



# *Head Contact*



*A Training Course for Minor & Female Division Referees*

*Presented by the Greater Toronto Hockey League*

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GTHL Head Contact Training Course - 1st Edition





# *Head Contact*



*A Training Course for Minor & Female Division Referees*

*Created by Steve Wallace  
GTHL Technical Director of Officiating*



# Course Description

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This course focuses on Hockey Canada's Head Contact playing rule as it applies to Minor and Female hockey divisions, and is for officials of all HCOP levels. It is a self paced training course that can easily be accomplished in the comfort of one's home or office in 1.5 to 2 hours.



# Course Instructions

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This course is divided into 6 parts. Work through these parts in sequence. Internet access is required to view video clips that are referenced during Parts 2 and 5 of the course.



# GTHL's Head Contact Training Course

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For more information about the Head Contact rule and its application, for information about this course, or to report errors and omissions, please contact:

*GTHL Technical Director of Officiating*  
*tdo@gthlcanada.com.*





# *Head Contact*

## *Introduction*



# GTHL's Head Contact Training Course

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Research reveals that multiple exposures to concussions (which is a form of brain injury) can have devastating long term effects on an individual's health. Research also shows that youth have no special ability to absorb or recover from blows to the head due to their age. In fact, youth are more susceptible to debilitating, career-ending brain injuries than adults.



# GTHL's Head Contact Training Course

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Prevention of head contact as a way of reducing the number and severity of brain, head, facial and neck injuries is being emphasized during the 2011-2012 hockey season.





# Learning Outcomes

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On completion of this training course you will be very knowledgeable about Hockey Canada's Head Contact playing rule. Specifically, you will:

- *Be knowledgeable about the penalties that are assessed in Minor & Female division hockey under the Head Contact rule, and*
- *Know how to apply the Head Contact rules correctly in all situations in Minor and Female hockey games.*



# Course Overview

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*Part 1: The Head Contact Rule*

*Part 2: Special Instructions from the Board of Directors*

*Part 3: Video Examples of Head Contact Infractions*

*Part 4: Clarifications about the Application of the Head Contact Rules in Minor or Female Hockey*

*Part 5: Head Contact Penalty Standards Video Review*

*Part 6: Head Contact Rule Application Quiz*





# *Head Contact*



## *Part One*

### *The Head Contact Rule*



# The Head Contact Rule

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## Introduction

Part One of the course is designed to introduce you to the various components of Hockey Canada's playing rule 6.5 - the Head Contact rule - that apply to its Minor and Female divisions.



# The Head Contact Rule

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## Learning Outcomes

On completion of Part One you should:

1. Be familiar with the four parts of Rule 6.5 that apply to Minor and Female hockey divisions, and
2. Know how the criteria used to distinguish head contact situations where double Minor penalties should be assessed from situations where a Major + Game Misconduct (GM 72) should be assessed



# Rule Change!!!

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~~Checking to the Head~~

Playing Rule 6.5

is now called

## Head Contact



# Head Contact

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Although the rule's name has changed the signal has not.

# Head Contact

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Head Contact rule changes effective this season apply to Minor & Female hockey only.

Previously used degree of force categories (minimal, moderate and severe) no longer apply.

The Head Contact rule as it applies to Junior & Senior hockey has not changed.





# Head Contact

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*New*

Rule 6.5(a)

**Accidental** contact

with stick, body or equipment

to an opponent's head, face or neck

=

**Minor** penalty for **Head Contact**



# Head Contact

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**New**

Rule 6.5(b)

**Intentional** contact

with stick, body or equipment  
to an opponent's head, face or neck

=

**Double Minors (2 + 2)**

or

**Major + Game Misconduct (5 + GM 72)**

**for Head Contact**



# Head Contact

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## Rule 6.5(b)

**Intentional** Head Contact penalties:

**(2 + 2) or (5 + GM)**

Penalties assessed are based on  
the degree of violence of impact.



# Head Contact

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Hockey Canada has not provided specific information about the point at which the degree of violence of impact should result in a Major + Game Misconduct penalties as opposed to double Minors.

In the absence of such information the GTHL Board of Directors has directed that the referee's opinion about whether the force of the impact is or is not totally absorbed by the affected player's protective equipment shall determine which classes of penalties should be assessed.



# Head Contact

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Double Minors or Major + GM ??

If the force of impact is such that the protective equipment totally absorbs the force of contact with the head, face or neck then it is assumed that NO real risk of injury exists. When this is the case double Minors will be assessed for a head contact infraction.



# Head Contact

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Double Minors or Major + GM ??

If the force of impact is such that the protective equipment is **UNABLE** to totally absorb the force of contact with the head, face or neck then it is assumed that there **IS** some risk of injury. When this is the case a Major + Game Misconduct penalties for head contact should be assessed.



# Head Contact

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## Intentional Head Contact Penalties

Force of impact is totally absorbed by protective equipment (hence NO real risk of injury exists)

=

**Double  
Minors  
(2 + 2)**

Force of the impact is **NOT** totally absorbed by protective equipment (hence some risk of injury exists)

=

**Major + Game  
Misconduct  
(5 + GM)**



# Head Contact

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**New**

Rule 6.5(d)

**Head Contact that results in Injury**

=

Major + Game Misconduct (GM 72)

(if injury was unintentional)

or

Match (MP 72)

(if injury was intentional)





# Head Contact

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## Some Signs & Symptoms of Injury \*

- *Loss of consciousness*
- *Loss of coordination*
- *Inability to focus*
- *Cut lip*
- *Bleeding nose*
- *Loss of equilibrium*
- *Slow or slurred speech*
- *Dazed or stunned demeanor*
- *Delayed response to questions*
- *Broken teeth*

\* Reference: Hockey Canada *Concussion In Sport* reference card.



# Head Contact

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## Some Signs & Symptoms of Injury

- *Loss of consciousness*
- *Loss of coordination*
- *Inability to focus*
- *Cut lip*
- *Bleeding nose*
- *Loss of equilibrium*
- *Slow or slurred speech*
- *Dazed or stunned demeanor*
- *Delayed response to questions*
- *Broken teeth*

Referees should check players who are struck in the head for these indicators. An injury has occurred if one or more indicators exist.



# Head Contact

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## Signs & Symptoms of Injury

Many of the signs and symptoms are well below the injury threshold used in previous years. The lower injury standard will require a significant adjustment on the part of most officials this year. If in doubt or conflicted in your assessment, assume injury.



# Head Contact

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## Assessing Potentially Injured Players

Referee's must make an injury assessment in cases where the injury may not be obvious. This assessment should be made without interacting or interfering with the trainer. Consultation with other on-ice officials before making a final decision about injury is a good practice that is encouraged.



# Head Contact

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**New**

Rule 6.5(e)

**Head Contact** that is a

**Deliberate Attempt to Injure**

**or**

**Results in a Deliberate Injury**

**=**

**Match (MP 72)**



# Head Contact

## Penalty Matrix

Minor	Double Minors	Major + GM	Match
Accidental contact without injury	Intentional contact with NO real risk of injury	Intentional contact with real risk of injury --- or --- Accidental or intentional contact that results in unintentional injury	Deliberate attempt to injure --- or --- Deliberate injury



# The Head Contact Rule

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This concludes Part One of the GTHL's Head Contact training course. You should now be familiar with the four components of rule 6.5 that apply to Minor and Female hockey divisions. You should also know that the factor that determines whether double Minors or, alternatively, a Major + Game Misconduct (GM 72) are assessed is whether the force of contact is or is not fully absorbed by the protective equipment worn.





# *Head Contact*



*Part Two*

*Special Instruction from  
the GTHL Board of Directors*



# Head Contact

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## **Special Instruction from the GTHL Board of Directors**

*Situations involving head contact are often difficult to evaluate without the benefit of video replay. In border-line cases where the Referee is conflicted as to which penalties to assess, Referees are to issue the strictest set penalties that may apply.*





# *Head Contact*



## *Part Three*

### *Video Examples of*

### *Head Contact Infractions*

# Head Contact Infractions - Video Examples

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## Introduction

Part Three of the course is designed to show you video examples of head contact infractions and to inform you about which class or classes should be assessed given the type and degree of contact to the head, face or neck observed in each example.



# Head Contact Infractions - Video Examples

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## Learning Outcome

On completion of Part Three you should be familiar with the factors and criteria used by the League to decide which class or classes of penalties should be assessed under the Head Contact rule in any given situation.



# Head Contact Infractions - Video Examples

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## Instructions

Each of the next 8 presentation slides provides a link to a specific video clip that involves head contact. Read the notes on the slide then click on the link or copy the link into your internet browser to watch the video.



# Head Contact Infractions - Video Examples

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Review video clip #1 at:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iXsELuL5cYc>

- In this clip head contact is accidental & NO injury occurs
- Note that head contact occurs due to the action of the offending player
- This infraction should result in a **Minor** penalty
- Rule 6.5(a) applies



# Head Contact Infractions - Video Examples

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Review video clip #2 at:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JzVQkD4BEs>

- This infraction is very close to the line that distinguishes infractions worthy of a Minor from those worthy of double Minor penalties
- Assess a Minor under rule 6.5(a) if head contact is considered accidental & no injury occurred
- Assess double Minors under rule 6.5(b) if head contact occurred and it was considered intentional



# Head Contact Infractions - Video Examples

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Review video clip #3 at:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oONafgwj0TE>

- This clip shows intentional contact with no real risk of injury (i.e., the protective equipment totally absorbed the force of the contact)
- Double Minors should be assessed under rule 6.5(b)





# Head Contact Infractions - Video Examples

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Review video clip #4 at:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=05HmsRhkkw4>

- This infraction is very close to the line that distinguishes infractions worthy of double Minors from those worthy of a Major + Game Misconduct
- Assess double Minors if it is felt that there is NO real risk of injury
- Assess Major + GM 72 if it is felt that the force of the contact is NOT fully absorbed by the helmet



# Head Contact Infractions - Video Examples

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Review video clip #5 at:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x8UquJCEmFs>

- This clip shows intentional head contact where the force of the hit is NOT totally absorbed by the protective equipment
- Assess Major + Game Misconduct (GM 72) under rule 6.5(b)
- Rule 6.5(d) would apply if injury actually occurs



# Head Contact Infractions - Video Examples

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Review video clip #6 at:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mxe8tAUveFs>

- This clip involves intentional head contact. A real risk of injury exists because the force is not totally absorbed by the protective equipment
- Major + Game Misconduct (GM 72) under rule 6.5(b) should be called
- Rule 6.5(d) would apply if injury actually occurred



# Head Contact Infractions - Video Examples

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Review video clip #7 at:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G0wJu7OCq9s>

This clip is an example of a deliberate attempt to injure. The offending player is focused solely on punishing the opponent through a forceful hit to the head. A Match penalty (MP 72) should be assessed under rule 6.5(e). If injury actually occurs this would be an example of a deliberate injury situation



# Head Contact Infractions - Video Examples

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Review video clip #8 at:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gGPVDLFAwEk>

This clip is an example of a situation worthy of a Match penalty because it is a deliberate attempt to injure or results in a deliberate injury. Assess a Match (MP 72) penalty under rule 6.5(e).



# Head Contact Infractions - Video Examples

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This concludes Part 3 of the GTHL's Head Contact training course. You should now be familiar with the criteria used by Referee's to determine which class or classes of penalties should be assessed under the Head Contact rule.





# *Head Contact*



## *Part Four*

### *Clarifications about the Application of the Head Contact Rule in Minor Hockey*

# Head Contact Rule Clarifications

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## Introduction

Part Four is designed to inform you about specific directives and instructions that affect how and when the Head Contact rules should be applied in Minor and Female hockey.





# Head Contact Rule Clarifications

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## Learning Outcome

On completion of Part Four you should be familiar specific directives and instructions that relate to the Head Contact rules.



# Head Contact Rule Clarifications

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## Instructions

Review and study the content of each of the slides in this part of the course.



# Head Contact Rule Clarifications

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Head Contact is this season's Rule Emphasis.

Call *Head Contact* in place of other rules when contact to the head, face or neck occurs.\*

- \* Exception: Head contact that occurs between combatants during a fight is NOT penalized under the Head Contact rule.



# Head Contact Rule Clarifications

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Head contact infractions occur when contact to the head, face or neck is caused in whole or in part by the movement or action of the offending player.

A player cannot draw a Head Contact penalty by intentionally creating a situation in which an opponent cannot possibly avoid contacting the player's head, face or neck.



# Head Contact Rule Clarifications

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A player cannot draw a Head Contact penalty by intentionally creating a situation in which an opponent cannot possibly avoid contacting the player's head, face or neck.

Example:

A player about to be checked ducks at the last second thereby creating contact to the head. Contact is completely unavoidable by the player delivering the check.

Referee's Decision: NO Head Contact penalty.



# Head Contact Rule Clarifications

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## High Sticking

Contact to the head, face or neck is signaled & reported as Head Contact.

The only way to get a High-Sticking penalty is when the stick is held high to intimidate an opponent or during a check and there is NO actual contact made with the stick.



# Head Contact Rule Clarifications

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## Elbowing

Elbow to the head, face or neck signaled & reported as Head Contact.

Elbow to other parts of the body signaled and reported as Elbowing.



# Head Contact Rule Clarifications

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## Cross-Checking

An email issued by the Ontario Hockey Federation's Executive Director on September 2, 2011 directs that all cross-checks to the head, face or neck shall be signaled and reported as Head Contact fouls. This decree creates an unusual solution in some head contact situations...





# Head Contact Rule Clarifications

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## Cross-Checking (continued)

...Rule 6.5(b) calls for double Minors when the force of contact poses no risk of injury...

...but...

...Rule 8.2(b) calls for Major + GM for cross-check above normal height of the shoulders.

Which rule has precedence? ...



# Head Contact Rule Clarifications

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## Cross-Checking (continued)

As per direction provided in an email from the OHF's Executive Director dated Sep 2, 2011, the most stringent penalties are to be assessed...



# Head Contact Rule Clarifications

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## Cross-Checking (continued)

...Therefore, any cross-check to the head, face or neck of an opponent (even when the force of the contact is absorbed by the protective equipment) shall result in a Major + Game Misconduct (as per Rule 8.2b). Strangely, however, the infraction is to be signaled and reported as Major + GM 72 for Head Contact.



# Head Contact Rule Clarifications

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## Roughing After The Whistle

Penalize deliberate physical contact after the whistle under the Head Contact rule if contact with head, face or neck is involved.



# Head Contact Rule Clarifications

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## Roughing After The Whistle (continued)

In instances where Head Contact occurs as part of an altercation after the whistle **IGNORE** the requirement to penalize the team that initiates deliberate physical contact after the whistle.\*



- \* This directive was issued verbally by the Referee-in-Chief of Hockey Canada during a presentation to Branch Technical Directors of Officiating and Referee-in-Chiefs in Ottawa on July 23, 2011.



# Head Contact Rule Clarifications

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## Roughing After The Whistle (continued)

In instances where Head Contact occurs as part of an altercation after the whistle **IGNORE** the requirement to penalize the team that initiates deliberate physical contact after the whistle.

Example:

A3 intentionally bumps into B6 after the whistle. B6 retaliates with a face wash that cannot be overlooked.

A3: 2 (RAW)

B6: 2+2 (HC)



# Head Contact Rule Clarifications

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## Fighting

Head contact that occurs between combatants as part of a fight is **NOT** penalized under the Head Contact rule.



This is the **ONLY** exception to the directive to penalize all instances of head contact under the Head Contact rule.

# Head Contact Rule Clarifications

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This concludes Part Four of the GTHL's Head Contact training course. You should now be familiar with directives and instructions related to how and when the Head Contact rule is to be applied in Minor and Female hockey.







# *Head Contact*



*Part Five*

*Head Contact Penalty Standards*

*Video Review*

# Head Contact Penalty Standards

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## Introduction

Part Five is designed to hone your application of the Head Contact rules by providing you opportunities to watch and react to game situations presented on video.



# Head Contact Penalty Standards

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## Learning Outcome

On completion of Part Five you should be able to correctly apply your knowledge of the Head Contact rules and their application in realistic game scenarios.



# Head Contact Penalty Standards

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## Instructions

You will be presented with 12 random video clips that may or may not involve head contact. Watch each clip closely then write down on a note pad the penalties you would assess along with the rationale for your decision.

After you have committed to a decision on paper, compare your notes with the suggested solution presented in the next slide.



# Head Contact Penalty Standards

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## Clip #9

Review video clip #9 at the link below then write your answer on a note pad before advancing to the next slide.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NVzH-6bVoPI>



# Head Contact Penalty Standards

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## Clip #9

### Major + Game Misconduct

- *The contact was intentional*
- *The force of blow was not fully absorbed by helmet*
- *Injury may have occurred*
- *Match penalty is an acceptable alternative call if the foul was considered a deliberate attempt to injure*



# Head Contact Penalty Standards

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## Clip #10

Review video clip #10 at the link below then write your answer on a note pad before advancing to the next slide.

<http://youtu.be/OodWQsRUquM>



# Head Contact Penalty Standards

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## Clip #10

### Match for Deliberate Attempt to Injure\*

- *The elbow was extended deliberately and forcefully*
- *The head was intentionally “targeted”*
- *\* Match assessed for Deliberate Injury if injury actually occurred*





# Head Contact Penalty Standards

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## Clip #11

Review video clip #11 at the link below then write your answer on a note pad before advancing to the next slide.

<http://youtu.be/Oer-jlzgYqM>



# Head Contact Penalty Standards

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## Clip #11

### Major + Game Misconduct for Head Contact

- *The infraction was intentional*
- *Note that the contact caused the player's head to turn*
- *The force was NOT wholly absorbed by the facial protector*
- *There was a real risk of injury to the jaw and head*



# Head Contact Penalty Standards

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## Clip #12

Review video clip #12 at the link below then write your answer on a note pad before advancing to the next slide.

[http://youtu.be/UqBBLh\\_IYgo](http://youtu.be/UqBBLh_IYgo)



# Head Contact Penalty Standards

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## Clip #12

### Double Minors for Head Contact

- *The infraction was intentional*
- *The contact is best described as “grazing”*
- *The force is absorbed by the helmet – No impact type force is delivered to the head, face or neck*
- *There was NO real risk of injury to the jaw or head*



# Head Contact Penalty Standards

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## Clip #13

Review video clip #13 at the link below and write your answer on a note pad before advancing to the next slide.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r6oLvP07NOU>



# Head Contact Penalty Standards

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## Clip #13

### Double Minors for Head Contact

- *The infraction was intentional*
- *The contact was of a restraining (holding) type and NO impact force was transmitted to the head, face or neck*
- *There was NO real risk of injury*



# Head Contact Penalty Standards

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## Clip #14

Review video clip #14 at the link below and write your answer on a note pad before advancing to the next slide.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J9-DXyG3Xuc>



# Head Contact Penalty Standards

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## Clip #14

*3 White: Major + Game Misconduct (Fighting) + Minor (Instigator – Threw the 1<sup>st</sup> punch)*

*10 Red: Major + Game Misconduct (Fighting)*

*Head contact between combatants as part of a fight is NOT penalized under the Head Contact rule.*





# Head Contact Penalty Standards

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## Clip #15

Review video clip #15 at the link below and write your answer on a note pad before advancing to the next slide.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KHcpBmyCafE>



# Head Contact Penalty Standards

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## Clip #15

### Match for Deliberate Attempt to Injure\*

- *The elbow was extended deliberately and forcefully*
- *The head was intentionally “targeted”*
- *\* Match assessed for Deliberate Injury if injury actually occurred*



# Head Contact Penalty Standards

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## Clip #16

Review video clip #16 at the link below and write your answer on a note pad before advancing to the next slide.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Yha1osPiRpM>



# Head Contact Penalty Standards

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## Clip #16

### Major + Game Misconduct for Head Contact

*Although it is debatable as to whether or not the shoulder - to-head contact was intentional, since injury occurs, Major + Game Misconduct penalties should be assessed.*



# Head Contact Penalty Standards

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## Clip #17

Review video clip #17 at the link below and write your answer on a note pad before advancing to the next slide.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2CHELNIXSb8>



# Head Contact Penalty Standards

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## Clip #17

Minor for High-Sticking to both players

- *No contact to the head, face or neck occurred*
- *Each players stick has held above height of the shoulders while checking an opponent*



# Head Contact Penalty Standards

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## Clip #18

Review video clip #18 at the link below then write your answer on a note pad before advancing to the next slide.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MVapUS6m51E>



# Head Contact Penalty Standards

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## Clip #18

### Match for Deliberate Attempt to Injure\*

- *The act seems to premeditated*
- *The player took advantage of the situation to punish his opponent*
- *Signaled and reported as Head Contact*

*\* Match assessed for Deliberate Injury if injury actually occurs*





# Head Contact Penalty Standards

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## Clip #19

Review Head Contact video clip #19 at the URL below and write your answer on a note pad before advancing to the next slide.

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J\\_JPT8yIGug](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J_JPT8yIGug)



# Head Contact Penalty Standards

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## Clip #19

Double Minor or, alternatively,  
Major & GM for Head Contact

- *The infraction was intentional*
- *Referee needs to consider whether or not the force was totally absorbed by the protective equipment to determine which set of penalties to assess*



# Head Contact Penalty Standards

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## Clip #20

Review video clip #20 at the link below then write your decision on a note pad before advancing to the next slide.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8yLmK5YYxXI>



# Head Contact Penalty Standards

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## Clip #20

### Match for Deliberate Injury

- *The player took full advantage of the situation to punish his opponent*
- *Signaled and reported as Head Contact since contact to the head was involved*
- *Loss of consciousness (a sign of a concussion injury) is very evident in this clip*



# Head Contact Penalty Standards

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This concludes Part Five of the GTHL's Head Contact training course. You should now be very capable of applying the Head Contact rules correctly.

Contact the GTHL's Technical Director of Officiating at [tdo@gthlcanada.com](mailto:tdo@gthlcanada.com) if you have any questions about the application of the Head Contact rules.





# *Head Contact*



*Part Six*

*Rule Application Quiz*

# Head Contact Rule Application Quiz

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## Introduction

Part Six presents 24 hypothetical situations to test your application of the Head Contact rules. The first 22 situations cover a wide range of Head Contact scenarios. The final 2 situations presented require an advanced knowledge of the rules, and are presented for consideration and discussion only because no clear solution is provided in the Referee's Case Book or correspondence issued by Hockey Canada or the Ontario Hockey Federation.



# Head Contact Rule Application Quiz

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## Learning Outcome

On completion of Part Six you should be able to correctly apply the Head Contact rules in hypothetical game situations that match your current officiating responsibilities and HCOP level.





# Head Contact Rule Application Quiz

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## Instructions

Review the situations in sequence. Each situation involves two slides: A “situation” slide and an “answer” slide.

Treat this part of the course as a quiz. Before advancing to the answer slide, write your decision down on paper. When done, look at the suggested solution on the answer slide.



# Head Contact Rule Application Quiz

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## Situation 1

*Two players are totally focused on battling for a loose puck along the boards. During the battle Player A moves laterally to bump Player B away from the puck. Due to a height differential Player A's shoulder pad accidentally contacts Player B's helmet. No injury occurs. SRD.*



# Head Contact Rule Application Quiz

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## Situation 1

*Two players are totally focused on battling for a loose puck along the boards. During the battle Player A moves laterally to bump Player B away from the puck. Due to a height differential Player A's shoulder pad accidentally contacts Player B's helmet. No injury occurs. SRD.*

*Minor (accidental) Head Contact.*



# Head Contact Rule Application Quiz

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## Situation 2

A3 shoots the puck and on the follow through his stick contacts B6's facial protector. SRD.



# Head Contact Rule Application Quiz

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## Situation 2

A3 shoots the puck and on the follow through his stick contacts B6's facial protector. SRD.

*Minor (Head Contact ) - Rule 6.5(a).*

*If injury results: Major + GM 72 (HC) - Rule 6.5(d).*



# Head Contact Rule Application Quiz

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## Situation 3

A3 stick checks B6 using a lift check. However, B6 lets go of her stick during the check and, due to lack of resistance and over enthusiasm, A3's stick grazes B6's helmet. No injury occurs. SRD.



# Head Contact Rule Application Quiz

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## Situation 3

A3 stick checks B6 using a lift check. However, B6 lets go of her stick during the check and, due to lack of resistance and over enthusiasm, A3's stick grazes B6's helmet. No injury occurs. SRD.

*Minor (HC) if considered accidental.*

*Double Minors (HC) if deemed intentional.*

*If the Referee is conflicted, double Minors should be assessed.*



# Head Contact Rule Application Quiz

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## Situation 4

A3 ducks as B6 attempts to deliver a body check resulting in B6's arm contacting A3's head. Head contact was created by the action of A3 and was completely unavoidable by B6. No injury occurred on the play. SRD.





# Head Contact Rule Application Quiz

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## Situation 4

A3 ducks as B6 attempts to deliver a body check resulting in B6's arm contacting A3's head. Head contact was created by the action of A3 and was completely unavoidable by B6. No injury occurred on the play. SRD.

*NO penalty.*

*A3's action caused unavoidable contact. However, if the Referee is conflicted about what happened, the appropriate Head Contact penalties should be assessed.*



# Head Contact Rule Application Quiz

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## Situation 5

A3 checks B6 in the chest with both gloves. A3's poor checking technique and inertia are such that her gloves ride up and make firm contact with B6's facial protector. This action results in a B6 getting a bleeding nose. SRD.

# Head Contact Rule Application Quiz

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## Situation 5

A3 checks B6 in the chest with both gloves. A3's poor checking technique and inertia are such that her gloves ride up and make firm contact with B6's facial protector. This action results in a B6 getting a bleeding nose. SRD.

*A3: Major + GM 72 (Head Contact) Rule 6.5(d)*

*A bleeding nose is a sign of injury.*

*A Match penalty is not assessed because the injury was not deliberate.*



# Head Contact Rule Application Quiz

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## Situation 6

A3 checks B6 from behind into the end boards. Contact to B6's head occurs as part of the play. B6 is unable to defend against the check from behind. SRD.

# Head Contact Rule Application Quiz

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## Situation 6

A3 checks B6 from behind into the end boards. Contact to B6's head occurs as part of the play. B6 is unable to defend against the check from behind. SRD.

*A3: Match penalty (Head Contact) - Rule 6.5(e).*

*When Head Contact occurs during a Checking from Behind infraction, penalize the foul under the Head Contact rule.*



# Head Contact Rule Application Quiz

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## Situation 7

After it is clear that the infraction was not seen by the Referee, a linesman reports that A3 intentionally punched an opponent in the face with sufficient force that there was a definite risk of injury even though none actually occurred. SRD.



# Head Contact Rule Application Quiz

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## Situation 7

After it is clear that the infraction was not seen by the Referee, a linesman reports that A3 intentionally punched an opponent in the face with sufficient force that there was a definite risk of injury even though none actually occurred. SRD.

*A3: Major + GM 72 (Head Contact) - Rule 6.5(b)*

*Rule 5.3(d) allows Linesman to report incidents that call for a Major penalty.*



# Head Contact Rule Application Quiz

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## Situation 8

A3 takes B6 into the boards firmly with a body check with his stick held high in the air. No contact with B6's head occurs but A3's stick just misses B6's head during the take-out. No injury occurs. SRD.





# Head Contact Rule Application Quiz

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## Situation 8

A3 takes B6 into the boards firmly with a body check with his stick held high in the air. No contact with B6's head occurs but A3's stick just misses B6's head during the take-out. No injury occurs. SRD.

*A3: Minor (High Stick) - Rule 8.3(a)*

*Penalty is assessed under the High Sticking rule because no contact with the opponent's head, face or neck occurred.*



# Head Contact Rule Application Quiz

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## Situation 9

The whistle sounds. Shortly thereafter A3 slashes goaltender B1 in the glove. B1 retaliates by punching A3 in the gut with his blocker. B1's retaliation cannot be overlooked. No injuries occur. SRD.



# Head Contact Rule Application Quiz

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## Situation 9

The whistles sounds. Shortly thereafter A3 slashes goaltender B1 in the glove. B1 retaliates by punching A3 in the gut with his blocker. B1's retaliation cannot be overlooked. No injuries occur. SRD.

*A3: Minor (RAW or SL) + Minor (RAW)*

*B1: Minor (RAW)*

*The RAW differential principle applies because no Head Contact occurred during the altercation.*



# Head Contact Rule Application Quiz

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## Situation 10

The whistles sounds. Shortly thereafter A3 slashes goaltender B1 in the glove. B1 retaliates by punching A3 in the head with his blocker. The force of the punch is such that A3's helmet is NOT capable of absorbing all of its force; there IS real risk of injury. Luckily, however, NO injury actually occurs. SRD.



# Head Contact Rule Application Quiz

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## Situation 10

The whistles sounds. Shortly thereafter A3 slashes goaltender B1 in the glove. B1 retaliates by punching A3 in the head with his blocker. The force of the punch is such that A3's helmet is NOT capable of absorbing all of its force; there IS real risk of injury. Luckily, however, NO injury actually occurs. SRD.

*A3: Minor (Slashing)*

*B1: Major + GM 72 (Head Contact) ...continued on next slide*



# Head Contact Rule Application Quiz

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## Situation 10

*A3: Minor (Slashing)*

*B1: Major + GM 72 (Head Contact)*

*In instances where Head Contact occurs as part of an altercation after the whistle **IGNORE** the requirement to penalize the team that initiates deliberate physical contact after the whistle.*



# Head Contact Rule Application Quiz

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## Situation 11

A3 punches B6 in the facial protector with sufficient force that there **IS** a real risk of injury. B6 retaliates with several punches and a fight between both players occurs. SRD



# Head Contact Rule Application Quiz

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## Situation 11

A3 punches B6 in the facial protector with sufficient force that there **IS** a real risk of injury. B6 retaliates with several punches and a fight between both players occurs. SRD

*A3: Major & GM (Fight) + Minor (Instigator)*

*B6: Major & GM (Fight)*

*Head contact that occurs between combatants as part of a fight is NOT penalized under the Head Contact rule.*





# Head Contact Rule Application Quiz

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## Situation 12

The whistles sounds. Shortly thereafter A3 slashes goaltender B1 in the glove. B6 retaliates by pushing (not punching) A3 in the facial protector to force him back. A3 retaliates with a single punch to B6's facemask that is sufficient to knock B6 to the ice. Luckily, NO injury actually occurs on the play. SRD.



# Head Contact Rule Application Quiz

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## Situation 12

The whistles sounds. Shortly thereafter A3 slashes goaltender B1 in the glove. B6 retaliates by pushing (not punching) A3 in the facial protector to force him back. A3 retaliates with a single punch to B6's facemask that is sufficient to knock B6 to the ice. Luckily, NO injury actually occurs on the play. SRD.

*A3: Major & GM 72 (HC) + Minor (SL)*

*B6: Minor (HC) + Minor (HC) ...continued on next slide*



# Head Contact Rule Application Quiz

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## Situation 12

*A3: Major & GM 72 (HC) + Minor (SL)*

*B6: Minor (HC) + Minor (HC)*

*A punch forceful enough to fell a player obviously involves more force than can be completely absorbed by the protective equipment. Therefore a Major + GM 72 is assessed under Rule 6.5(b).*

*...continued on next slide*



# Head Contact Rule Application Quiz

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## Situation 12

*A3: Major & GM 72 (HC) + Minor (SL)*

*B6: Minor (HC) + Minor (HC)*

*Also, because this post-whistle altercation involves a Head Contact infraction the case book instruction to call an extra minor against the first team guilty of deliberate physical contact after the whistle when the retaliation cannot be overlooked is NOT applied.*



# Head Contact Rule Application Quiz

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## Situation 13

A3 delivers a firm but legal body check to B6 which results in B6's head striking the glass. SRD.



# Head Contact Rule Application Quiz

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## Situation 13

A3 delivers a firm but “legal” body check to B6 which results in B6’s head striking the glass. SRD.

*A3: Minor (Boarding). Major + GM 57 (Boarding) if the degree of violence was significant or if injury occurs.*

*The Head Contact rule does not apply in this situation because the offending player did not make contact with the opponent’s head, face or neck.*

*...continued on next slide*



# Head Contact Rule Application Quiz

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## Situation 13

A3 delivers a firm but “legal” body check to B6 which results in B6’s head striking the glass. SRD.

*If a player is checked in a way that results in their head striking the glass they have clearly been thrown violently into the boards and a boarding penalty should be called.*



# Head Contact Rule Application Quiz

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## Situation 14

Shortly after the whistle sounds, A3 punches B6 in the chest. B6 retaliates by slashing A3 on the leg with sufficient force that it cannot be overlooked. NO injuries occur on the play. SRD.



# Head Contact

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## Situation 14

Shortly after the whistle sounds, A3 punches B6 in the chest. B6 retaliates by slashing A3 on the leg with sufficient force that it cannot be overlooked. NO injuries occur on the play. SRD.

***A3: Minor (RAW) + Minor (RAW)***

***B6: Minor (SL)***



# Head Contact Rule Application Quiz

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## Situation 15

Before play is stopped A3 pokes at B1's catching glove in an attempt to poke the puck free. In the referee's opinion, this action is worthy of a double Minor for spearing and play is immediately stopped. Shortly after the whistle sounds B6 gives A3 a face wash. A3 retaliates by punching B6 firmly in the chest. NO injuries occur on the play. SRD.

# Head Contact Rule Application Quiz

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## Situation 15

Before play is stopped A3 pokes at B1's catching glove in an attempt to poke the puck free. In the referee's opinion, this action is worthy of a double Minor for spearing and play is immediately stopped. Shortly after the whistle sounds B6 gives A3 a face wash. A3 retaliates by punching B6 firmly in the chest. NO injuries occur on the play. SRD.

*A3: Minor (SP) + Minor (SP) + Minor (RAW)*

*B6: Minor (HC) + Minor (HC) ...continued on next slide*



# Head Contact Rule Application Quiz

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## Situation 15

*A3: Minor (SP) + Minor (SP) + Minor (RAW)*

*B6: Minor (HC) + Minor (HC)*

*Since this post-whistle altercation involves a Head Contact infraction the case book instruction to call an extra minor against the team that initiates deliberate physical contact after the whistle when the retaliation cannot be overlooked does NOT apply. Penalize teams for infractions that actually occur.*



# Head Contact Rule Application Quiz

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## Situation 16

The whistles sounds. Shortly thereafter A3 shoves B6 in the chest. B6 shoves A3 back with equal force in the chest. A4 intervenes and wraps his arm around B6's neck and pulls him away from A3. Luckily, the situation does not escalate and NO injuries occur on the play. B6's retaliation cannot be overlooked. SRD.



# Head Contact Rule Application Quiz

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## Situation 16

The whistles sounds. Shortly thereafter A3 shoves B6 in the chest. B6 shoves A3 back with equal force in the chest. A4 intervenes and wraps his arm around B6's neck and pulls him away from A3. Luckily, the situation does not escalate and NO injuries occur on the play. B6's retaliation cannot be overlooked. SRD.

*A3: Minor (RAW)*

*B6: Minor (RAW)*

*A4: Minor (HC) + Minor (HC)*

*...continued on next slide*



# Head Contact Rule Application Quiz

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## Situation 16

*A3: Minor (RAW)*

*B6: Minor (RAW)*

*A4: Minor (HC) + Minor (HC)*

*A4's action of grabbing around the neck constitutes a Head Contact infraction. Since this post-whistle altercation involves a Head Contact infraction the case book instruction to call an extra minor against the team that initiates deliberate physical contact after the whistle when the retaliation cannot be overlooked does NOT apply. Therefore, do not assess an extra (phantom) Minor penalty for RAW to A3.*



# Head Contact Rule Application Quiz

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## Situation 17

A3 is down on the ice on hands and knees. B6 moves to pursue the puck and his knee strikes A3's head with enough force to **daze** A3. This is not a case of A3 trying to draw a penalty by intentionally exposing his head to contact. SRD.





# Head Contact Rule Application Quiz

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## Situation 17

A3 is down on the ice on hands and knees. B6 moves to pursue the puck and his knee strikes A3's head with enough force to **daze** A3. This is not a case of A3 trying to draw a penalty by intentionally exposing his head to contact. SRD.

*If A3 is “dazed” he is considered injured.*

*Major + GM 72 (HC) – Rule 6.5(d) applies.*



# Head Contact Rule Application Quiz

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## Situation 17

A3 is down on the ice on hands and knees. B6 moves to pursue the puck and his knee strikes A3's head with enough force to **daze** A3. This is not a case of A3 trying to draw a penalty by intentionally exposing his head to contact. SRD.

*Feeling dazed (or stunned) is one of the symptoms of a head injury. Therefore, although the incident may be considered accidental, Rule 6.5(d) still applies and Major + Game Misconduct penalties are assessed.*



# Head Contact Rule Application Quiz

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## Situation 18

A3 cross-checks B6 in the upper arm but inertia allows the cross-check to contact B6 in the neck. SRD.

# Head Contact Rule Application Quiz

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## Situation 18

A3 cross-checks B6 in the upper arm but inertia allows the cross-check to contact B6 in the neck. SRD.

*Major + GM 72 (Head Contact) \**

*\* Reference: OHF Executive Director email 2 Sep 2011.*

*The fact that initial contact was made to the upper arm is not a factor in considering which penalties apply in this situation.*

# Head Contact Rule Application Quiz

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## Situation 19

A3 gives B6 a mild face-wash. B6 retaliates with several punches and a fight between these players occurs. SRD.



# Head Contact Rule Application Quiz

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## Situation 19

A3 gives B6 a mild face-wash. B6 retaliates with several punches and a fight between these players occurs. SRD.

*A3: Major & GM (Fight) + Minor (HC) + Minor (HC)*

*B6: Major & GM (Fight) + Minor (Instigator)*

*A fight does not occur until a punch is thrown. Hence, the face-wash is not considered part of the fight and is penalized separately. Therefore, A3 receives double Minors for the face-wash under rule 6.5(b).*



# Head Contact Rule Application Quiz

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## Situation 20

A3 grabs B6 around the neck and applies a head lock. B6 escapes from the head lock. Shortly afterwards both players engage in a fight with each other. No injuries occur and there is no clear instigator or aggressor. SRD.

# Head Contact Rule Application Quiz

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## Situation 20

A3 grabs B6 around the neck and applies a head lock. B6 escapes from the head lock. Shortly afterwards both players engage in a fight with each other. No injuries occur and there is no clear instigator or aggressor. SRD.

*A3: Minor (HC) + Minor (HC) + Major & GM 30 (FI)*

*B6: Major & GM 30 (FI)*

*The head lock preceded the fight and is penalized separately under the Head Contact rule.*





# Head Contact Rule Application Quiz

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## Situation 21

A3 and B6 grab each other around the neck and head. This action evolves directly into a fight. No real risk of injury occurs during the grappling action. There is no clear instigator of the fight. SRD.

# Head Contact Rule Application Quiz

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## Situation 21

A3 and B6 grab each other around the neck and head. This action evolves directly into a fight. No real risk of injury occurs during the grappling action. There is no clear instigator of the fight. SRD.

*Both players: Double Minors (Head Contact) + Major & GM 30 (Fight)*

*A fight does not occur until a punch is thrown. In this scenario the grappling was a precursor to the fight and should be penalized separately.*

# Head Contact Rule Application Quiz

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## Situation 22

A3 and B6 decide to fight each other. They square up and raise their gloves. A3 throws the first punch and it knocks B6 to the ice. The officials intervene and no further incident occurs. SRD.



# Head Contact Rule Application Quiz

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## Situation 22

A3 and B6 decide to fight each other. They square up and raise their gloves. A3 throws the first punch and it knocks B6 to the ice. The officials intervene and no further incident occurs. SRD.

*Both Players: Major & GM 30 (Fight)*

*Head contact that occurs between combatants during a fight is NOT penalized under the Head Contact rule.*

*Rule 6.7(a) & Situation 21 apply in this case.*



# Head Contact Rule Application Quiz

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**Caution !!**

The following two situations, while relatively simple, require an advanced application of the rules. Changes to the Head Contact rules and the directive that the Head Contact rule supersedes all other playing rules (except Fighting) are at odds with some of the situations in the Referee's Case Book. The solutions presented for the following situations are presented for consideration and discussion only.

# Head Contact Rule Application Quiz

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## Situation 23

A3 grabs B6's facial protector but does not use it to gain an advantage or inflict punishment. No real risk of injury occurs before the linesmen intervene. SRD.

# Head Contact Rule Application Quiz

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## Situation 23

A3 grabs B6's facial protector but does not use it to gain an advantage or inflict punishment. No real risk of injury occurs before the linesmen intervene. SRD.

### *Double Minor (Head Contact)*

*This scenario results in an unusual ("blended") application of the rules. It is suggested that the solution proposed above should replace Situation 6 to Rule 6.1 as is currently written in the Referee's Case Book. ...continued on next slide*



# Head Contact Rule Application Quiz

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## Situation 23

*Rationale: As per Rule 6.1(c) the act of grabbing or pulling an opponent's hair, facial protector, helmet or chin strap but not using it gain an advantage or inflict punishment is penalized with a Minor or, at the Referee's discretion a Major + Game Misconduct. Since all intentional contact to the head, face or neck (except between combatants during a fight) is now assessed under the Head Contact rule, Rule 6.5(b) applies and the Minor is replaced by double Minors.*





# Head Contact Rule Application Quiz

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## Situation 24

A3 and B6 are fighting. While standing **in the player's bench**, **A4** reaches around B6's neck from behind and puts B6 in a head lock. No injury occurs on the play. What penalty or penalties should be assessed to **A4**? SRD.

# Head Contact Rule Application Quiz

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## Situation 24

A3 and B6 are fighting. While standing **in the player's bench**, **A4** reaches around B6's neck from behind and puts B6 in a head lock. No injury occurs on the play. What penalty or penalties should be assessed to **A4**? SRD.

*Double Minors (HC) + GM 74 (Interference from Bench)  
+ GM 32 (Intervening in a Fight)*

*...continued on next slide*



# Head Contact Rule Application Quiz

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## Situation 24

*This scenario results in an unusual (“blended”) application of the rules. It differs from the solution given in Situation 9 to Rule 6.7 in the Referee’s Case Book.*

*Under Rule 7.3(d) the act of interfering from the bench should result in a Bench Minor + Game Misconduct. However, since all intentional contact to the head, face or neck (except that between combatants as part of a fight) is now called Head Contact, Rule 6.5(b) applies and the Bench Minor is replaced by double Minors...*

*...continued on next slide*



# Head Contact Rule Application Quiz

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## Situation 24

*...Additionally, because Rule 7.3(d) also includes a Game Misconduct penalty, as per the precedent set in the cross-checking to the head rule application, the Game Misconduct is also assessed, and the infraction is reported and recorded as Head Contact.*

*Rule 6.7(h) applies to this situation.*



# Head Contact Rule Application Quiz

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This concludes Part 6 of the GTHL's Head Contact training course. You should now be able to correctly apply the Head Contact rules in hypothetical game situations that match your current officiating responsibilities and HCOP level.



# GTHL Head Contact Training Course

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*Congratulations for completing this important course. You are now very knowledgeable about all aspects of Hockey Canada's Head Contact playing rules as they apply to Minor & Female hockey.*

*Thank you for your participation and for helping ensure that the playing environment for our Minor and Female hockey players remains safe, fair and fun.*

*Best wishes for a funtastic season!*

*Steve Wallace*

*Technical Director of Officiating  
Greater Toronto Hockey League*



# Head Contact

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For more information about the  
Head Contact rule and it's application contact:

*GTHL Technical Director of Officiating*

*tdo@gthlcanada.com*





# *Head Contact*



*A Training Course for Minor & Female Division Referees*

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