



2015
Minor Directorate Disciplinary Guidelines
and
Rule Interpretations

Job Descriptions

League Commissioners

- (a) Are ratified by the Minor Directorate, with names submitted prior to March 15 of the playing season.
- (b) Rule on disciplinary matters for their league in their Commission, following the Minor Directorate Disciplinary Rules, using the Minor Directorate Suspension Tracking Sheet provided in the Commissioner's Package, submit at the end of the season to the Provincial Director and to the Minor Directorate Secretary for purposes of tracking carryover suspensions into the next box season.
- (c) Ensure all teams are tiered properly. Watch for inequality of teams within their league and the placement and movement of teams, as per Commission Operating Policy.
- (d) Assist in making schedules for their league
- (e) Attend Commission meetings
- (f) Ensure copies of score sheets are given to the Chair of the Commission monthly
- (g) Any communication between League Commissioners and coaches should include Head Coaches.
- (h) League Commissioners report directly to the Commission Chair.
- (i) To work with their Commission and Commission Chair in promoting Box Lacrosse within their Commission.
- (j) BCLA Minor Directorate Operating Policy **Regulation 1: Structure, League Commissioners:**

Commission Chairs

- (a) Communication link between the Minor Directorate (through Zone Directors) and their Associations
- (b) Ensure good communications with the Executive and their Associations and possibly with players and parents
- (c) Maintain a good working relationship with all Associations within their Commission
- (d) Responsible to Minor Directorate and all Associations within the Commission
- (e) Responsible for schedule and guidelines for league play and Provincial play-offs in their Commission
- (f) Select their Commissioners, as per Commission Operating Policy and acts as Head Commissioner
- (g) First level of appeal on all matters within their Commission (jurisdiction, player's discipline and player movement)

THE FOLLOWING PENALTIES ARE AUTOMATIC SUSPENSIONS:

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

Table of Contents

DISCIPLINARY RULES

1. Match Penalty – “Attempt to Injure”	4
2. Reckless and Endangering Play with Malice	4
3. Major Penalties	4
4. Gross Misconduct	4
5. Abuse of Officials and Misconduct	5
6. Unnecessary Roughness	6
7. Fighting	6
8. Coach or Manager Pulling Team From Floor	6
9. Fighting Off Playing Surface	6
10. Third Man In	7
11. Leaving Player's Bench or Penalty Bench During An Altercation Or Goaltender Leaving Their Crease To Join In An Altercation	7
12. Under the Influence of Alcohol or Drugs	7
13. Major Penalty in the Last 10 Minutes of Play	7
14. Three Majors In One Game	7
15. Four Majors In One Season	7
16. Playing An Ineligible Player	7
17. Suspensions To Coaches, Managers and Bench Personnel	8
18. Serving A Suspension	8
19. Additional Games	8
20. Commission Discretion to Reduce Suspensions	8
APPENDIX A: Offence/Defence Rules	9

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 participant 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 Reckless and Endangering Play
- 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 46 Elbowing (where a Match is assessed)
- 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 Reckless and Endangering Play with malice is applied, i.e.: Match Penalties for Slashing, High Sticking, Cross Checking, etc.

1st Offence	Three (3) Games
2nd Offence	Five (5) Games/Hearing
3rd Offence	Second Hearing by local Minor Commission

2. RECKLESS AND ENDANGERING PLAY WITH MALICE

When a player has been assessed a **MATCH PENALTY** for **RECKLESS AND ENDANGERING PLAY WITH MALICE** 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 Commission will be conducted.

3. 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.

1st Offence	One (1) game
2nd Offence	Three (3) games
3rd Offence	Hearing by the local Minor Commission

4. GROSS MISCONDUCT

Due to the seriousness of this infraction, Commissioners **must** confirm the facts of the game report with the game officials and/or zone officials where a gross misconduct has been

assessed. The Commissioner will forward all gross misconduct infractions to the BCLOG Vice Chair - Minor for review before ruling on the infraction. If the facts reveal that the incident falls short of being a gross misconduct a Commissioner in consultation with their respective Commission Chair and the BCLOG Vice Chair - Minor may reduce the penalty to a lesser category as deemed appropriate. **(Assessed under Rule 48 in the CLA Rulebook). Commissioners letters to coaches must emphasize that 48(a) will not be tolerated and bold it.**

- 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) makes obscene gestures.
 - (iii) persists in such behaviour after being ejected from a game.
 - (iv) 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 Minor Commission or the BCLCG (if required) will be conducted.

Any participant whom is assessed a “GROSS MISCONDUCT” for threatening a Referee or an Official under Rule 62 shall be suspended until a hearing by the local Minor Commission or the BCLCG (if required). 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).

1st Offence – No further disciplinary action is warranted

2nd Offence – Two (2) games

3rd Offence – *Players who receive three (3) Game Misconducts in a season shall be assessed a five (5) game suspension and a hearing by the local Minor Commission will be conducted. Coach/Bench Personnel who receive the Third Game Misconduct are to be reported to the BCLCG for further possible action.

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

1st Offence – **Three (3) games**

2nd Offence – **Five (5) games/Hearing by local Minor Commission**

3rd Offence – **Second Hearing by local Minor Commission**

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

6. UNNECESSARY ROUGHNESS

Unnecessary Roughness assessed under Rules 72(a) and 72(b) as listed under Rule 72.

Rule 72(b) UNNECESSARY ROUGHNESS, grabbing the facemask, helmet or chinstrap, hair pulling or head butting.

1st Offence – Three (3) games

2nd Offence – Five (5) games/Hearing by local Minor Commission

3rd Offence – **Second** Hearing by local Minor Commission

7. FIGHTING

Assessed under Rule 45 and BCLA Minor Directorate Operating Policy Regulation 18:

1st Offence – Game Misconduct (given at game) plus two (2) games additional suspension

2nd Offence - Game Misconduct (given at game) plus four (4) games additional suspension

3rd Offence - Game Misconduct (given at game) and Indefinite Suspension pending a hearing of the Local Minor Lacrosse Commission.

Assessed under Rule 45A, an Instigator of a fight will receive an additional game suspension.

8. COACH OR MANAGER PULLING TEAM FROM FLOOR

Immediate suspension of coach pending a hearing by the BCLCG. If a manager pulls a team off the floor, then an immediate suspension will be given, pending a hearing by their local Minor Commission

9. FIGHTING OFF PLAYING SURFACE

As per rule #23, 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 Minor Commission for investigation and hearing, with recommendation to follow the Minor Directorate Operating Policy Regulation 19.

10. THIRD MAN IN

Each Offence - Game Misconduct (given at game) plus two (2) game suspension.
Rule 67 Who is first to intervene in an altercation when in progress.

11. LEAVING PLAYERS' BENCH 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 Minor Commission.

13. MAJOR PENALTY IN THE LAST 10-MINUTES

A major penalty in the last ten (10) minutes of the 3rd period and during any subsequent overtime receives an automatic one game suspension. A ten (10) minute misconduct is not considered for suspension under this rule. The first call for illegal goaltender equipment in the last ten (10) minutes of the 3rd period and during any subsequent overtime, resulting in a five (5) minute major, will not be a "suspendable" offence.

14. THREE MAJORS IN ONE GAME

Any player who accumulates three major penalties in one game 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 Minor Commission

15. FOUR MAJORS IN ONE SEASON

Any player who accumulates four major penalties in one season will be assessed as follows:

4 Major Penalties will be assessed one (1) game suspension.

Subsequent Major Penalties:

5th Major will be assessed a two (2) game suspension

6th Major will be assessed a three (3) game suspension

7th Major will be assessed a four (4) game suspension

8th Major will be assessed a 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 AS PER BCLA OPERATING POLICY 4.04(B),

Any team found guilty of playing an ineligible player during a regularly scheduled, sanctioned tournament or playoff games shall forfeit all games won during which an ineligible player was a participant. Should this occur in the playoffs, and then only the games played in the playoffs will be awarded to the opposing side. The Coach will be suspended for two (2) games for the first Offence and for the second Offence, an automatic referral to the BC Lacrosse Coaches Technical Support Group for appropriate disciplinary action.

17. SUSPENSIONS TO COACHES, MANAGERS AND BENCH PERSONNEL
COACHES, MANAGERS, BENCH PERSONNEL AND DOOR PERSONS WHO RECEIVE A SUSPENSION OR GAME EJECTION, will be reported to the local Commission and the BCLCG and the BCLA Technical Director.

18. SERVING A SUSPENSION

The BCLA Operating Policy regarding suspensions and discipline shall apply as per REGULATION 1 of the BCLA General Operating Policy and REGULATION 18 of the Minor Directorate Operating Policy.

All suspensions MUST be noted on Score Sheet, to be counted.

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

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/anywhere between periods.

Regulation 17.07 from the BCLA Operating Policy – Minor Directorate Section reads:

- a. A suspended player may only serve the suspension during games played by the team the player is officially registered with.
- b. A suspended coach may only serve the suspension during games played by the team the coach received the suspension for; however, a coach is suspended from all bench activities until such suspension is served.

Regulation 17: Suspensions, 17.03, 4th paragraph reads: 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 mailed and post-marked within seventy-two (72) hours to the member after initial verbal notification.

19. ADDITIONAL GAMES

Additional games may be imposed by the league Commissioner and/or the local minor Commission. The Commissioner or local minor Commission may impose up to 5 games suspension for an infraction by a coach and may also recommend a hearing into the matter, be held by the BCLCG disciplinary committee.

20. COMMISSION DISCRETION TO REDUCE SUSPENSIONS.

- a) During League play, only in Zones 1,2,7 and 8, and where there are fewer than 10 league games for a team during the course of a season, these suspensions **MAY** be reduced by a Commissioner with the consultation of and agreement with the Commission Chair and a full written report provided to the Secretary and Chair of the Minor Directorate. **NOTE:** These Zones will be subject to the full Minor Directorate Disciplinary Rules and Guidelines as written during all tournament games and Provincials. For example, if a player is suspended for 5 games during a tournament and can serve only one game during the tournament, the balance of 4 games must be served during the player's next consecutive 4 games.
- b) During inter-zone play, the above guideline will also apply to Zone 6 Female Box Lacrosse players playing inter-zone games.

APPENDIX A
BCLA MINOR DIRECTORATE - OFFENCE/DEFENCE RULES

Minor Directorate Operating Policy Playing Rules Section 4.11:

In aspects of Minor Directorate play, the practice known as Offence/Defence is not to be played in any of its forms. Offence/Defence is simply defined as a Player playing only one end of the floor, at even strength.

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 coaches** in their association that the practice of playing the offence/defence system when at even strength (not including pulling the goaltender or for a face-off) is **prohibited** in BC Minor Lacrosse, as per current operating policy and such action can result in suspension.
2. If any Zone/Association Coaching Coordinator, League Commissioner, BCLCG Executive Member or Minor Directorate Executive clearly determines a coach is utilizing offence/defence on a persistent basis as a tactic, (not including pulling a goaltender or during face-offs) while at even strengths, they are to advise by phone or electronic means the BCLCG Vice Chair - Minor Box. The BCLCG Vice Chair - Minor Box will formally advise the Association Coaching Coordinator/Head Coach and/or President of the incident and it will be their responsibility to ensure that the Coach has been warned and the first infraction has been recorded.
3. If the Coach is again found to be utilizing the offence/defence tactic by the above named persons in Paragraph 2, they will advise the BCLCG Vice Chair - Minor Box. If this is the second infraction the BCLCG Vice Chair - Minor Box will advise the League Commissioner to assess an immediate TWO-GAME Suspension, which is not appealable.
4. If found a third time, or at any time in playoffs leading to Provincial Championships (even if it is the first instance for the Coach), the Coach will receive an automatic FIVE-GAME Suspension from the Commissioner and must attend a hearing called by the BCLCG. This hearing may determine the future status of that Coach within the BCLCG.
5. If, in any Provincial Championship or BC Games, offence/defence is found to be utilized by a coach, they will be warned either verbally or in writing by the Vice Chair of the BCLCG, or delegate, that if they continue employing the offence/defence tactic, the game will be stopped and the coach shall be ejected from the game and suspended for the balance of the tournament, and the remainder of the year. This is not appealable. A hearing will then be conducted by the BC Lacrosse Coaches Technical Support Group (BCLCG) prior to the following year to determine the future status of said Coach as per BCLCG guidelines.
6. It is the responsibility of the BCLCG Vice Chair – Minor Box to ensure that a complete up-to-date record of such infractions is kept both by the BCLCG and the BCLA Technical Director.