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NFHS Ice Hockey Weekly Rule Interpretations

Welcome to week 6 of the 2025-26 NFHS Ice Hockey Weekly Rules Interpretations! We are going to take a look at a couple different rules this week. If you should have any examples you would like to highlight in the weeks to come, please contact dschuster@nfhs.org.

Rule 4-7-4: (For a penalty shot) The puck shall be placed at the center faceoff spot. At the referee's instruction, the attacking player shall begin toward the goal, keeping in motion toward the goal until the puck is shot or has crossed the goal line extended. Only one shot is permitted.

Rule 9-13: By state association adoption, state association-authorized video replay may be used in games for reviewing goals and undetected, determining correct time on the clock, and to review infractions that may affect the ejection of a student-athlete. Procedures for video replay shall be determined by state association policy and procedures.

Situation 1: Player A loses control of the puck during a penalty shot, but regains control and continues the attempt.

RULING: Attempt may continue.

Comment: As long as Player A maintains some forward motion toward the goal, the attempt may continue. You can learn more about penalty shots by visiting Rule 4-7, which begins on page 24 of the 2025-26 NFHS Ice Hockey Rules Book.



Situation 2: The officials are huddling with the clock operator and administrator to determine the correct time at the end of a playoff semi-final game. A nearby person with a cell phone wants to share video.

RULING: First, video replay is by state association adoption. Only official state association-authorized video may be used. State associations have specific protocols to handle this situation.



Comment: Random phone video around the arena may not be used, unless it is authorized by the state association. You can learn more about video replay by visiting Rule 9-13, which is located on page 52 in the 2025-26 NFHS Ice Hockey Rules Book.