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## PLAYER SUSPENSIONS AND PRE-SEASON EXHIBITION GAMES

**Hockey Calgary's** 2021-2022 regulations address player suspensions and exhibition games under Section 20 of 'Regulations applicable to all streams' (bold emphasis added):

20 (b) *Any suspensions under the Minimum Suspension Guidelines or levied by a League Chair/Coordinator or Hockey Calgary Official, will be for a designated number of League, Minor Hockey Week, Playoff or Tournament Games, and will preclude the player and/or team official from participation in league, Minor Hockey Week, Playoff, Tournament, and **exhibition** games in any and all age categories or divisions during the period of their suspension.*

*Please note that a player cannot participate in any **exhibition** game(s) while under suspension and **exhibition** games do not count as games served for any suspension.*

(j) *Players with carryover suspensions from the prior season will be allowed to participate in "try-outs", **exhibition** games or tournament games that are sanctioned to take place prior to October 15. All carryover suspensions will be served in their entirety in sanctioned tournament games or at the start of league play.*

(k) *Players receiving a one game suspension prior to the start of league play will be served in sanctioned tournament games or at the start of league play. The player may continue to play in **exhibition** games for the purposes of evaluations.*

(l) *Players receiving a second suspension prior to the start of league play will be suspended from the evaluation process indefinitely pending further review.*

(m) *Players receiving a multiple game suspension or match penalty prior to the start of league play will be suspended from the evaluation process.*

While it appears that Hockey Calgary's regulations are intended to permit players with carry-over suspensions or one game suspensions to continue to play in exhibition games "for the purpose of evaluations" (presumably defined as exhibition games prior to October 15), the regulations are not absolutely clear. As a result, there is some uncertainty in how they are applied and this has implications for team officials.

At this time, the recommendation is for team officials with suspended players and exhibition games prior to October 15 to **contact their Division Governor and League Chair to get a formal ruling**; in the absence of a formal ruling by Hockey Calgary officials, the suspended player should not participate in the exhibition game.