



GTHL POLICY

Video Review

Approved by:	Board of Directors	Date Approved:	May 2024
		Date Effective:	Immediate
Responsibility of:	Chief Operating Officer	Date of Last Revision:	October 2023
		Date Initially Issued:	2006

Definitions

“Official Game Report: the official report of the activity from a sanctioned game verified by Team Officials from each competing Team and signed at the completion of the game by the On-Ice Officials.

“Serious Injury”: an injury resulting in bodily hurt, damage, harm, or loss that requires attention and diagnosis by a medical doctor and results in time missed from normal daily activities such as school, hockey or other athletic activities.

“Supplemental Discipline”: penalties imposed on a player or Team Official in addition to minimum suspension requirements, through a separate investigation, including video review, and/or hearing.

Background

By way of this policy, the League wishes to communicate its position on when it is appropriate and responsible for the League to review video submissions.

It should be noted that, in addition to video submitted by a Team or a Club, the League may also utilize any other available video source(s) for making any determination(s) under this Policy.

Both Hockey Canada and the League have very specific rules regarding an On-Ice Official’s judgment.

Hockey Canada Playing Rule 5.1 (c) reads: *“A Referee will have full authority and the final decision in all matters under dispute. Their decision will be final on all questions of judgment and not subject to appeal.”*

GTHL Regulation 15.7 (g) reads: *“REFEREE’S DECISION: A protest on a referee’s decision will not be considered unless it concerns a question respecting their interpretation of the rules of the game.”*



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Policy

Section 1 - Video That May Be Reviewed

The League may review video submissions for the following purposes:

- A. Identifying the correct player in situations in which an incorrect player may have been identified by the on-ice officials and assessed a penalty resulting in a suspension.
- B. Reducing or rescinding a suspension of 2 or more games assessed to a player.
- C. Analyzing a game situation that results in a serious injury to any player, whether or not a penalty was assessed.
- D. Reviewing the conduct of game officials during altercations, specifically when the use of force is concerned.
- E. Reviewing the conduct of spectators and parents.
- F. Determining the use of language by any player or team official identified in Hockey Canada Playing Rule 11.4 (d) – Discrimination.
- G. Determining the use of language by any team official that could be considered threatening or abusive.
- H. Investigating off-ice altercations involving players, team officials or spectators.

A GTHL-appointed third-party investigator may review video when investigating a matter that has been assigned to them.

Review of Items Identified in Section 1 (A) and (B)

Reviews under these provisions are considered on submission by a Club President or General Manager when the Club/Team contends that a rule has been misapplied or that the official erred in their judgment when assessing a penalty that results in a suspension of two or more games.

The review will be considered by the League when the following has been submitted to the League Office:

- A copy of the video that supports the application.
- Confirmation from the Club that the deposit of \$250 can be charged to the Club's account if the review is denied.
- A copy of the Official Game Report.



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- A statement signed by the President or the General Manager of the Team's Club outlining the penalty that is being appealed.
- The submission takes place within 5 business days of the game being played.

Procedure:

Upon receipt, the GTHL Executive Director or his designee will review the appeal and make one of the following determinations:

1. The review is inconclusive. A review may be deemed to be inconclusive if (among other things), in the opinion of the Executive Director or their designee, the video recording does not provide a sufficiently clear view of the incident. In this case, the suspension(s) as a result of the penalty or penalties assessed by the official will remain in effect and the deposit is forfeited.
2. The review is conclusive that the official misapplied the rule and/or used incorrect judgment. The corresponding suspension(s) is/are revoked in this case.
3. The review is conclusive that the official applied the rule correctly and/or used correct judgment. In this case, the suspension(s) as a result of the penalty or penalties remain in effect and the deposit is forfeited.

The outcome of this review is not subject to any further appeal.

Review of Items Identified in Section 1 (C)

Procedure:

A Club wishing to have a review conducted by the League so that it may consider issuing Supplemental Discipline in instances in which a Serious Injury has been sustained by a player may do so by submitting the following information:

- A copy of the video that supports the application.
- A diagnosis from a medical doctor outlining the nature and seriousness of the injury.
- A copy of the Official Game Report.
- A statement outlining the outcome being sought by the Club.

This outcome of this review is subject to appeal only if Supplemental Discipline is assessed.



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Review of Items Identified in Section 1 (D) through (I)

Procedure:

A Club wishing to have a review conducted by the League so that it may consider further action may do so by submitting the following:

- A copy of the video that supports the application.
- A copy of the Official Game Report.
- A statement outlining the outcome being sought by the Club.

The League may take unilateral action in any instances covered by these sections.

Section 2 - Video That Will NOT Be Reviewed

Unless otherwise identified in this policy, video submissions will not be reviewed by the GTHL.