

**REVISIONS TO CIRILH RULES OF THE GAME MANUAL
2005 EDITION
PART II – GENERAL GAME REGULATIONS
Pages 5 to 7**

8. Revised Men’s Seeding of Teams into Round-robin

- A. When the number of teams entered into the World Championships makes it necessary to use modified “round robin” pool play, teams will be seeded into pools based on their final placement at the previous year’s FIRS World Championships. These teams will be divided into two groups.
- B. **GROUP 1** - The teams finishing 1 through 8 placements will be named to be in GROUP 1 and arranged therein by two pools of 4 each, according to serpentine positioning as shown below.
- C. **GROUP 2** - The remaining teams with placements from the previous year (9th, 10th and so on) will be situated into GROUP 2, also arranged into two pools so that each pool, as nearly as possible, has equal strength, according to the serpentine positioning shown below.
- D. Teams from the previous year’s World Championship that do not enter will have their positions closed up and the serpentine will continue with those teams that have competed in both the last and current championships.

Modifications:

- E. National teams that enter the World Championship that did not compete in the previous year will be arranged in alphabetical order according to the English spelling of the country’s name and added to the serpentine of GROUP 2, which continues until all teams are assigned to a pool.
- F. Exception: should there be one or more vacancies in the 8 teams assigned to GROUP 1, created by the absence of teams that finished in the top eight from the previous World Championship, these open positions in GROUP 1 will be filled by any national team reentering the World Championship which had finished in the top 8 placements during any of the previous 3 World Championships. If there are more eligible teams than there are open pool positions in GROUP 1, priority will be given to that team with the highest previous placement, and if more than one team is similarly positioned, then the most recent of these shall be selected. There will never be more than 8 teams in GROUP 1, but should there be a vacancy remaining, the CIRILH Executive Committee is authorized to seed an entirely new team into GROUP 1, if in their opinion, such nation has the hockey tradition and player talent necessary to compete successfully at the GROUP 1 level. Teams that finished 9th or higher last year shall not be forced by vacancies into GROUP 1.

- G. For example, assume that 20 teams are competing. The teams would be grouped as shown after seeding has been determined from their placement at the previous World Championship:

GROUP 1		GROUP 2	
Pool A	Pool B	Pool C	Pool D
1 st	2 nd	9 th	10 th
4 th	3 rd	12 th	11 th
5 th	6 th	13 th	14 th
8 th	7 th	16 th	15 th
		A	B
		D	C

- H. **Revised Women’s Seeding of Teams into Round-robin** - The Women’s matches will follow the same dual competition philosophy as the men’s teams. Because of fewer teams involved, the schedule will be modified as follows: The top five (5) national teams finishing in the previous world championships will be placed in GROUP 1, however in a single pool designated Pool A. The remaining teams from the last world championships will be positioned in GROUP 2, consisting of Pools B & C, seeded by the serpentine method. New teams will be added to the serpentine in order by the English spelling of their country’s name.

9. Round-Robin Game Scoring and Tie Breakers

- A. In compiling the results of pool play, games within the pool that finish tied, shall remain tied and points for each game awarded as follows:
 - Two (2) points to the game winner
 - One (1) point for a tie game
 - Zero (0) points to the loser
 - Minus (-2) points for a forfeit
- B. The resulting placement of teams within each pool shall be according to the **most number of points accumulated** in round-robin play. If after addition of points, two or more teams are determined to possess an equal amount of points during pool play, the team’s position is determined as follows:
- C. The **victor of the head-to-head competition** in the round-robin shall be awarded the higher placement position.

- D. If a tie still results, the team with the **lowest total number of goals-allowed** for the entire play-off round shall be used to determine position for the tied teams.
- E. If a tie remains, the **lowest total of goals-allowed in common wins among the tied teams**, during all games in the group competition, will determine the group positions.
- F. If a tie still results, the **highest total of goals scored in common losses** among the tied teams will determine their positions.
- G. If teams are tied after applying the above criteria, **a shoot-out will take place** as defined in Rule 73(c).

10. Medal Round Competition

- A. **Single Elimination:** The pre-quarter finals, quarter finals, semi finals and final games of **World Championship** and **National Team World Cup** medal round competition will be conducted as single elimination matches. If a team loses a game in the pre-quarter finals and quarter final, they are eliminated from any further advancement in medal play. Ties are to be decided by sudden death overtime according to provisions of Rule 73b. The two losing teams in the semi finals will play for the Bronze Medal; and the semi-final winners play for the Gold Medal, with the loser of this match receiving the Silver Medal.
- B. **Medal Competition - Quarter Final teams selection from Four Pools:**

Men's World Championships – In GROUP 1, the highest finishing three (3) teams from each of the two Pools A & B will advance to the quarter finals, a sum of six (6) from GROUP 1. There will be an addition of one (1) team from each of the two C and D pools in GROUP 2, making the total Quarter Final entry eight (8) teams. These teams will be placed in the quarter finals bracket according to the seeding determined by round-robin play, with placements in GROUP 1 considered superior to GROUP 2. The first place finisher plays the last qualifying place, and so on through the remaining qualifiers, matching first place in one pool with last place in the other.

Men's National Team World Cup – The teams eliminated from GROUP 1 World Championship medal play, will join as top seeds with the highest finishing three (3) teams remaining in each of pools C & D in GROUP 2 for a total of eight (8) teams, which will comprise the National Team World Cup Quarter Finals in single elimination competition. These teams will be placed in the quarter finals bracket

according to the seeding determined by round-robin play, with placements in GROUP 1 considered superior to GROUP 2. The highest place team will be paired with the last qualifying place, and so on through the remaining qualifiers, matching top place in one pool with last place in the other.

- C. **Women's World Championships** - – In GROUP 1, the highest finishing four (4) teams from Pool A will advance to the quarter finals. There will be an addition of two (2) teams from each of the two B and C pools in GROUP 2, making the total Quarter Final entry eight (8) teams. These teams will be placed in the quarter finals bracket according to the seeding determined by round-robin play, with placements in GROUP 1 considered superior to GROUP 2. The first place finisher plays the last qualifying place, and so on through the remaining qualifiers, matching first place in one pool with last place in the other.

Women's National Team World Cup – The team eliminated from GROUP 1 World Championship medal play, will join as top seed with the highest teams remaining in each of pools B & C in GROUP 2. This will comprise the competition for National Team World Cup Quarter Finals in single elimination competition. The highest place team will be paired with the last qualifying place, and so on through the remaining qualifiers, matching top place in one pool with last place in the other. Should more than 8 teams remain, before beginning the National Team World Cup, the surplus teams over 8 shall leave the competition and enter placement games to determine their final position.

11. Placement Games for World Championships Final Position

Those teams not continuing to advance in medal competition, or after a loss in single elimination competition, will play additional matches to determine their overall Championship positions. These games will take place in increments of 2, 3 or 4 team units based upon the number of teams of similar status. The placement games will determine their ultimate position within their selected group strata. The losers of these four team match-ups play for the lower of the open placements and the winners for the two higher positions. In a three team match, each team will play the other in a mini-round robin to fill these open positions. This procedure of layered competition will be repeated until all teams from the round-robin that are no longer competing for championship medals have been placed.

**REVISION TO CIRILH RULES OF THE GAME – Edition 2005
RELATING TO FIGHTING AT WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS:**

RULE FIFTY – FIGHTING (Page 30)

- f) **Final World Championship Games:** During the final match that a team plays at the World Championship, the **instigator** of a closed-fist punch that leads to a fight on the rink, will result in **the initiator being assigned a match penalty** should this fight require the insertion of referees between the affected players in order to stop it. Under the foregoing conditions, the attacked player from the other team will also get a match penalty if he persists in retaliating after attempts for restraint or a warning by the referee. It is unrealistic to think that a player who is punched, will not attempt to retaliate in self defense. This is noted in Rule 50(b) of the CIRILH Playing Rules. If the initiating player claims to be reacting in retaliation for a foul that preceded the fight, it is the responsibility of the referee to have promptly punished this occurrence, be it major or minor penalties, but otherwise does not excuse a player initiating a fist-fight.
- g) **A match penalty for fighting which occurs in the final game for that team at the World Championships, whatever the team's final position in the standings, will automatically carry with it a suspension of the player for the balance of the World Championship and from the next world championship,** following a confirming review of the circumstances by the CIRILH Committee. The National Federation affected will be informed that this player is suspended from FIRS international competitions for one year for conduct detrimental to the sport of inline roller hockey.
- h) **No World Championship, World Cup or Continental Championship medal will be awarded to a team member that receives a Match Penalty, regardless of how the team finishes in the competition.** Organizers of such tournaments are restricted under these circumstances to assign medals only to those players who remain in good standing. To prevent later unauthorized distribution, all surplus medals will be collected and be retained by the organizers or CIRILH. If a brawl had produced this situation, (more than one simultaneous fight), the team coach and team manager will also be denied medals. Should the team achieve a placement, they will also be held culpable.

**AMENDMENT TO CIRILH ORGANIZATIONAL RULES – 2005 Edition
PART VII – INTERNATIONAL INLINE HOCKEY REFEREES
CIRILH REFEREE TECHNICAL REGULATIONS – Article 18 (Page 64)**

(g) The Burden of Responsibility by Game Referees:

A competent referee must establish his or her authority early in the game and demonstrate unbiased and uniform observance of the rules, not permitting game discipline to get out of control. A referee who is hesitant to apply the rules, out of intimidation by star teams or players, or who is unsure of his own knowledge of the game and the rules, will often prefer not to act when he sees anything but the most obvious and overt foul. Such performances of this type by a referee at the world championships leaves everyone with the impression that they have been mostly idle throughout the preceding year or are not accustomed to an intensity of competitions much beyond that of club level CIRILH sometimes enters the medal finals at World Championships, acknowledging the fervor and high player skill level in such games, handicapped with a selection of referees who may not be properly qualified by experience to deal with these greater challenges, since the more experienced referees at the world championships come from countries that are usually playing in the medal rounds. An effort to place neutral referees into these games, may sometimes mean use of referees who are less qualified from an appropriate experience standpoint.

(h) World Championship Referee Assignment Criteria:

1. CIRILH will provide greater emphasis to those countries that are nominating referees for the World Championships, to only name those proven to be most experienced and who can demonstrate that they have the necessary knowledge of CIRILH playing rules, and by their temperament and force of personality are able to adequately control world class hockey games.
2. Referees must establish control of the game from the outset. Bad conduct must be discouraged from the first minute of the game. Once the evil genie gets out of the bottle, it is impossible to return the cork and regain control.
3. Referees will be expected to be prompt, decisive and completely even-handed in assessing penalties and made to understand that like the "Mikado", "the punishment must fit the crime." When a referee is inconsistent or seemingly partial with the application of the rules during a game or engages in vocal arguments with the players or the bench, he or she inspires retaliation on the part of that team, which may adopt the belief that only through violence can the team obtain "justice."
4. Any world championship referee that fails to observe these tenets, will be first given a cautionary warning by the Referee-in-Chief, reported to the CIRILH Committee, and on the next such occurrence could be removed from the competition by CIRILH.