

# MEMORANDUM



**To:** All Hockey players, coaches, officials and administrators  
**From:** Co-ordinator – Officiating and Education  
**Date:** Thursday 8 April 2010  
**Subject:** Experimental Rules to be played in 2010

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## 1. TWO-MINUTE GREEN CARD

Any offence which an umpire considers warranting the issue of a green card will attract a two minute suspension. Such suspension will commence where there is a technical bench when the player suspended reaches the bench. The timing of the suspension will be measured by the technical bench. In the case where there is no technical bench the umpire will control the length of suspension.

The introduction of this rule means that warnings on the run which held similar weight to a green card in the past no longer apply as these instances should now attract a penalty.

It should be noted that the two-minute green card has not replaced the yellow card in any respect. Umpires are expected to act in accordance with the instructions issued at the March pre-season briefings (i.e. a minimum ten minute suspension should be for major offences, minor offences attract a minimum five minute suspension and for offences in between, somewhere in between five and ten minutes).

This is an additional tool for umpires to manage the game. If standards are applied from the commencement of the game by the umpire this tool should require minimal use. The offences that might attract a two-minute green are for example, appealing, minor time wasting, minor back chatting, and umpire abuse from the bench. These examples are by no means full and inclusive.

Further breaches of the rules by either team following the issue of a two minute green should attract a temporary suspension (yellow card).

## 2. BREAKING AT PENALTY CORNERS

Should a defender break at a penalty corner the umpire should stop the time and require the defender to move to the centre line as quickly as possible. The defender may not be replaced. Umpires need to be absolutely sure that the defender broke before the ball was pushed out and the attacking player pushing the ball out did not baulk to make the defending team break before the ball was pushed out.

Should an attacking player break before the ball is in play into the circle he/she is also required to move to the centre line.

The introduction of this rule at this late stage will no doubt mean that communications to all teams may be difficult therefore umpires are requested before the commencement any match early in the season to ensure that the captains and/or coaches are aware of the above.

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