

Match Penalty Protocol

When a player or coach is assessed a match penalty during play within the boundaries of SAHOF, the following will be established as the proper protocol in the responsibilities of reporting the incident.

Game Official

1. Advise the player's head coach immediately following the assessment of the penalty. If the Match Penalty is against the coach, advise the scorekeeper and the coach taking over for the ejected coach.
2. Upon completion of the game, the official will make notations in the remarks area of the scoresheet explaining why the penalty was assessed (i.e. spearing, head butt, head contact, kicking, etc.) and cite the match penalty number as per the USA Hockey Rulebook.
3. Retain a copy of the scoresheet for future reference.
4. Contact the Florida Supervisor of Officials to verbally report the incident on the same day the penalty is assessed. This report should contain the following information regarding the player or coach: name, age classification, association, location of rink, type of infraction.
5. File a Match Penalty Incident Report via electronic mail (e-mail) to the Florida Supervisor of Officials within 48 hours (unless it is a 601(g)(3) – assault on a official in which case it must be reported within 24 hours) with a copy of the scoresheet. Failure to file a timely game report may be deemed a withdrawal of the Match Penalty..
6. Attend the hearing on the Match Penalty if a hearing is conducted.

Florida Supervisor of Officials

1. Interview the Game Official on the telephone to establish the validity of the Match Penalty being assessed.
2. Electronically mail a copy of the Match Penalty Incident Report to the President of SAHOF upon receipt.
3. Contact the Referee in Chief (if a league game) or a league official to advise of the Match Penalty. This verbal report should contain the following information: player's or coach's name, age classification, association, location of rink, type of infraction.
4. Review the Game Official's electronically filed report, to ensure its accuracy and advise the Game Official to file the signed report and scoresheet within the prescribed time limits.

5. Transmit all Match Penalties under 601(g)(3) (assault on an official) to the SE District Supervisor of Officials for approval and validation.

SAHOF Disciplinary Chair / Committee

1. Upon receipt of the electronically filed report from the SAHOF President, conduct a complete investigation into the incident to ensure accuracy and validity of the penalty assessed.

2. Contact President of SAHOF to advise of recommendation to either pursue a hearing or exonerate the player or coach without a hearing.

3. If a Match Penalty is upheld preliminarily, send the assessed player's or coach's Association President a notification of immediate suspension until all reports are submitted and a hearing is held.

4. If so inclined to conduct a hearing, do so within 30 days of the date of incident under rules in USAH Annual Guide with two other appointed committee members. It is preferred to have the hearing held within 15 days of the incident.

5. File recommendation of disciplinary action taken to the President of SAHOF for approval within 72 hours of the hearing date.

6. Provide the assessed player or coach a written decision with notification regarding the right to appeal the decision to SAHOF Board.