may not spear the goalie's glove while they are attempting to cover the puck.

Any attempt to physically dislodge a covered puck from the goalie will result in a minor penalty.

If a defensive player directs an attacking player into the goaltender, the defensive player will be assessed a minor penalty.

***Contact with Goaltender: Major Penalty**

Offence: If an offensive player makes aggressive contact with the goalie in their crease while driving the net, it is an automatic major penalty plus a game misconduct.

Defence: If a defending player physically directs an opponent into the goalie (body contact or stick), causing contact within the crease, a major penalty shall be called against the defensive player. Coincidental majors may be called if both players involved were equally responsible for the contact.