



HOCKEY CALGARY

INFORMATION BULLETIN

Date: September 15, 2016
To: Association Presidents
From: Kevin Kobelka – Executive Director
CC: HC Board of Directors, CZRC Chairman

#1605

SUBJECT: NEW HANDSHAKE RULE 2016/17

In May 2016 the Operations Committee reviewed the 'Post-game handshake process' that was occurring at the majority of games within the city of Calgary.

The goal of this review was as follows:

- Ensure that we continue to focus on sportsmanship for all players
- Maintain a high level of respect with our officials
- Find a way to reduce post game altercations
- Create an environment to alleviate (reduce) post game suspensions

We reviewed this process with committee members, coaches and CZRC, and determined that only the handshake between Coaches and Officials required was prior to the game. While the post-game handshake between players and officials was a 'Nice to do' thing, it was not a necessary process, as a sign of respect had been paid prior to the game.

In many cases this process created more animosity among participants and officials, leading to:

- Verbal altercations with Officials
- Player & Coach Suspensions
- Player aggression, as team players criss-cross each other to shake the officials hand

Based on these findings the Hockey Calgary Regulation book for the 2016-17 season was amended to read as follows:

22 End of Game Responsibilities/Official Game Report (Page 32)

(b) There will be no post game contact, including handshake, with the referee or linesmen, by players or team officials.

The expectation is that the players and coaches will still line up and shake hands with the opposition, but that all contact and communication with Officials is to be avoided at this point, following the game when often emotions are running high.

Officials will still be required to monitor the handshake lineup for any player incidents.

Thank you for your support of this new regulation, please ensure that ALL Coaches are made aware in the pre-season coach meetings, so we can avoid any confusion.