



Calling Too Many Players On The Ice

General Membership Training
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Why This Is A Difficult Call



- Inconsistency
 - Everyone has their own idea of a legal change
 - Each player change situation is different
 - The rule book has some gray areas
 - “At the bench”
 - “Out of play”
 - Goalkeeper substitution
- Frequency
 - Player changes happen very often
- Importance
 - A good too many players call usually happens as a result of a big play
 - A too many players call can be a big call

How To Prevent It



- Verbalize during sloppy changes
 - “Let’s clean up the changes”
 - “How many are out here?”
 - “Count ‘em”
 - Let’s the benches know you are watching
 - Doesn’t take any extra time from the game
- A quick warning to the coach
 - Be civil - don’t threaten
 - Warn both benches
 - Use this if the in-game verbalizations haven’t worked

How To Call It



- Have a good view of the change
- Do a player count – twice
- Assess the impact of a sloppy change
 - Change of possession
 - Injury potential
 - Scoring opportunity
 - Blatant
- If you decide to call it then signal and assess like a normal penalty
- If you decide not to call it, be able to explain why not

Things To Remember



- It is the responsibility of the officials to make sure the proper number of players are on the ice prior to the start of play
 - Know how many players each team is entitled to at all times
 - Make a habit of counting the number of players from each team before dropping the puck
 - If a team is entitled to four players and you drop the puck with five on the ice, DO NOT assess a too many players penalty
- Make a habit of knowing the instant a penalty expires
 - As the back official, watch the player return from the penalty bench

Things To Remember



- Premature goalkeeper substitution is not a too many players on the ice time penalty
 - The “penalty” is
 - A stoppage of play when the offending team gains possession and control of the puck
 - A faceoff in the zone of least territorial advantage