



New Rule 304 HECC helmet sticker expiration dates.

- ~During a hockey game in the youth level, a coach questions the rule.
- ~The coach states that opposing player(s) do not have HECC stickers on their helmets.
- ~The coach may also state that the helmets appear to be old.
- ~Upon inspection there are no stickers on any helmets and/or a helmet has a HECC sticker without an expiration date.

Per rule 304, the player should be removed from the ice and not allowed to play until corrected. A warning is issued to the team. Any additional violations are penalized as a Misconduct penalty.

HECC states that the “HECC certification for player helmets has been changed and is now 6-1/2 years. The helmet should be replaced with another HECC certified helmet after the expiration date on the HECC sticker has passed. “ “All goaltender helmets now have a certification date. If your goaltender helmet certification sticker has no expiration date, it has expired. “

Casebook Rule 304 Sit. 10, HECC identification procedures.

### **Situation 10**

What are the proper procedures for the On-Ice Officials to follow when attempting to identify HECC approved helmets and facemasks? The Officials must make a visual check of all required protective equipment while the players are on the ice during warm-ups. Rule References 304(c & d) and 304(c Note). The Referee should follow these steps to determine the legality of a required HECC approved helmet or facemask:

**STEP 1:** All approved helmets and facemasks should have a valid HEC approved certification sticker with a date that is still current attached unless it has been removed by the player. The first burden of proof the helmet/facemask is eligible for use is the valid and unexpired certification sticker.

**STEP 2:** If the sticker(s) are not present, the official should have a basic knowledge of the required characteristics. These include ear protection for helmets and small enough openings in the facemask to prevent the butt-end of a stick from entering. In addition, the helmet chin strap and facemask chin cup and straps must also be present.

**STEP 3:** If still in question, the equipment models can be compared to the lists of certified equipment that is present on the HECC website ([www.hecc.net](http://www.hecc.net)).

\*\*Note your Teams Manufacturer and Model Number for future reference\*\*