





2008-09 Summary of Rule Differences Chart



The following chart is a comparison, for use by League Officials, referees, players and coaches, of the differences in rules between the **NCRHA 2008-2009 Official Rules of College Roller Hockey** and the **2007-09 Official Rules of USA Hockey InLine**. This summary was designated to give users of the USAHIL rule book, a basic understanding of the rules used by the NCRHA.



This document should not be used as a substitute for a working knowledge of the rules, but rather as a reference tool that highlights key differences between two rule books. It is designed to help avoid that split second moment of panic as a referee tries to remember which interpretation of a rule applies to the game at hand, and ensure that the right call is made.

While the major differences are cited here, this section is not all inclusive and changes may have been implemented by either organization since the printing of this chart. Therefore the ultimate authority can only be the complete official rulebooks of the NCRHA and USAHIL.

Rule (Situation)	USAHIL 	Rule Number(s)	NCRHA 	Rule Number(s)
SECTION 1 - RINK				
Use of Alcohol or Controlled Substances	Game Misconduct	109 (e)	Disqualification (Referees eject and report players who smell like alcohol)	602
Goal Post and Nets	Allows play to continue if Referee can replace displaced goal post without interfering with play.	103(c)	Immediate whistle	103(g)
Use of Tobacco	First Offense -- Minor Penalty Subsequent Offenses -- Game Misc.	109 (d)	Disqualification	109 (g)
SECTION 2 - COMPOSITION OF TEAMS				
Required number of players to begin game	5 (goalkeeper not required)	201 (a)	4 players and one goalkeeper	206 (a)
Team unable to place required number of players to begin game	Bench Minor. If after 5 minutes game still cannot begin, game is suspended and reported to League Authorities.	201 (a)	Bench Minor. If after 15 minutes game still cannot begin, game is forfeited and reported to League Authorities.	206 (b)
Maximum players in uniform	15 players plus no more than 2 goalkeepers	201 (a)	16 rostered players, including no more than 14 skaters.	201 (b) (4)
Maximum number of Team Officials allowed on Player's Bench	Four (4)	109 (b)	Three (3)	201 (b) (4)
Change of Players	Awards a Penalty Shot instead of a Minor Penalty for deliberately placing too many players on the floor with less than 2 minutes remaining in a game, or anytime in overtime.	205(a)	Minor Penalty is assessed for too many players.	204(b)
SECTION 3 - EQUIPMENT				
H.E.C.C. approved helmets and full face mask	Not required for players 18 and over.	304	Required as of July 1, 2004.	305 (b)
Padded Pants and Shoulder Pads	No Rule	n/a	Prohibited. May be approved by League Authorities for medical need with a physician's release.	305 (d)

Rule (Situation)	USAHIL		Rule Number(s)	NCRHA		Rule Number(s)
SECTION 3 - EQUIPMENT (cont.)						
All protective equipment, except gloves, headgear, and goalkeeper leg pads must be worn entirely under the uniform.	Recommended		304 (b)	Required.		305 (i)
The use of solvents, waxes or oils on goalkeeper pads to enhance sliding capability	Not addressed.		n/a	Minor Penalty plus Disqualification		304 (h)
Use in any manner of "US Postal Service Tape"	Not addressed.		n/a	Prohibited		300 (e)
Teams must have 2 sets of uniforms	Not required.		307	Required.		300 (a)
Home team must wear light colored jerseys, Visiting team must wear dark colored jerseys.	Not addressed.		n/a	Required.		300 (b)
SECTION 4 - PENALTIES						
Major Penalty	Requires addition of Game Misconduct		403 (a)	Many rules allow for a Major penalty to be assessed with or without Game Ejection or Disqualification		403 (a)
Player receives second Major penalty during a game.	Cannot occur, Game Misconduct assessed with first Major		403 (a)	Game Ejection		403 (f)
Game Misconduct	Player is suspended for the remainder of the game but does not receive any further automatic suspension		404 (b)	Penalty does not exist		n/a
Game Ejection	Penalty does not exist		n/a	Player is suspended for the remainder of the game but does not receive any further automatic suspension		404 (c)
Disqualification	Penalty does not exist		n/a	Player is suspended for the remainder of the game PLUS the next regularly scheduled game of that team.		404 (c)
SECTION 5 - OFFICIALS						
Officiating Systems	2 referee system		501 (a)	2 referee system or 3 referee system (1 referee/2 assistant referees)		501 (a)
Appointment of Officials	Referees are no longer required to wear elbow pads or shin and knee protection, it is only recommended that they do. Additionally, it is strongly recommended that referees wear a half shield.		501(d)	Referees are still required to wear elbow pads and shin and knee protection.		502(a)
Minor Officials	No references to Goal Judges		n/a	Has provisions for Goal Judges		503
Team Official steps onto playing surface while game is in progress.	Game Misconduct		601 i.3	Game Ejection or Disqualification		600 (j) (2)

Rule (Situation)	USAHIL		Rule Number(s)	NCRHA		Rule Number(s)
SECTION 6 - PLAYING RULES						
Team Official enters Referee's dressing room at any time without permission	No Rule		n/a	Match Penalty		600 (k) (1)
Goalkeeper may continue to play with a broken stick until the next stoppage of play.	Prohibited, minor penalty.		605 (a)	Allowed		605 (b)
Butt-end	Minor penalty for attempted butt-end (no contact) or Major penalty plus Game Misconduct (contact).		607(b)	Major plus EJ or DQ.		607(b)
Delay of Game	Any goalkeeper or player, while in the defending zone that shoots the puck outside of the playing area (non-deflected) shall be assessed a Minor penalty. It does not matter if it was intentional or accidental. However, if the puck leaves an area that is not protected by screen or glass (i.e. players' bench), no penalty shall be assessed.		609(a)	Leaves discretion up to the Referee to determine if a player's action was deliberate when shooting or batting the puck out of the rink.		609(a)
Delay of Game	If the goal post is deliberately displaced by a defending player and the referee feels the puck would have entered the goal had the goal post not been displaced, a goal shall be awarded.		609(b)	Deliberately displacing goal post is a minor penalty if during play, but a penalty shot if during a breakaway with the goalkeeper on the surface		609(b)
Face-offs	Must occur on face-off spot		611 (d)	May occur anywhere along an imaginary line connecting the face-off spots, parallel to the side boards		611
Removing Gloves (fighting situation)	No Rule		n/a	Minor Penalty		613 (g)
Removing Gloves (fighting situation)	No Rule		n/a	Minor Penalty		613 (g)
Kicking Puck	For a goal to be disallowed for kicking the puck, intent to redirect the puck must be present.		624(a)	A goal shall not be allowed if the puck has been kicked, thrown, or otherwise deliberately directed by an attacking player into the goal by any means other than a stick.		614(d.2)
High-sticking (penalty)	Minor, or Major plus Game Misconduct. Double-minor plus Game Misconduct in adult leagues not requiring face-masks.		617(b)	Minor, Major, or Disqualification.		616(a)

Rule (Situation)	USAHIL		Rule Number(s)	NCRHA		Rule Number(s)
SECTION 6 - PLAYING RULES (cont.)						
High-sticking (playing the puck)	Puck played above the shoulder and next played by member of the same team results in whistle and face-off in offending team's end zone face-off spot.		617(d)	Puck played above the 4 feet (crossbar) and next played by member of the same team results in whistle and face-off in offending team's end zone face-off spot.		616
Handling Puck with Hands	If the puck hits a piece of equipment in front of the goal while the goalkeeper is off the surface, a goal shall be awarded in lieu of the penalty shot.		616(c)	No such rule.		n/a
Interference by Spectators	Any player that physically interferes with a spectator after the game, the Game Misconduct penalty assessed to that player shall also include a one game suspension.		622(d)	Disqualification		621 (b)
Kicking Player	Minor, Major plus Game Misconduct or Match Penalty. If unintentional, no penalty.		623	Match Penalty. However, if unintentional in an attempt to free the puck, no penalty.		622
Attacking player in Goalkeeper's Crease	Goal should be disallowed if the puck enters the net while an attacking player is in the crease. Play should be stopped if attacking team is in possession of the puck with a scoring opportunity. Faceoff at high zone spot.		621 (d)	Goals should be disallowed if the attacking player initiates contact with the goalkeeper or impairs the goalkeeper's ability to move freely or defend the goal. After a warning, play should be stopped for an attacking player in the crease.		628
Refusing to Start Play	If a team has no coach and the team refuses to start play and after the initial warning and bench minor penalty has been assessed, the team continues to refuse to start play, the captain of that team shall be assessed the Match penalty.		632(a)	No such rule. Only the Head Coach may be assessed a Match Penalty for refusing to start play. The game is suspended and referred to League Authorities after a warning and bench minor penalty is assessed and the team still refuses.		633
Tripping	For a penalty shot to be awarded for "fouled from behind" the player does not have to be fouled directly from behind, but could have been fouled diagonally from behind as well.		639(b)	Must be fouled from behind.		637(d)
Pucks used during intermission between halves or periods	No Rule		n/a	Prohibited		703 (f)
Pucks used during intermission between halves or periods	No Rule		n/a	Prohibited		703 (f)
SIGNALS and PROCEDURES						
Body Checking	Hand across to opposite shoulder		signals	Fist extended outward from shoulder		n/a