

IIHF Rules for Ice Rinks

Definition of the Rink

The game of ice hockey shall be played on a white ice surface known as a **RINK**.

Dimensions of the Rink

Maximum size: **61 m long** by **30 m wide**.
Minimum size: **56 m long** by **26 m wide**.

The corners shall be rounded in the arc of a circle with a radius of **7 to 8.5 m**.

- ▶ For IIHF competitions the size will be **60 to 61 m long** by **29 to 30 m wide**.

Boards

- The rink shall be surrounded by a wooden or plastic wall known as the “**BOARDS**”, which shall be white in colour.
- They shall be not less than **1.17 m** and not more than **1.22 m in height** above the level of the ice surface.
- The boards shall be constructed in such a manner that the surface facing the ice shall be smooth and free of any obstruction that could cause injury to the players, and the protective screens and gear used to hold the boards in position shall be mounted on the side away from the playing surface.
- The gaps between the panels shall be minimized to 3 mm.

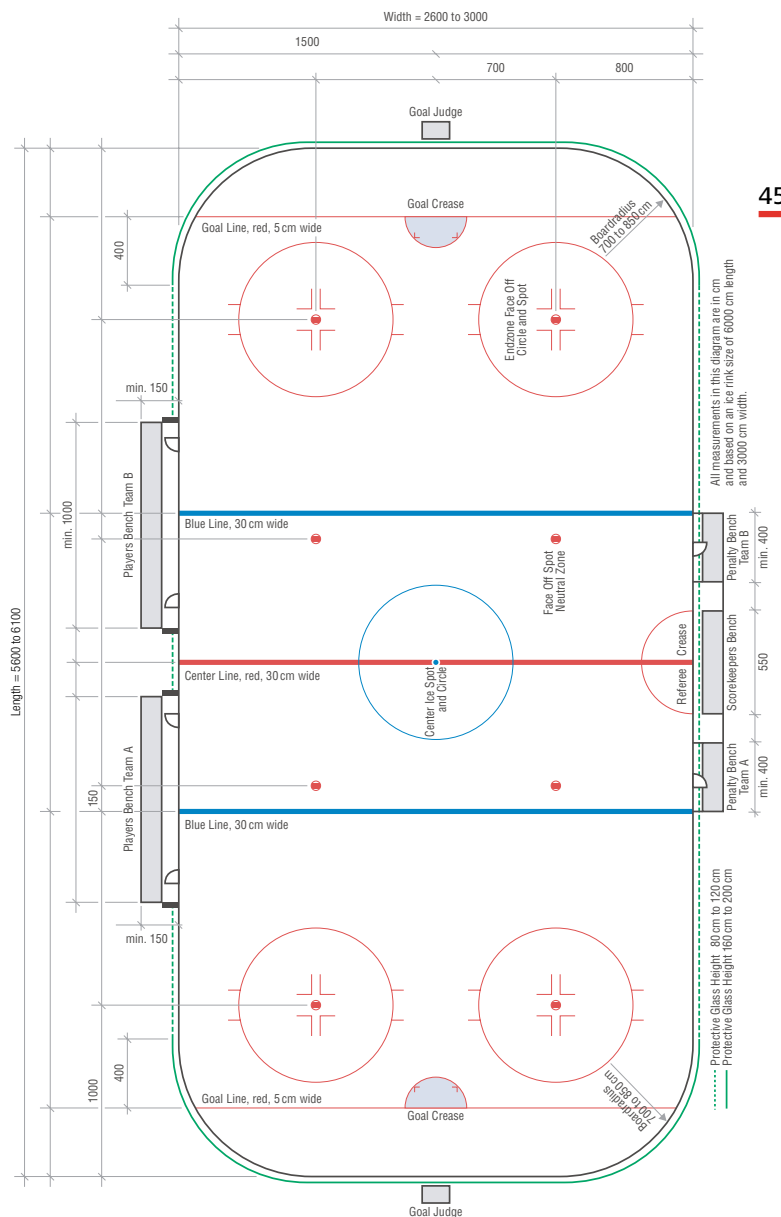
Kick Plate

At the lower part of the boards will be fixed a “**KICK PLATE**”, **yellow** in colour, **15 to 25 cm in height**.

Doors

- All doors giving access to the ice surface must swing away from the ice surface.
- The gaps between the door and the board shall be minimized to 8 mm.

Ice Rink



Protective Glass

– The protective glass located above the boards shall be **160 cm to 200 cm in height** on the ends and shall extend 4 m from the goal line towards the neutral zone, and **80 cm to 120 cm in height** along the sides, except in front of the players benches.

– The gaps between the glass panels shall be minimized to 8 mm.

– At any interruption of the protective glass there shall be protective padding to prevent the injury of the players.

End Zone Nets

Protective nets must be suspended above the end zone boards and glass.

Division and Marking of the Ice Surface

The ice surface will be divided in its length by **five lines** marked on the ice and extending completely across the rink and continuing vertically up the side of the boards.

Goal Lines

Lines shall be marked 4 m from each end of the rink, **5 cm wide** and **red** in colour, known as the:

GOAL LINES

Blue Lines

The ice area between the two goal lines shall be divided in three equal parts by lines 30 cm wide and **blue** in colour known as the:

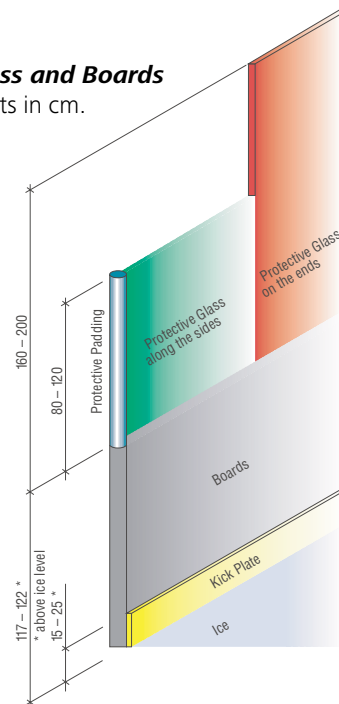
BLUE LINES

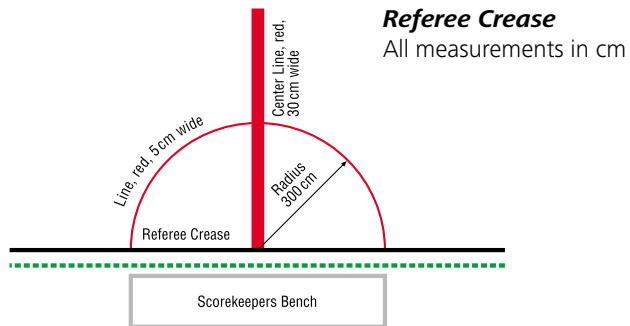
Center Line

A line known as the **CENTER LINE** shall be located in the middle of the rink. It shall be **30 cm** wide and **red** in colour.

Protective Glass and Boards

All measurements in cm.





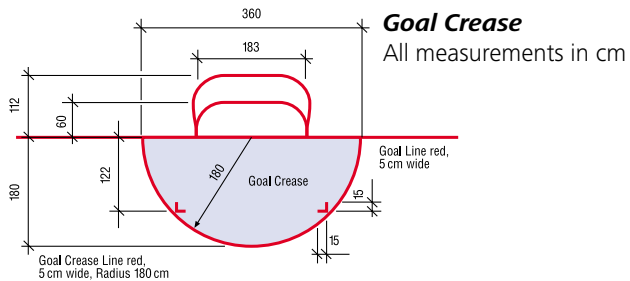
Referee Crease

An area known as the **REFEREE CREASE** shall be marked on the ice in a semi-circle by a **red line, 5 cm wide**, and with a radius of **3 m**, immediately in front of the Scorekeeper Bench, as illustrated on this page.

Goal Crease

In front of each goal a **GOAL CREASE** area shall be marked by a **red line, 5 cm wide**, as illustrated on this page.

The goal crease area shall be painted **light blue**.



- ▶ 1. Each players bench must have two doors, one of which must be in the NEUTRAL ZONE.
- ▶ 2. The players benches must be protected from access by persons other than the players and the six team officials.



Goals

- The goals shall be located in the center of the goal lines.
- The goals posts shall extend vertically **1.22 m above** the ice surface and be **1.83 m apart** (internal measurements). The horizontal crossbar binding the posts shall be of approved design and material with an external diameter of **5 cm**. The posts and crossbar will be painted **red**.
- The goals will be completed by a frame supporting the nets, the deepest point of which shall not be more than **1.12 m** or less than **0.60 m**. It will be painted **white**, except for the exterior part of the base plate, which shall be painted **red**.
- A net shall be attached to the back of the goal frame, constructed to keep the puck within the confines of the goal.
- The inside parts of the supports, other than the goal posts and the crossbar, will be covered by white padding. The padding of the base plate will start not less than **10 cm** from the goal post.

- ▶ 1. Goal posts and nets shall be set in such manner as to remain stationary during the progress of the game.
- ▶ 2. For Olympic Games, IIHF World Senior A Men and Women, Division 1, Junior Under 20, Junior Under 18 championships, **flexible goal pegs** are mandatory and are strongly recommended for other competitions.

Players Benches

- Each rink shall be provided with two identical benches, exclusively for the use of players in uniform and officials of both teams.
- The benches will be on the same side of the rink, immediately along the ice but opposite to the penalty benches, separated by a substantial distance or by other facilities, and convenient to the dressing rooms.
- Each bench shall begin **2 m** from the center line with a minimum length of **10 m** and a minimum width of **1.50 m**.
- Each bench shall accommodate:
 - **16 players and 6 team officials**.

Penalty Benches

- Each rink shall be provided with two benches to be known as the penalty benches for a minimum of:
 - **5 players each**.
- They will be located on both sides of the Scorekeeper's desk and opposite to the players benches and will have a minimum length of **4 m** and a minimum width of **1.50 m**.

Goal Judges Benches

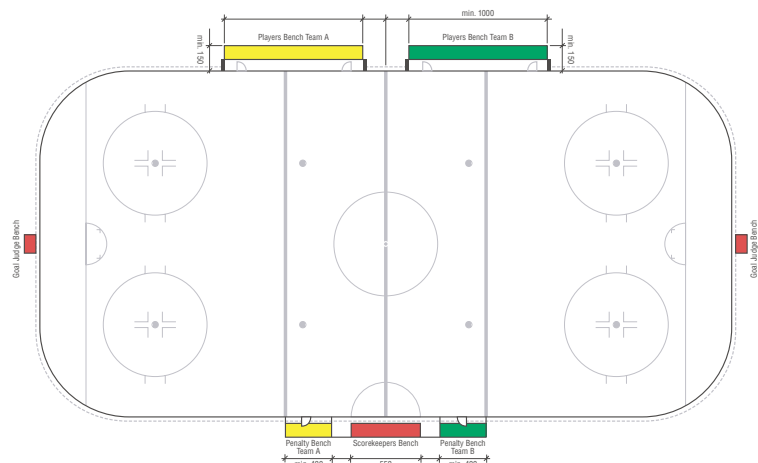
Properly protected cages to eliminate interference with the Goal Judge's activities shall be placed at each end of the rink behind the board and glass in the area of the goal.

Scorekeeper Bench

Between the penalty benches will be located the Scorekeeper bench, which will have a length of 5.50 m to accommodate 6 people.

Players Benches and Penalty Benches

All measurements in cm



Signal and Timing Devices

Siren

Each rink shall be provided with a siren or other suitable sound device to be used by the Timekeeper.

Clock

Each rink shall have an **electric clock (scoreboard)** in order to provide spectators, players and officials with accurately information concerning:

- **names of both teams,**
- **time played in any period, counting up** in minutes and seconds from 0.00 to 20.00,
- **penalty time remaining** to be served for at least two players on each team, **counting down** from the total number of minutes to 0,
- **score,**
- **time-outs, counting down** from 30 to 0 seconds,
- **intermission time, counting down** from 15 to 0 minutes.

Red and Green Lights

Behind each goal there shall be:

- a **red light** to be lit by the Goal Judge when a goal is scored,
- a **green light** to be lit automatically by the electric clock when the Timekeeper stops the clock and at the end of each period.

Players Dressing Rooms

Each team shall be provided with a suitable room with sufficient space for **25 team officials and players** and their equipment, equipped with benches, sanitary toilet and showers.

Referees and Linesmen Dressing Room

A separate dressing room equipped with chairs or benches, sanitary toilet and shower must be provided for the exclusive use of the Referees and Linesmen.

Rink Lighting

All rinks shall be sufficiently well illuminated so that the players, officials and spectators may conveniently follow the play at all times.

Smoking in the Arena

In enclosed rinks, smoking shall be prohibited in the playing and spectator areas, as well as in the dressing rooms and all the facilities where the players are involved.

