



Michigan Amateur Hockey Association Policy & Guidelines

Policy Regarding Penalty Minutes for Major, Minor, Misconducts & Match Penalties

Section: Playing Rules

Approved: July 8, 2021

At the 2021 Annual Congress, USA Hockey adopted changes to USA Hockey Playing Rules 402- Minor Penalties, 403 Major Penalties, 404 Misconduct Penalties, and 405 Match Penalties to address the pro-ration of penalty minutes based on period lengths.

Playing Rule 402 was amended to address the pro-rated length of minor penalties based on the length of a period. The length of minor penalties shall be pro-rated for the following period lengths for those classifications below the 14 & under classification:

- 12 minutes or less – 1:00 minor penalty
- More than 12 but less than 17 minutes – 1:30 minor penalty
- 17-20 minutes – 2:00 minor penalty
- All minor and bench minor penalties in Adult classifications shall be 2:00 minutes in length.

Playing Rule 403 addresses Major Penalties and was amended to provide that MAHA, as a USA Hockey Affiliate, is authorized to reduce the length of major penalties for games under its jurisdiction according to the following period lengths (except for adults):

- 12 minutes or less – 3:00 major penalty
- More than 12 but less than 17 minutes – 4:00 major penalty
- 17-20 minutes – 5:00 major penalty

Playing Rule 404 addresses Misconduct Penalties and was amended to provide that MAHA, as a USA Hockey Affiliate, is authorized to reduce the length of misconduct penalties for games under its jurisdiction according to the following period lengths (except for adults):

- 12 minutes or less – 6:00 misconduct penalty
- More than 12 but less than 17 minutes – 8:00 misconduct penalty
- 17-20 minutes – 10:00 misconduct penalty

Playing Rule 405 addresses Match Penalties and was amended to provide that MAHA, as a USA Hockey Affiliate, is authorized to reduce the length of major penalties for games under its jurisdiction according to the following period lengths (except for adults):

- 12 minutes or less – 3:00 match penalty
- More than 12 but less than 17 minutes – 4:00 match penalty
- 17-20 minutes – 5:00 match penalty

Playing Rule 402, 403, 404 & 405 permits MAHA, as a USA Hockey Affiliate, to grant exceptions to the pro-rated schedule for minor penalties for the 14 & under age classification and older, only. MAHA hereby adopts this pro-rated schedule for the following classifications only: All Youth & Girl's age classifications from 10U thru 19U, and High School.