



## MEMORANDUM

December 4, 2014

**TO:** BC Hockey Membership

**FROM:** Barry Petrachenko  
Executive Director

**COPY:** Anne Deitch, Branch Safety Coordinator  
Sean Raphael, Branch Referee in Chief  
Jim Weicker, Branch Coach Coordinator

**SUBJECT:** Injured Player Protocol

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Please review the roles and responsibilities of the Coach, Safety Person and Official when a player is injured on the ice:

### **Safety Person:**

- Should be on or near the bench during all games and practices.
- Is responsible to personally carry the first aid kit and player medical information.
- Initially take control and assess the situation when coming into contact with the injured player.
- Instruct the player to lay still.
- Instruct bystanders to leave the injured player alone
- Do not move the athlete and leave all equipment in place.
- Evaluate the injury and situation. This may include anything from an unconscious player to a sprained finger. Once you have determined the severity of injury, decide whether or not an ambulance or medical care is required.
- If the injury is serious and warrants immediate attention that you are not qualified to provide, seek out someone with the highest possible level of first aid experience.
- If an ambulance call has been placed, observe the player carefully for any change in condition, stay calm and reassure the player.
- Make a note of the time at which the injury occurred and keep track of all other pertinent facts regarding the accident, including time of occurrence, time of ambulance arrival, etc.

### **The Coach/Assistant Coach:**

- In the case of a serious injury, the coach has the responsibility to ensure all other players on the team are kept at the bench or taken to the dressing room if instructed to do so by the game official.
- The assistant coach will assist the coach as necessary with the above process.



## The Officials

- Once the injured player's team takes possession of the puck, the referee blows down the play. If the injury is deemed serious by the referee, he/she may blow down the play immediately (Rule 2.6 'Injured Players')
- Emergency Planning and First Aid
  - On recognizing an injury, the official is to stop play in accordance with the rules (2.6 Injured Players) and signal the Safety Person onto the ice if necessary. The Safety Person may request help or may institute the Emergency Action Plan as needed (HCOP Officiating Manual 9-9)
  - The Officials are to remain available in support as requested (e.g., contact arena personnel, control spectators, ensure route for ambulance crew is clear and available.)
- Officials should ask both teams to go to their benches and the officials should remain on the ice and in control of both teams.
- If the officials are otherwise occupied, the safety person can leave the bench immediately once the play is blown down for a serious injury.
- If possible, a linesman should help the safety person, call person, parents or ambulance personnel to the injured player in accordance with the safety person's request.
- If an official is a professional medical person or has first aid training, they should advise the safety person of this.
- Once the safety person has determined the player can be removed from the ice, the official should allow the safety person to take the lead in removing the player safely.
- Once the ambulance is called, the officials should send both teams to their dressing rooms. The officials can also work to assist the safety person as required once both teams are in their rooms.
- If the parents of the injured player come to the ice surface, the officials should use common sense. For example, if the player is very young it may be beneficial to have one parent come out to the player to comfort them until the ambulance arrives.
- Once the ambulance arrives, the paramedics take control of the situation and the official should stand by to assist in any way possible.

For additional information please visit the Hockey Canada website: <http://www.hockeycanada.ca/en-ca/Hockey-Programs/Safety/Player-Down.aspx>