

PENALTY CALLING PROCEDURE

REFERENCES: Section 4 of the Officiating Manual and Referees Signals as found in the HOCKEY CANADA Rule Book / Casebook.

INTRODUCTION

A properly executed penalty calling procedure can diffuse an inherently tense situation. Proper procedure can also serve to enhance the respect players, coaches and spectators have for an official.

At the end of this lesson the students should be familiar with the procedure to be used when assessing penalties.

DEMONSTRATE & REVIEW THE PENALTY CALLING PROCEDURE

- Mentally record the offender's number.
- Raise the non-whistle arm (arm straight up, hand open, fingers together).
- Whistle not in mouth.
- Blow whistle (with authority) when the offending team has control of the puck.
- Come to complete stop as whistle is blown with arm still extended.
- Pause (one potato, two potatoes) to allow everyone to focus on the referee.
- Point out the offending player by lowering the fully extended signal arm down (hand open, fingers together) towards the offending player. Don't point or make direct eye contact if offending player is within 3 metres. Do not use a one finger point.
- In a clear, calm, assertive voice call out the offending player's number, team colour and infraction (don't scream, use an intimidating tone of voice or use unnecessary words (i.e. "Let's go...", "You've got...").
- Give the signal for the infraction then proceed to the penalty box and report the penalty. Select a route and adjust timing to remain clear of penalized players. Keep all players in sight - skate backwards when required.
- Report the player's number, team colour, the infraction and duration to the penalty timekeeper.
- Signal the infraction at the penalty box area.
- Leave the penalty box area taking care to remain clear of penalized players.

NOTE: The referee must signal every infraction being penalized (i.e. if coincidental slashing penalties are called then the official must give two slashing signals when issuing and reporting the penalties).



Penalty Calling Procedure



PURPOSE

- To communicate effectively with players, coaches and fans about penalties.
- To display confidence and enhance respect.

PROCEDURE SUMMARY

1. Referee raises arm straight up.
2. Referee blows whistle, stops and pauses.
3. Points to penalized player using full hand, indicates players' number, colour and the infraction while giving penalty signal.
4. Proceeds to penalty box while keeping players in sight (skate backwards).
5. Stops at the penalty bench. Reports players' number, colour, time (i.e. 2, 5, etc.) and infraction type. Makes penalty signal while at the penalty box.

TIPS

- Know the procedure well. Proper execution of the procedure enhances respect.
- Maintain composure. Be professional, not emotional.
- Come to a complete stop and make a distinct pause after the whistle. Allow participants attention to shift to you before issuing the penalty. Insure your linesmen know who is being penalized, so the player can be escorted quickly to prevent further infractions. A quick signal by the referee may sometimes be necessary in order for the referee to show presence in a volatile situation.
- Treat disrespect with respect.
- Adjust route and timing when going to penalty bench to avoid confrontations with penalized players.
- At penalty bench:
 - Make eye contact with penalty timekeeper.
 - Not mandatory to stop if timekeeper well qualified and situation is simple.

SIGNALS

- Delayed Penalty Signal - Arm straight up, hand open, fingers together.
- Rotate raised arm down to point to penalized player(s).
- Point with open hand (fingers together). Don't point with one finger.
- Don't point if penalized player too close (i.e. within 3 metres).
- Signal each infraction (i.e. two slashing penalties results in two slashing signals).
- Signal infractions clearly and deliberately. Make them so everyone can see them.

VERBAL COMMUNICATION

- Use calm, clear voice with neutral tone.
- Don't include unnecessary words.
- Don't get personal or engage in "reverse abuse".

COMMON FAULTS

- Not stopping before assessing penalty.
- Insufficient delay between whistle and assessment of the penalty.
- Not giving two signals if two penalties of same infraction assessed.
- Coming too close to penalized player on way to or from penalty bench.
- Lack of composure:
 - Procedure too rushed.
 - Emotion in voice or body language.
- Using intimidating words, signals or gestures.
- Grandstanding.
- Unassertive voice or signals.