

Zippered Pants

"As a reminder, please see below Rule 37 b and an excerpt from a Hockey Canada bulletin dated January 2, 2010 regarding zippered pants. The appropriate penalties must be assessed as per the Hockey Canada Rulebook.

Rule 3.7 b

No player is to be permitted to wear a sweater or pants modified or altered to gain an advantage or compromise safety. ("the zipper is intended to be closed by design")

Below is an excerpt from Hockey Canada Bulletin No.:A1023 dated January 12, 2010.

During the course of a game, an official must use judgment in determining many infractions. However, there are numerous areas of the Rule book which call for certain actions or rules to be followed that are not necessarily judgment calls, or critical to the playing of the game, but nonetheless are important to ensure a game is played in a "fair" and "safe" manner. By teams observing strict adherence to these "fringe" rules, the officials and teams can focus on the "playing of the game" rather than fringe issues that make up the Rule book.

To that end, teams will be asked to abide by the following Hockey Canada rules, with the onus on the coaches to enforce these areas with their team, and that by abiding by these rules, the officials assigned to these games, will not have to penalize such infractions. However, should a team fail to abide by these rules, officials are required to assess the appropriate penalties as outlined in the Rule book. This information is not new, and must be enforced at the Branch level throughout the season as well. These standards should be re-emphasized as playoffs approach.

Zippered / Torn Pants

Please note that pants with zippers on the inseam are designed to be worn with Zippers properly closed. Players who come onto the ice with zippers undone should immediately sent off the ice, are not to return until they can comply with this directive. Players with ripped pants which expose equipment should also be sent off the ice and are not able to return until corrected. (Bulletin 03/40)"

Please ensure your officials are enforcing this Rule and Bulletin.

John Reid,
ODMHA RIC.