
RULE 1

The Rink

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SECTION 1. Ice hockey shall be played on an area of ice called a rink.

Note: The rules committee recognizes that some institutions play in off-campus facilities that do not conform to all NCAA rink standards.

Rink Dimensions

SECTION 2. a. As nearly as possible, the dimensions of the rink shall be 200 feet long and 85 feet wide. The corners should be rounded in the arc of a circle with a radius of 20 feet.

- b. The rink should be surrounded by a wooden or fiberglass wall known as the “boards” that shall extend not less than 40 inches and not more than 48 inches above the level of the ice surface. The ideal height of the boards above the ice surface shall be 42 inches.

Except for the official markings provided for in these rules, the entire playing surface and the boards should be predominantly white in color except the kick plate at the bottom of the boards, which should be a light, contrasting color.

Commercial, institutional or conference logos and/or names are permitted in the ice only in the neutral zone.

- c. It is recommended boards be constructed so that the surface facing the ice shall be smooth. The boards shall be free of any object that could cause injury to players.

All doors providing access to the playing surface must swing away from the ice surface.

All glass, wire or other types of protective screens and gear used to hold them in position shall be mounted on the boards on the side away from the playing surface.

Goal Posts and Nets

SECTION 3. a. A maximum of 15 feet and a minimum of 10 feet from each end of the rink (11 feet is preferred) and in the center of a red line 2 inches wide, drawn completely across the width of the ice and continued vertically up the side of the boards, regulation goal posts and nets shall be set in such a manner as to remain stationary during the progress of a game. The red line shall be known as the goal line.

Only two goal cages are permitted on the ice during the pregame warm-up period.

Note: The committee recommends that goal pins should be used whenever possible.

- b. The goal posts shall extend vertically 4 feet above the surface of the ice. They shall be set 6 feet apart, measured from the inside of the posts. A crossbar of the same material as the goal posts shall extend from the top of one post to the top of the other.

Goal posts shall be affixed in the ice or floor with a release-type fixture.

- c. A net shall be attached to each goal frame.
- d. The goal posts and crossbar shall be painted red. All other surfaces shall be painted white.
- e. The goal area, enclosed by the goal line and the base plate of the goal, shall be painted white. It is mandatory that all nets have an open, half-circle padded base.
- f. It is recommended that the interior metal of the goal cage be padded (excluding the goal posts and cross bar).

Goal Crease

SECTION 4. a. In front of each goal, a goal crease area shall be marked by a red line 2 inches in width.

- b. The goal crease shall be laid out as follows: One foot outside of each goal post, a 2-inch wide line shall be painted extending 4 feet, 6 inches in length. These lines shall be at right angles to the goal line. A semicircle line 6 feet in radius and 2 inches in width shall be drawn using the center of the goal line as the center point and connecting both ends of the sides of the crease.

- c. The goal crease area shall include all the space outlined by the crease lines and extend vertically 4 feet to the level of the top of the goal frame.
- d. There shall be two markings in each goal crease. Each line shall be 5 inches long and 2 inches wide. The lines shall extend from the goal crease lines, 4 feet out from the goal line. The lines shall be parallel to the goal line (see end zone spot and goal crease diagrams).

Division of Ice Surface

- SECTION 5. a. The ice area between the two goals shall be divided into three parts by lines 12 inches in width and blue in color, drawn at least 60 feet out from the goal lines, extending completely across the rink parallel with the goal lines, and continuing vertically up the side of the boards. It is preferred that the offensive zone be 64 feet when possible.
- b. That portion of the ice surface in which the goal is situated shall be called the defending zone of the team defending that goal, the central portion shall be known as the neutral zone and the portion farthest from the defending goal shall be known as the attacking zone. The zone line shall be considered part of the zone in which the puck is.
 - c. There also shall be a line 12 inches in width and red in color, drawn completely across the rink in center ice, parallel with the goal lines and continuing vertically up the side of the boards, known as the "center line." This line shall contain at regular intervals markings of a uniform distinctive design that shall easily distinguish it from the two blue lines; the outer edges must be continuous.

Center Ice Spot and Circle

SECTION 6. A circular blue spot 1 foot in diameter shall be marked in the center of the rink; and with this spot as a center, a circle of 15 feet radius shall be marked with a blue line 2 inches in width.

Two blue lines 2 feet long and 2 inches wide, parallel to the blue lines, shall be marked on the ice extending from the outer edges of both sides of the faceoff circle. These lines shall be 4 feet apart, 2 feet on each side of the center of the faceoff spot and circle.

Neutral Zone Faceoff Spots

SECTION 7. Two red spots 2 feet in diameter shall be marked on the ice in the neutral zone 5 feet from each blue line. Within each faceoff spot, draw two parallel lines 4 inches from the top and bottom of the spot. The area within the two lines shall be painted red; the remaining area shall be painted white. The spots shall be 44 feet apart and each shall be a uniform distance from the adjacent boards (see rink diagram).

End Zone Faceoff Spots and Circles

SECTION 8. a. In both end zones and on both sides of each goal, red faceoff spots and circles shall be marked on the ice. The faceoff spots shall be 2 feet in diameter. Within the faceoff spot, draw two parallel lines 4 inches from the top and bottom of the spot. The area within the two lines shall be painted red; the remaining area shall be painted white.

The circles shall be 2 inches wide with a radius of 15 feet from the center of the faceoff spots. Eighteen feet and 22 feet from the goal line and parallel to it, two red lines 2 feet long and 2 inches wide shall be marked on the ice extending from the outer edge of both sides of each faceoff circle (see rink diagram).

One foot from the outer edge of the faceoff spot, two lines shall be drawn parallel with the sideboards that shall be 4 feet in length and 18 inches apart. Parallel to the end boards, commencing at the end of the line nearest to the faceoff spot, a line shall extend 2 feet, 10 inches in length. All lines shall be 2 inches in width (see rink diagram).

- b. The location of the faceoff spots shall be fixed in the following manner: Along a line 20 feet from each goal line and parallel to it, two points shall be marked 22 feet on both sides of the straight line joining the centers of the two goals. Each such point shall be the center of a faceoff spot and circle.

Players' Bench

SECTION 9. a. The rink shall provide seats or benches for the use of players of both teams that accommodate at least 21 persons of each team. The benches should be placed immediately alongside the ice in the neutral zone, as near to the center of the rink as possible, with the doors opening in the neutral zone, convenient to the dressing rooms. When players' benches are situated in the spectator area, they should be separated from

the spectators by a protective screening of sufficient height to afford the necessary protection to the players and team personnel. Benches may be situated on opposite sides or on the same side of the rink, in which case the two teams should be separated by a substantial distance.

Where physically possible, each players' bench should have two doors opening in the neutral zone. All doors opening to the playing surface shall be constructed so that they swing away from the ice surface.

Each players' bench should have an elevated coaches' walkway behind the area where the players are seated.

- b. Only players in uniform and six additional team personnel shall be permitted to occupy the bench area. For a violation, after a warning by the referee, a bench minor penalty shall be assessed.

Penalty Bench

SECTION 10. a. The rink must be provided with benches or seats to be known as the penalty bench. It is preferable to have penalty benches for each team separated from each other and substantially separated from either players' bench. When penalty benches are situated in the spectator area, they should be separated from the spectators by a protective glass of sufficient height to afford the necessary protection to penalized players and any other personnel. The penalty bench(es) should be situated in the neutral zone. The penalty bench(es) should accommodate at least 10 persons, including the timekeeper, the penalty timekeeper, the scorer and penalized players. Only penalized players may occupy the penalty-bench area. For a violation, after a warning by the referee, a bench minor penalty shall be assessed.

- b. Immediately in front of the penalty timekeeper's bench, there shall be marked in red on the ice a semicircle of 10 feet radius and 2 inches in width, which shall be known as the referee's crease.

Signal and Timing Devices

SECTION 11. a. A suitable sound device, such as a buzzer, horn or siren, must be provided for the use of timekeepers. A backup sound and timing device must be provided by the home team.

- b. An electrical clock, or other timing device, shall be provided for the purpose of keeping the spectators, players and game officials accurately

informed as to all time elements at all stages of the game, including the time remaining to be played in any period.

Time recording for both game time and penalty time shall show time remaining to be played or served.

Time displayed on a clock or timing device shall take precedence over any disparity with lights or horn signaling the end of a period or game.

- c. Behind each goal, electric lights should be set up for the use of the goal judges. A red light shall signify the scoring of a goal. Where automatic lights are available, a green light shall signify the end of a period or a game.

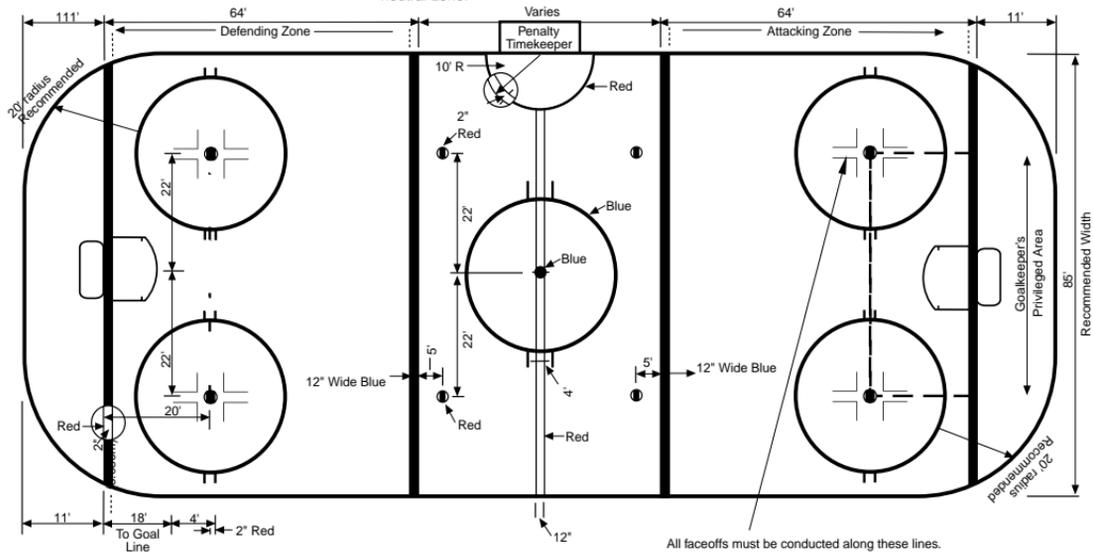
Goal judges' boxes should be properly isolated so that there shall be no interference with the activities of the judges.

Goalkeeper's Privileged Area

SECTION 12. The goalkeeper's privileged area is an area bounded in the rear by the end of the rink, in front by an imaginary line connecting the end zone spots, and on the sides by imaginary lines from the end zone spots to the end boards.

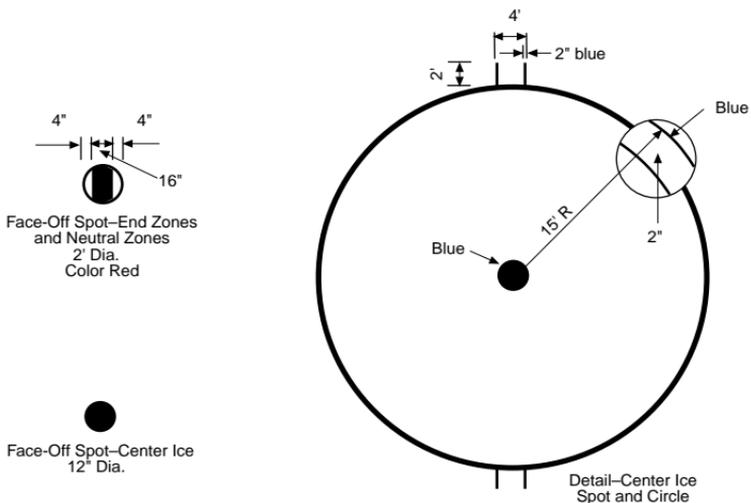
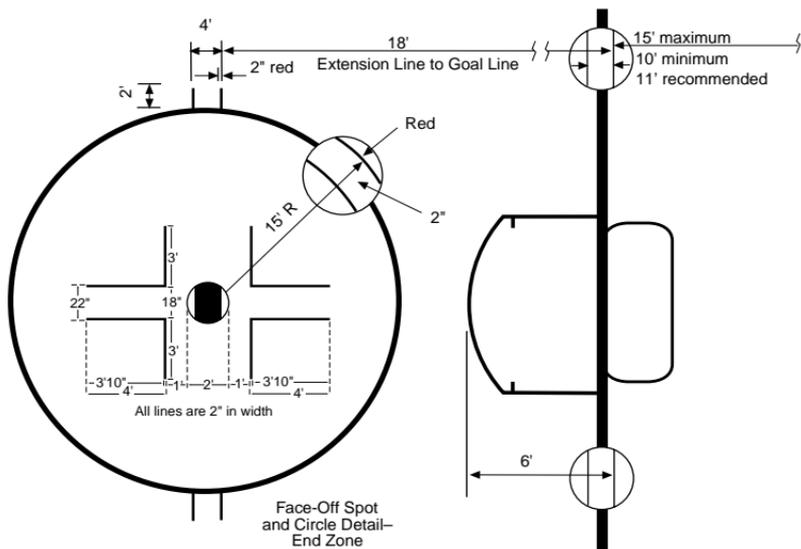
RINK DIAGRAM

Commercial, institution or conference logos and/or names are allowed in the ice only in the neutral zone.

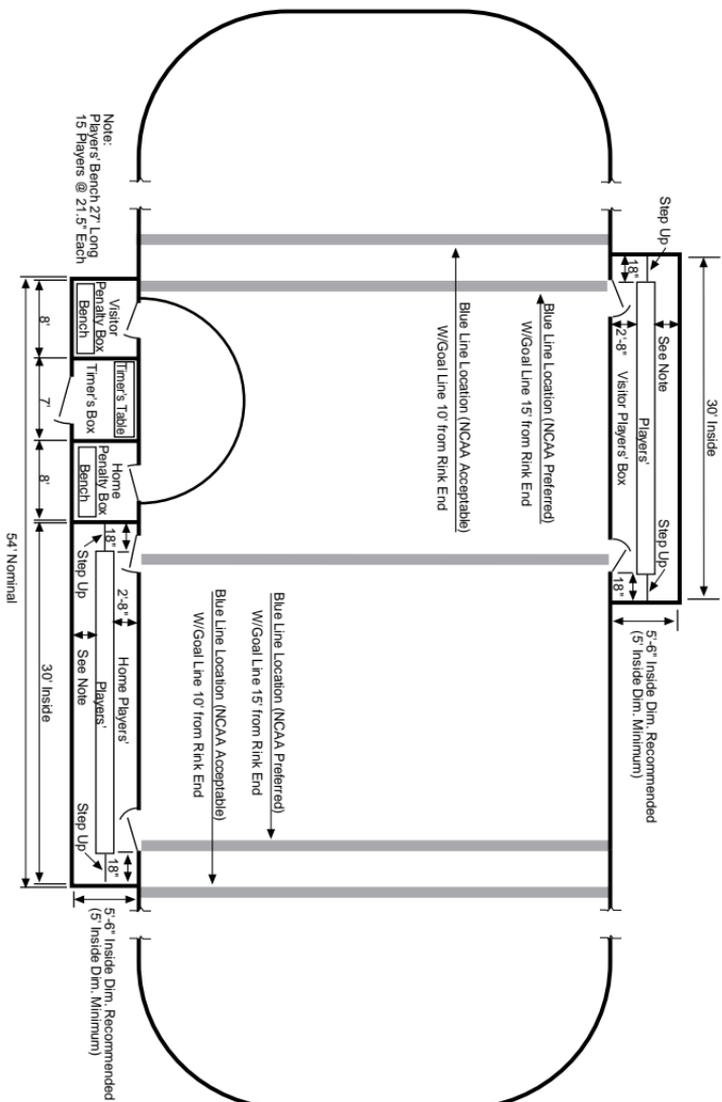


Maximum 15'
Minimum 10'

END ZONE SPOT AND GOAL CREESE



NCAA OPTIONAL LAYOUT



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