

THE COMMITTEE OF ROLLER HOCKEY REFEREES

Referees Meeting 20th March 2010.

The meeting started at 10.00am and was attended by 43 people.

The first part of the meeting was the presentation of the revised structure of the CRHR and the plan for the Recruitment and Progression of Referees in England.

This booklet included:-

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Structure of CRHR	page 4
Current Officers of CRHR	page 4
CRHR Job Descriptions	page 5
The Recruitment of New Referees	.....	page 6
The Progression of Existing Referees	page 6
The Development of Referees to International Standard	page 6
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CRHR Referee Assessment Form	page 8
CRHR Referee Licence	page 10
CRB Application Form	page 11
CRHR Referee Certificate	.....	page 12
Referee Discipline Report	.....	page 13
5 Minute Refereeing	.....	page 14
Referee Match Record Sheet	.....	page 17
Referees Red & Blue Cards	.....	page 19

This also included some ideas on the standardisation of equipment for referees.

Those presented were a referee match sheet, CRHR red and blue cards and a holder for these complete with pencil.

The card holder shown is available on the internet or from March Sports at Southampton

The booklet that was available on the day will be put as a download on the NRHA web-site.

Referee Activity Log

The logging of games refereed will be done for next season.

This will be done, for Regional Leagues, by the Regional Referee Officer collating the information from match sheets.

He will send this information to the CRHR Secretary.

For National events, this information will be taken from the match sheets by the CRHR Secretary, who will add these to the regional information.

This way we will get a complete picture of the activity of referees in England.

Various aspects of refereeing were discussed: -

Position of Referees

The position of referees on rink in certain situations of play is of paramount importance.

During open play, the referee must be positioned to see 9 of the 10 players on the rink at any one time.

All the play will either be coming towards him or going away from him.

The referee must get to the goal line with the attack to ensure that the ball goes over the goal line in a close call.

Many referees only reach the front of the penalty box.

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At direct and indirect free hits the position of the referee at the hit end of the rink is dictated by the player taking the free hit.

The other referee controlling those in the penalty box must be in a position to see both the players that he is controlling and both the player taking the free hit and his colleague. This is possible by standing outside the penalty box and slightly behind those players he is controlling.

Interpretation of Rules.

Advantage

It was agreed that advantage would only be awarded if a foul is committed on the player with the ball when a goal scoring opportunity is in progress.

At all other times the game will be stopped and a team foul awarded.

It was decided that the way that we have been interpreting this rule does not give the player with the ball an advantage in a non-scoring situation and that the team fault would be more beneficial.

Football.

It was agreed that "ball to foot" is not a foul and that "foot to ball" is a foul.

The only situation where "ball to foot" is a foul is when it occurs inside the penalty area and stops a goal being scored.

We had interpreted the new rules that a player could deliberately stop the ball with his foot by placing his foot in the way of the ball.

This has been clarified by the President of the European Federation, as a wrong interpretation.

If the ball is travelling directly towards the feet of a player, he may open his skates to stop the ball.

Team Fouls.

Every foul "player on player" is a team foul.

Last Man Fouls.

If the last man commits a player on player foul, then it is a blue card with a direct free hit.

Indirect Free Hits.

The defensive players should withdraw 3 metres.

If they do not, they are warned once and then, if repeated, issued with a blue card.

As this is awarded when the game is stopped, the player goes off and a 2-minute power play takes place in the normal way.

No direct free hit is awarded.

The indirect free hit then takes place.

The indirect free hit may be taken prior to the defensive players moving back 3 metres.

However, if the 3 metres is requested by the player taking the free hit, he must wait for the whistle before taking it.

Penalties

When a penalty is taken, the player taking the penalty can only play the ball a second time if it touches the goal-keeper, the goal cage or another player first.

If the ball rebounds off the barrier or wall behind the goal and the penalty taker then plays the ball, this is classed as a technical foul and an indirect free hit is awarded.

Penalties & Direct Free Hits.

The players not taking the penalty or direct free hit must stand inside the penalty area at the other end of the rink.

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If player(s) leave the penalty area before the ball is played, Article 24 – 2.2 states that if it is the first offence, the player will receive a verbal warning and if it is second offence BY PLAYER(S) OF THE SAME TEAM in the same action of play, then a blue card is awarded. The player is sent off for 2 minutes.

Cards to Coaches

If a Coach is shown a Blue card, the Coach selects a player to be removed from the rink. A 2-minute power play is played.

If the non-offending team should score within the 2 minutes, the player, removed from the rink, may return immediately.

The Coach can remain on the bench.

In the case of a Red card, the Coach selects a player to be removed from the rink.

A 4-minute power play is played.

If the non-offending team should score within the 4 minutes, the player, removed from the rink, may return immediately.

The Coach has to leave the bench.

Direct Free Hit.

The player taking a direct free hit decides to dribble the ball.

He also decides to delay his attack on goal waiting for assistance from another team member.

If he transports the ball slowly in the direction of: -

- a) the side of the goal cage but always inside the penalty area
- b) the side walls of the rink
- c) his own goal cage

Article 28 states:-

2.3 The player in charge of executing the direct free hit has the following options: -

2.3.1 Skating towards the opponent's goal cage, transporting the ball and trying to trick the goal-keeper.

The procedures for the referee are as follows: -

With a) the referee must not intervene. This is allowed.

In both other cases, b) & c), the referee stops the game immediately and awards an indirect free hit to the other team from the place where the direct free hit was to be taken.

Other Issues.

Red Card Suspension

It is the responsibility of the Club to ensure that any of their players receiving a Red Card, serve the automatic one match ban and any additional punishment.

Match Times.

Due to the new rules and the time taken to set up and take direct free hits, the NRHA are considering making all games stop the clock.

During a recent survey it was discovered that on average 5 minutes per half are lost during running clock games of 2 x 20 minutes.

The NRHA are going to propose at the AGM that all games that are currently 2x 20 minutes running clock are changed to 2 x 15 minute stop the clock and other games are 2 x 12.5 minute stop the clock.