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## **OFFENCE / DEFENCE POLICY**

At the Canadian Lacrosse Association meeting in November 2007, it was past that, the use of the Offence/Defence coaching tactic be illegal in minor lacrosse. Each province is to develop a method of administering the change. The system the OLA has created to administer the new rule into minor lacrosse is laid out on this sheet. These changes will be in affect at the beginning of the 2008 lacrosse season.

### **DEFINITION:**

Offence/Defence will be defined as a tactic, while at even strength, any player, or group of players, leaving the bench and deliberately returning to the bench, (usually by the same gate) without the benefit of participation of play, in both the offensive and defensive zones, during the same shift, is considered to be playing Offence/Defence.

### **HOW OFFENCE/DEFENCE WILL BE CALLED:**

The new Offence/Defence rule will be used in the Bantam age division and below. The rule will be in affect for Provincials, Invitational Tournaments and recommended that it be used for all other levels of play.

Only referees on the floor will be able to make the call if a team is using the Offence/Defence tactic.

Three indicators for referees to help determine if a team is using this tactic are:

1. If a team changes players without possession of the ball.
2. Using offensive ("Out" or "Front" door) and defensive ("In" or "Back" door) bench gates to substitute players.
3. If a player is only playing at one end of the floor; either offensive or defensive end and not both.

### **PENALTY FOR USING OFFENCE/DEFENCE:**

The following is the discipline a coach will receive if caught using Offence/Defence.

1st offense in a game: 2 minute bench minor penalty.

2nd offense in the same game: a gross misconduct to the head coach, with ejection from the game (accompanied by a 2 minute bench minor). A further suspension may be assessed as a result of the gross misconduct; discretion will be used.