

# MANITOBA LACROSSE ASSOCIATION

## BOX DIRECTORATE DISCIPLINARY RULES and RULE INTERPRETATION 2007

***THE FOLLOWING PENALTIES ARE AUTOMATIC SUSPENSIONS:***

***\*\*AUTOMATIC\*\* MEANS THAT THE COACHES SIT THE PLAYER UNTIL THEY HEAR FROM THE LEAGUE PRESIDENT. Refer to rule #14 Notification Is Not Required***

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# **DISCIPLINARY RULES**

## **1. MATCH PENALTY – “ATTEMPT TO INJURE”**

### Match Penalties (ref Rule 80)

A match penalty shall be a major penalty assessed to a player/goalkeeper to be served by a substitute player. Any player/goalkeeper who receives a match penalty shall be ejected from that game and immediately suspended until the appropriate governing body rules on the incident.

Penalty assessed under the following rules:

- Rule 30 Attempt to Injure
- Rule 33 Boarding (where rule 30 is applied)
- Rule 35 Butt Ending (where rule 30 is applied)
- Rule 37 Charging (where rule 30 is applied)
- Rule 38 Checking from Behind (where rule 30 is applied)
- Rule 57 Kicking a Player (where a Match is assessed)
- Rule 62 Molesting an Official (any intentional contact with any official)
- Rule 65 Spearing (where a Match is assessed)
- Any situation where in the referee’s discretion Rule 30 Attempt to Injure is applied, i.e.: Match Penalties for Slashing, High Sticking, Cross Checking, etc.

<b>1st Offence</b>	Three (3) Games
<b>2nd Offence</b>	Five (5) Games
<b>3rd Offence</b>	Hearing by League Disciplinary Committee

## **2. MAJOR PENALTIES**

Serious infractions that are assessed Major Penalties under the following rules:

- Rule 35 Attempted Butt Ending
- Rule 65 Attempted Spearing
- Rule 57 Attempted Kicking of a Player

**A GAME MISCONDUCT WILL BE ASSESSED IN ADDITION TO THE 5-MINUTE PENALTY AND THE FOLLOWING DISCIPLINE ACTION WILL APPLY.**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Offence** – One (1) game
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Offence** – Three (3) games
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Offence** – Hearing by the League

### **3. ATTEMPT TO INJURE WITH MALICE**

When a player has been assessed a **MATCH PENALTY** for **ATTEMPT TO INJURE** under any of the appropriate rules and has demonstrated a clear case of malice, a **five (5) game suspension** will be given and a hearing by the League will be conducted.

### **4. GROSS MISCONDUCT**

Due to the seriousness of this infraction, League President or Designate must confirm the facts of the game report where a gross misconduct has been assessed. The League will forward all gross misconduct infractions to the MLA Director of Officials for review before ruling on the infraction. If the facts reveal that the incident falls short of being a gross misconduct a League President in consultation with their respective Disciplinary Committee and the MLA Director of Officials may reduce the penalty to a lesser category as deemed appropriate. (**Assessed under Rule 48 in the CLA Rulebook**)

- Rule 48(a)** The Referee shall assess a gross misconduct Penalty to any player or non-playing personnel who:
- (i) makes derogatory comments based upon race, ethnic origin, religious background or gender.
  - (ii) threatens a Referee or an Official.
  - (iii) makes obscene gestures.
  - (iv) persists in such behaviour after being ejected from a game.
  - (v) behaves in any manner to dishonour, embarrass or disgrace the game.

**Rule 48(b)** The Referee shall report the incident to the appropriate governing body.

Any participant found to have committed a “GROSS MISCONDUCT” (as described in Rule 48 of the CLA Playing Rules) shall be assessed a five (5) game suspension and a hearing by the local Disciplinary Committee will be conducted.

Any participant whom is assessed a “GROSS MISCONDUCT” for threatening a Referee or an Official shall be suspended until a hearing by the local Disciplinary Committee. In such cases a minimum One (1) year (12 months from the date of infraction) Suspension is recommended.

### **5. ABUSE OF OFFICIALS AND MISCONDUCT**

Abuse of Officials and Misconduct – For infractions of **Rule 28 ABUSE OF OFFICIALS AND MISCONDUCT** the following levels of action will apply. (Note: this rule covers both Referees and Minor Officials such as Timekeepers, Scorekeepers, Offensive Time Clock operators, etc.)

**Level 1: Game Misconduct** assessed for simple (misconduct) and or (unsportsmanlike conduct).

**1<sup>st</sup> Offence** – No further disciplinary action is warranted

**2<sup>nd</sup> Offence** – Two (2) games

**3<sup>rd</sup> Offence** – \*Players who receive three (3) Game Misconducts in a season will be reported to the local Discipline committee for investigation and the MLA Director of Officials will be notified of the outcome.

**Note:** Coach/Bench Personnel who receive the Third Game Misconduct are to be reported to the MLA for further possible action.

**Level 2: Abuse of Official.** Game Misconducts assessed for Abuse of an Official.

**1<sup>st</sup> Offence** – **Three (3) games**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Offence** – **Five (5) games**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Offence** – **Hearing by local Disciplinary Committee**

**Note:** Coach/Bench Personnel who receive the second offence shall be reported to the MLA for possible further action.

**Level 3: Assault of an Official** (Physical or Verbal) – Match, Game or Gross Misconducts assessed under the following rules:

- **Rule 28 Abuse of Officials and Misconduct**
- **Rule 48 Gross Misconduct**
- **Rule 62 Molesting Officials**

Any player found to have physically or verbally threatened a Referee or other Game Official (Assault of an Official) shall be suspended until a hearing of the local Disciplinary Committee. Any Coach/Bench Personnel found to physically or verbally threaten a Referee or other game Official (Assault of an Official) shall be suspended until a hearing by the MLA. In such cases a minimum One (1) Year (12 months from the date of the infraction) Suspension is recommended.

**6. UNNECESSARY ROUGHNESS, MAJOR PENALTIES**

Assessed under rule 72 b:

Rule 72(b) UNNECESSARY ROUGHNESS, grabbing the facemask, helmet or chinstrap, hair pulling or head butting. **A Game Misconduct will be assessed in addition to the five (5) minute penalty.**

**1<sup>st</sup> Offence** – Three (3) games

**2<sup>nd</sup> Offence** – Five (5) games

**3<sup>rd</sup> Offence** – Hearing by the local Disciplinary Committee

**7. FIGHTING**

**A Game Misconduct will be assessed in addition to the five (5) minute penalty.**

**1st Offence** – One (1) Game

**2nd Offence** - Three (3) Games

**3rd Offence** - Hearing by local Disciplinary Committee

## **8. COACH OR MANAGER PULLING TEAM FROM FLOOR**

Suspension of coach or manager until a hearing by local Disciplinary Committee

## **9. FIGHTING OFF PLAYING SURFACE**

If the fight occurs during the jurisdiction of the referee (begin 15 minutes prior to the scheduled game time and shall continue until the teams have entered the dressing rooms after the game), the matter will be referred to the local Disciplinary Committee for investigation and hearing.

## **10. THIRD MAN IN**

**Each Offence - Two (2) Games**

Rule 67A Who is first to intervene in an altercation when in progress.

## **11. LEAVING PLAYER(S) OR PENALTY BENCH DURING AN ALTERCATION OR GOALTENDER LEAVING THEIR CREASE TO JOIN IN AN ALTERCATION.**

Two (2) games in addition to the balance of the game in which the infraction occurred.

## **12. UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF ALCOHOL OR DRUGS**

Immediate suspension and an automatic referral for hearing by local Disciplinary Committee.

## **13. MAJOR PENALTY**

A major penalty in the last ten (10) minutes of the 3<sup>rd</sup> period **receives an automatic game misconduct.**

## **14. THREE MAJORS IN ONE GAME**

ANY PLAYER WHO ACCUMULATES THREE MAJOR PENALTIES IN ONE GAME (ie: fighting, masking & kneeing – 3 separate offences in one incident) shall be assessed, in addition to the game misconduct assessed, the following:

**1st Offence - Two (2) Games**

**2nd Offence - Four (4) Games**

**3rd Offence - Hearing by local Disciplinary Committee**

## **15. FOUR MAJORS IN ONE SEASON**

ANY PLAYER WHO ACCUMULATES FOUR MAJOR PENALTIES IN ONE SEASON, will be assessed a one (1) game suspension. Subsequent major penalties: 5<sup>TH</sup> Major will be

assessed a one (1) game suspension, 6<sup>th</sup> Major will be assessed a two (2) game suspension, the 7<sup>th</sup> Major will be assessed a three (3) game suspension and an 8<sup>th</sup> Major will be assessed suspension until a Disciplinary Hearing is held. For the purpose of this Section a 10 minute game misconduct is not considered a major penalty.

## **16. PLAYING AN INELIGIBLE PLAYER**

ANY TEAM THAT PLAYS AN INELIGIBLE PLAYER OR WHO IS NOT PROPERLY REGISTERED PER MLA OPERATING POLICY **OR** while under a suspension by a Local League will lose any points earned from the games in which the ineligible player played. The Coach will be suspended for two (2) games for the first Offence and for the second Offence, an automatic referral to the Manitoba Lacrosse Association for the appropriate disciplinary action.

## **17. SUSPENSIONS TO COACHES, MANAGERS AND BENCH PERSONNEL**

COACHES, MANAGERS AND BENCH PERSONNEL WHO RECEIVE A SUSPENSION, will be reported to the local League President or Designate and the MLA.

## **18. SERVING A SUSPENSION**

A suspended player will be removed from **all team** games until he/she has served the suspension. This suspension may be served during MLA sanctioned tournament, league, playoff or Provincial Championship Games only. The suspended player cannot participate in exhibition games until such time that the suspension is fully served. The suspended person must not appear in the dressing room or on or near the player's bench. Any player suspended will be allowed to practice with the team. The MLA Policy of a Member not in Good Standing will apply.

Suspended coaches or bench personnel shall not be in the arena where their team is playing during a scheduled league game, exhibition game and sanctioned tournaments, playoffs or Provincial Championships. This includes dressing rooms at anytime before or after games or interacting with team in anyway/any where between periods. The MLA Policy of a Member not in Good Standing will apply.

A member may receive an initial verbal notification of a fine, suspension or decision directly face to face, or by telephone. This must be followed by a formal written notification presented, faxed, e-mailed or post-marked within seventy-two (72) hours to the member after initial verbal notification.

## **19. NUMBER OF BENCH PERSONNEL**

### **NO MORE THAN FOUR (4) PERSONNEL ARE ALLOWED ON THE BENCH.**

All personnel on the bench during a regular playing of a lacrosse game which is governed by a qualified official shall have as the minimum one of the following accreditations:

- Coaches who meet the minimum requirements outlined on the Form 100B
- Trainers who at minimum possess a “First Responder” or has successfully attended the Trainer’s Aid Course.

## **RULE INTERPRETATION**

### **Butt Ending (Rule 35(a))**

All “Spike Checks” are to be called “**Butt Ending**” with corresponding penalty. Where a player jabs, punches or swings the exposed butt end of the stick below their bottom hand, a **Butt Ending** penalty will be called.

### **Checking from Behind (Rule 38)**

See Technical Bulletin.

### **Slashing (Rule 64)**

Rule 64(a) Note 2

- **NOTE:** A player/goalkeeper may not strike an opponent with that portion of the stick not held between the hands. Stick-to-stick contact is allowed but hands (gloves) are considered part of the body and may not be touched.

### **Cross Checking (Rule 40)**

- Zero tolerance to cross checking during line changes by either team.
- All chopping action while checking to be called.
- Cross checking on the non-ball carrier in the defensive zone of the team with possession to be called.

### **Major Penalties (ref Rule 77)**

Rule 77(a) and (b) and 77(b) Note

- (a) Major penalties require the removal of the offending player (other than the designated goalkeepers) without substitute for five minutes. (“...**unless terminated by goals.**” **Has been removed (see Rule 77(b))**)
- (b) If a team is short-handed due to receiving a major penalty and the opposing team scores two goals, the short-handed team is allowed to substitute for the penalized player from the bench. The penalized player shall serve the full five minutes and will return to the bench on the next dead ball following the expiration of the penalty.
- (c) **NOTE:** A dead ball is defined as a stoppage for a face-off, a penalty or a time-out. A turnover for a 10 second call, a 30 second call, an out of bounds call or another possession type call does not constitute a dead ball.

### **Ten Minute Misconduct Penalties (ref Rule 78)**

Ten-minute misconduct penalties require the removal of the offending player (other than the designated goalkeepers) for ten minutes. A substitute shall be permitted immediately. The

Player shall remain in the penalty bench until the first face-off after the misconduct has expired.

### **Game Misconduct Penalties (ref Rule 79)**

Game misconduct penalties require the removal of the offending Player/goalkeeper for the remainder of the game. Any other penalties incurred by the player shall be served by another player. Ten minutes shall be charged in the records against any players assessed game misconduct penalties. **(Game misconduct penalties do not count in accumulation under Rule 14)**

### **Match Penalties (ref Rule 80)**

**A match penalty shall be a major penalty** assessed to a player/goalkeeper to be served by a substitute player. Any player/goalkeeper who receives a match penalty shall be ejected from that game and immediately suspended until the appropriate governing body rules on the incident.

### **Expulsions (ref Rule 81)**

Any Player/goalkeeper who is assessed five penalties in the same game shall be expelled from playing the balance of the game.

### **Additional Games**

Depending upon the severity of the penalty, additional games may be imposed by the League Disciplinary Committee with consultation of the Referee report and the MLA Director of Officials.

**These rules were passed and are effective as of 2007.**

## APPENDIX A

### MANITOBA LACROSSE ASSOCIATION

#### *OFFENCE/DEFENCE RULES AND FOLLOW-UP*

1. All Minor Association Coach Coordinators will be advised that they are responsible for the actions of their coaches. They are also to advise all association coaches that the practice of playing the offence/defence system when even strength is prohibited in Minor lacrosse as per current operating policy and such action can result in suspensions.
2. If any Zone/Association Coaching Coordinator, League Commissioner, MLA Executive Member or Minor Executive becomes aware of ANY coach utilizing offence/defence on a persistent basis as a tactic, while at even strength, they are to advise by phone or electronic means the MLA VP of Development. The VP will formally advise the Association Coaching Coordinator/Head Coach of the incident and it will be their responsibility to ensure that the Coach has been formally warned and that the first infraction has been recorded.
3. If the Coach is again found to be utilizing the offence/defense tactic by the above named persons in Paragraph 2, they will advise the MLAVP of Development. If this is the second infraction the MLA VP of Development will advise the League President to assess a TWO-GAME Suspension.
4. If found a third time, the Coach will receive an automatic FIVE-GAME Suspension and attend a hearing called by the Manitoba Lacrosse Association. This hearing may determine the future status of that Coach.
5. If, in any Provincial play downs, Provincial Championships, or Nationals, offence/defence is found to be utilized by a MLA Registered Coach, they will be immediately suspended for the remainder of the year. A timely hearing will then be held by the Manitoba Lacrosse Association, to determine the future status of said Coach per MLA timelines.
6. It is the responsibility of the MLA VP of Development to ensure that a complete up-to-date record of such infractions is kept both by the MLA Executive Director.

## **APPENDIX B**

### **19. NUMBER OF BENCH PERSONNEL**

NO MORE THAN FOUR (4) PERSONNEL ARE ALLOWED ON THE BENCH, excluding a trainer. The team trainer shall be included on the bottom of the score sheet.

All personnel on the bench during a regular playing of a lacrosse game which is governed by a qualified official shall have as the minimum one of the following accreditations:

- Coaches who met the minimum requirements outlined on the Form 100B
- Door Persons registered on a form 100 (if utilizing more than two, add extra sheet to the Form 100B)
- Trainers who at minimum possesses a “First Responder” or has successfully attended the Trainer’s Aid Course.