



INFORMATION BULLETIN

Date: December 6, 2012

To: Minor Hockey Associations

C.C: Hockey Alberta Zone Teams

From: Kevin Macrae
Manager, Member Services

SUBJECT: Refusal to Start Play (Rule #10.14) Guidelines

Information on Rule #10.14 (Refusing To Start Play)

Premises

- Referees are considered non-bias parties that are used to ensuring that the game of hockey is played under a certain set of rules.
- The Referees control the playing of the game, by way of Hockey Canada playing rules.
- The control of the game is also determined by the coaches and players and the respect and discipline they show while playing the game according to the rules.
- Hockey Canada playing rules are developed so that competition is fair, equitable and played in a safe environment.

Rational

- The rule is in place so that coaches do not arbitrarily rule on the length and conclusion of a hockey game. The responsibility of interpretation of the Hockey Canada playing rules is up to the Referee.

Some Options

- Options are much easier than one would think. It is all about leadership from both head coaches and referees and being able to view the situation rationally and with control. When all three parties work together in tough situations they can make a difference.
- Consult with the Referee and ensure they understand your concerns about the rough play.

At that time a coach may suggest the following (if necessary):

- Play the remainder of the game straight time.
- Play the game without body checking.
- Coaches mutually agree to discontinue the game.

Should you have any questions please feel free to contact the Hockey Alberta office at (403) 342-6777.