



Referee discretion is an important part of any sporting event. At Play On! tournaments, Referees will be wearing RED shirts. The Referee's decision is FINAL. There should be no arguing of calls by participants or spectators. Arguing calls by either of these parties will result in a penalty shot being awarded to the other team on the first offense, and a team being disqualified from a game as a result of the second offense. Calls may be questioned, but only by a team captain, who is the sole representative of the team. These policies shall be strictly enforced with a zero-tolerance approach. Penalties awarded as a result of excessive arguing are made at the sole discretion of the Referee.

Play

1. Each team must have a minimum of 4 but may have a maximum of 7 players on its roster.
2. Coed teams must have at least two females on the roster and must have one female player on the Street Rink at all times.
3. Games may be started or completed with only 3 players, but not with 2 players (result is an automatic forfeit).
4. Teams will be placed in divisions based on information provided at time of registration. After entering your team information and - if applicable, selecting your choice of conference - you will automatically be placed in the appropriate division.
5. Organizers will make every effort to place teams in divisions with players of the same gender, age, and, if applicable - skill. However, there may occasionally be challenges associated with doing so.
6. Rosters may be expanded online (to a max of 7 players) prior to the close of the registration deadline, but not thereafter. No roster substitutions are ever allowed after the first scheduled game. Some roster changes may be permitted after the close of registration, and prior to the team's first scheduled game, but it is up to the discretion of Play On! staff to approve any player changes / additions since the new player change cannot result in a change in the tournament brackets.
7. All players must carry ID during Check-in and throughout the event (photo ID for players 16 and older, and birth certificates for players 15 and under). Officials reserve the right to check ID at any time throughout the event and to disqualify players and/or their entire team for not carrying ID, for submission of false information, use of non-roster players, unauthorized substitutions, and/or bad sportsmanship of any kind.
8. All players must individually sign the score sheet before each game.
9. All games will be played 4-on-4, including the goaltender (i.e. 3 out players plus one goalie on the street at all times). A team may play without a goaltender, if it chooses to do so, at any time during the match.
10. Games and halves will begin with a face-off.
11. The ball will change possession after every goal scored.
12. During play, alternates can substitute as teams deem necessary and/or "on the fly". No stoppage in play is necessary to make substitutions. However, a team needs to be especially careful not to get penalized for too many men on the street when making *on the fly* changes. Changes must always be made from the team's defensive end of the street rink. Trying to change in the offensive end may result in a penalty shot (if an advantage is created, and according to the referee's discretion).
13. There can be no goal changes made during games, except in the case of injury. If a goalie leaves a game due to injury, he/she cannot return to the game in an "out" position.
14. When the ball is covered by a team's goaltender, that team gets possession of the ball behind their net. The other team must give the team with the ball 3 metres of space to make a play. The team with possession is allowed 5 seconds to put the ball in play.
15. **When a ball leaves play:**

If the ball goes over the backdrop OFF THE OFFENSIVE TEAM:

A substitute or parent from the offensive team retrieves the ball if

necessary. The defending team receives possession of the ball behind their own net. The opposing team must give the team with the ball 3 metres of space to make a play. The team with possession is allowed a maximum of 5 seconds to put the ball back into play (after retrieving it).

If the ball goes over the backdrop OFF THE DEFENSIVE TEAM:

A substitute or parent from the defending team retrieves the ball, if necessary. The team on offense receives possession of the ball at the place closest to where the ball left play. The defending team must allow the offensive team 3 metres of space to make a play. The team on offense is allowed a maximum of 5 seconds to put the ball back into play (after retrieving it).

If the ball leaves play at either side of the rink, the team that the ball did not go off of receives possession at the spot where the ball left play. The referee will determine which team should have possession. Again that team is given 3 metres of space and 5 seconds of time to make a play.

Sidewalks may or may not be considered in play depending on the discretion of the referee and as explained prior to each game. Goals may be scored directly upon play resuming (i.e. no need to start play again with a pass. Shots are live!)

16. **After a goal is scored:**

There is no face-off. The team that was scored on gets possession and may execute play immediately. They also must execute play (i.e. cross the center line) within 10 seconds. If they fail to do so, the team that just scored may encroach aggressively.

The team that just scored must always clear half and cannot cross the centerline again until the ball, or an offensive player, crosses that line (or the 10-second rule expires).

However, during the final 5 minutes of play, the team that just scored must still (in its entirety) clear half - but after so doing may then encroach immediately. The purpose of this rule is to avoid stalling by the team who was scored on and to intensify the final minutes of each game.

Time

17. Teams will be given a 3-minute warm-up before each game.
18. A 10-minute forfeit allowance will be strictly enforced.
19. Games will be 30 minutes in length (Two - 15 minute halves, running time, separated by a one minute half-time break). The last minute of the game will be stop time.
20. A mercy rule will be in effect, with the game called immediately if one team leads the other by a 10 goal margin at any point during the second half of the game.
21. Each team will be allowed one (1), 30-second time out **per game**.

Penalties

22. There shall be no slashing, hooking tripping, crosschecking, high sticking, or inappropriate stick work of any kind. Doing so shall result in a penalty shot for the other team. More serious offenses, including, but not limited to, spearing and/or butt-ending, shall result in an individual being **immediately removed from a tournament**. Given the location of Play On! events (in public streets or similar settings) participants may also face legal consequences for any inappropriate physical or verbal actions.
23. Fighting is unacceptable and will always result in the individual being removed from tournament. From an organizer's standpoint, fighting is



defined as one punch. The public setting of these events means that fighting may also have legal ramifications.

24. There shall be no pushing, shoving, checking, or roughhousing of any kind. Doing so shall result in at least a penalty shot for the other team, but may be punished more severely according to the discretion of the referee and/or tournament supervisor.
25. There shall be no stalling. Stalling is called at the discretion of the official. Doing so shall result in a penalty shot for the other team.
26. **Any player that gets penalized two times during one game for any of the incidents mentioned above will be disqualified from participating in the remainder of that game. The team will also then be forced to play the remainder of the game short-handed (i.e. 3-on-4. It's like a red card in soccer!) The player in question may be subject to more serious punishment (i.e. ejection from the tournament), if the Tournament Supervisor deems necessary. In addition, the entire team may be removed from the tournament based on the questionable actions of one team member.**
27. If any player touches the ball while his/her team has too many players on the street, it shall be ruled a "too many players on the street" penalty and the opposing team shall be awarded a penalty shot. There is no 10 metre grace given for player changes!

Too many men (or women) on the street penalties are not applied against the two penalties and you are out rule.

28. **Slapshots are only allowed in the Elite Conference. No slapshots are allowed during Street Conference games.** Slapshots are defined as any shot that involves a wind up that begins above the shooter's waist. If a participant intentionally and knowingly takes a slap shot, the opposing team will be awarded a penalty shot.

Penalties awarded as a result of slapshots being taken do not count against the two penalties and you are out rule.

29. Any contact made with the ball when the stick is above the crossbar will be penalized with a penalty shot.
30. The result of all penalties is a penalty shot awarded to the other team. Penalty shots are taken immediately after an infraction, and are taken with the ball being placed at center ice according to breakaway type format.
31. For penalty shots, the ball is dead after the shot **or** at the conclusion of forward progress. Possession is always given to the defending team regardless of the outcome of the shot.

Any individual can take all penalty shots for a team if it so chooses (i.e. the shot does not have to be taken by the player that was infringed upon).

Shoot Outs

32. If the game reaches the 30-Minute time limit in a tie, the teams will go into a shootout to determine the winner.

Each team will nominate 3 players from their own team to participate in the shootout. Each of these shooters will be given one breakaway on the opposing goaltender. The team with the most goals at the end of the shootout will be declared the winner.

If the score remains tied after the initial shootout round, the shootout will move to sudden death format.

In the sudden death shootout, the same 3 players must shoot in the same order as they did during the initial shootout round.

Sudden death shoot out rounds continue until a winner is declared.

Equipment Requirements

33. Goaltenders should bring their own goaltender equipment. The Referee reserves the right to reject the use of this equipment if it is deemed unsafe or unfair to the opposing team. **Goal pads may be no wider than 13". Pad measurements can only be requested before the start of a game.** If pads are illegal, they are banned from the event and a penalty shot awarded to the opposing team. If the pads are legal, the team that requested the measurement will have a penalty shot awarded against them.
34. A limited number of masks, pads, blockers and trappers will be available for use (free of charge) during the tournament, and on a first come first serve basis. A credit card will be required to sign equipment out, but will not be charged unless the equipment is not returned. **Goal equipment must be returned after each game.**
35. Sticks and running shoes will NOT be provided and are required by all participants. All sticks are subject to examination by the referee prior to each game. Any type of stick (wood, graphite, plastic blade, etc.) can be used, but if the stick is chipped, sharp, or deemed potentially dangerous at any time before or during game action, its use will not be allowed. Curves of all kinds are allowable; all true street hockey players know that there is no such thing as an illegal curve in street hockey!
36. **Some form of eye protection (either masks or goggles strapped securely around the head) is REQUIRED for all participants age 13 and under. Such protection must cover the entire eye, and is subject to examination / approval of the referee and/or tournament supervisor.**
37. Gloves, helmets, eye protection, jocks, mouth guards and shin guards are STRONGLY ENCOURAGED FOR ALL PARTICIPANTS, but are not mandatory.

Rain Plan

38. Play On! will proceed rain or shine except under conditions of severe weather systems.
39. Under the threat of such circumstances, all teams should report to the street rink on which its division's games are scheduled.

Games will be played until 10 goals or 20 minutes, without halftime or any significant warm-up. At the end of the 20-minute period, the team that is ahead is declared the winner. If a game reaches the time limit in a tie, the teams will go into a shootout to determine the winner.

All teams must stay near their rink at all times, as games will be played in rotation and will progress quickly. If a Team is not present at the time an official calls for the game, the absent team(s) will risk forfeiture.

Be sure to come to the event prepared for any kind of weather!

Other Rules

40. Unless otherwise notified, all printed schedules are operative only through the first game for all teams. After that, each team is advised to check the Master Scoreboard for all schedules, times, rinks, revisions, and other important information. We reserve the right to reduce the number of games or shorten games in the case of inclement weather or any other unforeseen circumstances. Be aware that if you choose to leave the event site, you might miss out on important event related / scheduling information.
41. A player must leave the game when an abrasion has flowing blood. Once the flow has stopped and there is no chance of blood contacting other players, the player with the abrasion may re-enter the game.