



PACIFIC COAST AMATEUR HOCKEY ASSOCIATION

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SERVING AMATEUR HOCKEY IN THE LOWER MAINLAND SINCE 1941

CROSS-ICE HOCKEY GUIDELINES

2016-17 Season

"The BC Hockey Board of Directors mandated the following: that All Minor Hockey Associations are required to operate the Hockey Canada Initiation Program and utilize cross-ice systems for participants below the Atom division. This means that all games/practices for below atom players must take place on a cross/modified ice surface."

(Reference: BC Hockey FAQs 2016-08-05)

A standard NHL rink is 200 feet by 85 feet. Olympic ice is 210 feet by 98 feet. Cross-Ice hockey is defined as playing hockey across the 85 (or 98) foot width of the ice surface, as compared to playing lengthways along the full 200 (or 210) foot length of the ice surface. This smaller ice area has been deemed a developmental tool which is in use by many of the leading hockey nations in the world. It has been demonstrated to provide a more positive hockey experience by increasing puck possession time for each player, resulting in quicker development of individual technical skills, increased ice time, increasing the tempo of the game for all players, increased player creativity and improved "hockey sense", or understanding of the principles of the game.

The goal is to improve player development while ensuring an exciting, challenging, learned, fun environment for the players.

This document provides the framework for Initiation development and the Cross-Ice Hockey game for P.C.A.H.A. teams and supersedes the P.C.A.H.A. Rules and Regulations, at the direction from BC Hockey, received on July 21, 2016.

1. Cross-Ice Playing Surface

Cross-Ice hockey is used for H2 to H4 and Female Tyke and Novice games (exhibition, league, jamboree and tournament) when a full size hockey rink is used for the game. H1 follows the Introduction to Hockey Program and no teams are formed or games played, with the exception of one jamboree (at the option of the Association). However, H1 is required to use the cross-ice format if a jamboree is held.

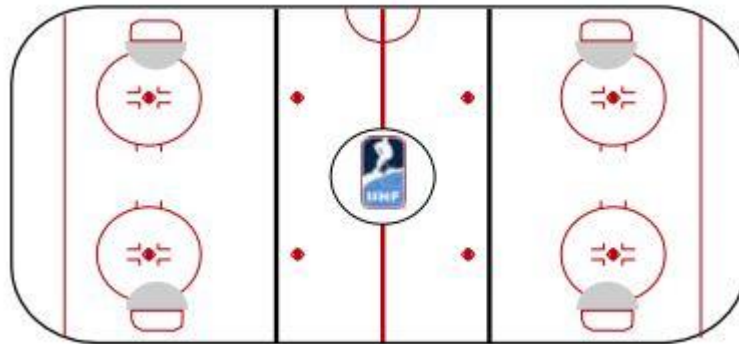
The cross-ice format is NOT used when "training" or "small ice" surfaces (rinks smaller than 160 feet by 60 feet). However, the same playing rules as for cross-ice hockey must be used when the "training" or "small ice" surfaces are used. (Reference: BC Hockey FAQs 2016-08-05)

2. Dividing the Rink

For the cross-ice game, the rink is divided into two halves, with the game being played across the ice in the end zones.

The rink may be divided through the use of movable boards, foam pads or cones, depending upon availability at each rink.

The rink may be divided into either 2 or 3 zones, depending upon the above set up. This will result in two smaller game surfaces.



Regular goal nets, small goal nets, devices limiting the size of the goal nets or cones defining the goal net area may be used.

Half-ice games and other variances to a smaller ice surface are also an option.

3. Team Size

Regular rosters as per usual P.C.A.H.A rules should be formed by the Associations. Teams within an Association will be balanced as per P.C.A.H.A. rules.

Teams at H2 and female Tyke are formed not earlier than Nov. 1st. Teams at H3, H4 and Female Novice are formed not earlier than Oct. 15th.

4. On-Ice Team Size

When a regular ice surface is divided into two smaller playing areas for either cross-ice or half-ice games, if roster sizes permit, each team should be divided into two groups to allow for playing two games at the same time.

The usual format will be to use from 3 - 5 players plus a goalie for each shift for each team. Some flexibility is allowed to account for variability in roster sizes and attendance at any particular game. Games can be 3 on 3, 4 on 4 or 5 on 5.

If both teams have a small roster and there are not enough players for 2 cross-ice games, then one cross-ice game may be played.

If one team has a large roster and the other team has a small roster, players can be mixed jamboree style in order to facilitate the playing of the game.

Teams should consider the roster size of their opponent when scheduling games as it will be ideal to match with a team of a similar roster size.

5. Games

H3, H4 and Female Novice may play cross-ice games within their Association until November 30th. Inter-Association exhibition or league games may be organized starting December 1st.

For Associations only registering one H3, H4 or Female Novice team in a division, inter-Association exhibition or league games may be arranged with another Association only registering one team in that division prior to December 1st, with the approval of the applicable Managing Director.

H2 and Female Tyke may play cross-ice games within their Association until Christmas. Inter-Association exhibition or league games may be organized starting January 1st.

For Associations only registering one H2 or Female Tyke team in a division, inter-Association exhibition or league games may be arranged with another Association only registering one team in that division prior to January 1st, with the approval of the applicable Managing Director.

6. Game Sheets and Game Numbers

Usual P.C.A.H.A gamesheets are to be used. The full roster for each team including team officials is to be listed on the gamesheet. It is not necessary to indicate where the players played on each cross-ice surface only that they have been accounted as playing within the game time.

A game number is required for each exhibition, league and tournament game. If the two teams playing in the exhibition game report to different League Managers both teams shall obtain an exhibition game number.

Scores are not kept. Games do not need to be entered into Teamlink.

7. Referees

For H4 and Female Novice, only one coach ("game coach") will be permitted on the ice of each of the cross-ice games. One referee per each cross-ice game is to be utilized to allow

the on-ice officials to use the game(s) as a referee development tool. Similar to the players, for new referees, this would allow a gradual introduction to the game situations.

If only one cross ice game is played, due to numbers of players present or for any other reason, and two referees are present, then the two referees shall referee the game and no "game coach" will be on the playing surface.

For H2, *H3 and Female Tyke, two coaches (one from each team) will be the "game coach" on the playing surface. No referees are to be assigned.

*Associations utilizing referees at H3 should refer to the guideline as set out for H4.

When a player violates the rules, the "game coach" or "referee" can stop the game by blowing the whistle and clarifying the reason for the stoppage in play with the player in question. No penalties are given. Based on the severity of the infraction, if necessary the "game coach" or "referee" can remove a player from the game for an extended period with an emphasis to reintroduce the player after a short "time out" from playing.

If a player continuously violates the rules, the coach from the player's team or the referee may remove him or her for the remainder of the game and allow for a substitute player in his or her place.

8. Coaches

At least one coach for each team is required. If the set-up requires the coaches to be on the ice in the neutral zone, the coaches on the ice must wear their skates and helmet as a safety precaution. Coaches are encouraged to not participate in the games other than in a teaching capacity.

9. Time Clock

For H4 and Female Novice, running time will be used for a 1 hour game as follows:

5 minute warm-up

25 minute running time period

2 minute break

25 minute running time period (or time remaining in ice time less 2 minutes)

No score is kept. The goal limitation rule is in effect.

For a 1.25 hour game, running time will be used as follows:

5 minute warm-up

35 minute running time period

2 minute break

30 minute running time period (or time remaining in ice time less 2 minutes)

For H2 and H3, the two minute buzzer, as required by current P.C.A.H.A rules is to be used. The clock should start at the same time for both cross-ice surfaces and run for the full two minutes, for ease of timekeeping.

Period times are as per the P.C.A.H.A rule book.

No score is kept. The goal limitation rule is in effect.

Timings may be adjusted slightly to allow for set-up of the playing surface(s) with equipment.

10. Playing Rules

All other P.C.A.H.A. playing rules are to be followed.

Prepared by the PCAHA Cross-Ice Committee, Sept. 21, 2015

Approved by the PCAHA Executive Committee, Oct. 14, 2015

Revised by the PCAHA Cross-Ice Committee, Aug. 30, 2016

Approved by the PCAHA Executive Committee, Sept. 14, 2016