

# Saunders Inline Hockey League

## Official Rules

**General guidance pertaining to game play, scoring, penalties, and player conduct will follow the official rules found in USA Hockey's 2011-2013 Official Rule Book. In addition to these rules, all participants in the Saunders Inline hockey League will adhere to the following guidelines:**

### **General Game Standards:**

1. Games will consist of three (3) 20-minute running clock periods. Last 2-minutes of the game will be stop clock.
2. The standard format will be 4 against 4 (and goalies); however; due to the number of players available and the occurrences of players missing games, the format may change to 3 on 3 (and goalies) if necessary for any individual game.
3. Home team is listed first on schedule.
4. Season: All tie games go directly to shoot-out (best of three), Playoffs: All tie games will be decided in overtime.
5. Any penalties called shall result in a 2-minute penalty. Penalized player will serve entire 2-minutes unless a goal is scored.
6. Penalized player must proceed directly to the penalty box once play stops.
7. Each team receives one (1) 30-second time out per game.
8. All other non-specified rules shall conform to current USA Roller Sports standards.

### **Player Eligibility:**

1. Adjustments may be made to the rosters during the course of the season if deemed necessary to create a competitive and balanced league. All adjustments must be approved by a vote of the core leadership group. In the event of a tie vote, the league Treasurer will cast the deciding vote.
2. Any new player(s) entering the league after the first regular season game must be approved and placed on a team by a vote of the core leadership group. In the event of a tie vote, the league Treasurer will cast the deciding vote.
3. A player must play a minimum of five (5) regular season games to be eligible to play in the playoffs. The player must play the minimum number of regular season games for the same team for whom he or she will play in the playoffs. This rule is non-negotiable.

### **Player Conduct:**

Fair play and respect are the backbone of any successful recreational sports program. In order for a positive environment to be created, it is imperative that all participants and spectators have respect for all players, officials, administrators, spectators and the sport of hockey. Hockey is a game demanding high levels of concentration and skill. Taunting or unsportsmanlike conduct directed at opponents or officials will not be tolerated.

### **Player Conduct - Penalties:**

A minor penalty for unsportsmanlike conduct shall be assessed to any player who commits the following actions:

1. Not proceeding directly and immediately to the penalty bench or to the dressing room, after being penalized and ordered to do so by the officials (equipment shall be delivered to him by a teammate, if necessary)

2. Visually demonstrates blatant sign(s) of dissatisfaction with an official's decision. This includes continuing to badger or insult the official. Any time that a player persists in any of these actions, they shall be assessed a misconduct penalty.
3. Touches or holds any official with his hand or stick.
4. Attempts to continue an altercation after been ordered to stop, or resists the official in stopping the altercation.
5. A game misconduct shall result if the player continues such action.
6. A match penalty shall be assessed to any player or team official who deliberately injures or attempts to injure any opponent or game official.

**Player Conduct - Fighting:**

1. A major plus a game misconduct penalty shall be assessed to any player who engages in fighting. An additional minor penalty shall be assessed to any player who starts or instigates fighting. A minor penalty shall be assessed to any player who drops his stick and/or removes his glove(s) during an altercation and is not a participant in the original altercation. A game misconduct penalty shall be added if, in the judgment of the Referee, such player is deemed to be the instigator of a subsequent altercation. A minor, double minor or major plus game misconduct penalty, at the discretion of the Referee, shall be assessed to any player who, having been struck, continues the altercation by retaliating.
2. Any player who receives a second major penalty for fighting with the same team during the same season shall receive a three game suspension. For a third fighting major with the same team in the same season, the player shall be suspended indefinitely.

**Officials:**

1. Officials are required to conduct themselves in a businesslike, sportsmanlike, impartial and constructive manner at all times. The actions of an official must be above reproach. Actions such as "baiting" or inciting players or coaches are strictly prohibited. Officials are ambassadors of the game and must always conduct themselves with this responsibility in mind.
2. The "REFEREE" shall have general supervision of the game and his decision shall be final in all matters occurring before, during or after the game. The role of the official is to "enforce" the rules of the game and in doing so shall have full authority over all participants. The Referee may not change his decision, or that of any other official, after the resumption of play following the rendering of the original decision.