



# ACHA Rule Update Memo

September, 2016

RE: Woman's Hockey, "Legally playing the puck with a high stick".

**The previous experimental rule of woman legally playing the puck with a high stick has been removed. Playing the puck legally with a high stick is not permitted.**

## **Rule states:**

High-Sticking the Puck - Batting the puck above the height of 4 feet with a stick is prohibited. When a puck is struck with a high stick and subsequently comes into the possession and control of a player from the offending team (including the player who made contact with the puck), either directly or deflected off any player or official, there shall be a whistle.

When a puck has been contacted by a high stick, the play shall be permitted to continue, provided that:

1. The puck has been batted to an opponent (when a player bats the puck to an opponent, the Referee shall give the "washout" signal immediately. Otherwise, play shall be stopped.); or
2. A player of the defending side bats the puck into that team's own goal, in which case the goal shall be allowed.

Face-Off Location – When a high-sticking the puck violation occurs, the ensuing face-off shall take place at the nearest face-off spot one zone closer to the offending team's defensive zone from the point of the violation, unless otherwise covered in the rules.

Additionally. When a player contacts the puck with his stick above the normal height of the shoulders and a teammate elects not to play the puck to avoid the stoppage of play, and the opposing team also abstains from playing the puck (e.g., to allow time to expire on a penalty), the referee shall stop play and conduct a faceoff at the nearest spot one zone closer to the offending team's defensive zone from the point of the violation.

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