

**OFFICIAL RULEBOOK**  
**INTERNACIONAL PLAYER TRANSFER**  
**Rink Hockey Technical Commission**

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\* The application of this Regulation becomes effective as of June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018, having been updated on June 1, 2019

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## I. WORLD SKATE INTERNATIONAL PASSPORT

1. On the occasion of an International match between clubs, all players must have the sports license of the same National Federation of the team in which they play.
2. All clubs may have a maximum of two (2) foreign players to participate in their matches, on the condition that the same players have obtained a special permit, granted by the World Skate, to be able to play in the country of their own team.
3. The Players with nationality of one of the countries of the European Union will not be considered as foreigners by the Federations of the other countries that belongs to the European Union, without prejudice to the fact that these players are also required to obtain the International Passport of World Skate when they play in a Club that is affiliated in a Federation of another country different from their nationality.

In international games played between Nations (National Teams), all players must have the same nationality as the Federation they represent.

4. Players who want to compete in a Rink Hockey competition in their country of origin, under a Federation Affiliated to World Skate, after having competed in another country, under a National Federation Affiliated to World Skate, must also obtain, previously, the International Passport of the World Skate.

This Passport must comply with the same administrative and economic requirements for any transfer, mentioned in this Regulation.

5. In order to obtain the International Passport must be respected the **following terms**:
  - 5.1 A player transfer from the originating team to the destination team will be valid only after obtaining authorization from the Rink Hockey Technical Commission of World Skate.
  - 5.2 The International Passport will always be issued on the occasion of the transfer of a player from one National Federation to another.
6. The International Passport **must not be ordered or issued**:
  - 6.1 When the transfer takes place between two clubs of the same National Federation.
  - 6.2 When the player - although of different nationality to the country of destination - was never registered in any National Federation.

- 6.3 When the player is under 18 years of age and does not celebrate 18 years of age during the development of the season in question.
7. The issuance of the International Pass will have the **following procedures**:
  - 7.1 Players/Clubs/Federations must use the official World Skate form (ANNEX).
  - 7.2 The origin club will guarantee the transfer of the player to the destination club.
  - 7.3 The origin club will notify its own Continental Area/National Federation of the player transfer, with a copy to the World Skate - Rink Hockey Commission.
  - 7.4 The Continental Area will have fifteen (15) calendar days from the date of notification of its club of origin to send to the World Skate the reasons regarding the impossibility of transferring the player to another Continental Area/National Federation. Excluded are reasons of race, sex and religion that are not authorized and will not be considered.
  - 7.5 After these fifteen (15) calendar days - without any news of the Continental Area/Federation - the transfer will be processed automatically by World Skate - Rink Hockey Technical Commission.
  - 7.6 The International Pass will be granted or denied by World Skate after received and considering all the necessary documents.
8. The international passport becomes valid on the date validated by World Skate, once all the documentation is duly completed and with the signature/stamp of all persons/entities involved. The player may start playing for his new club, only after World Skate has validated the requested international pass.
9. In any case, the registration of the player transferred to a National Federation may have a duration longer than the agreement between the player and the club. Otherwise, in the absence of a new agreement between the parties, World Skate will revoke the registration and the player will be free to register in a new club between the same National Federation or another National Federation.
10. In case of renewal of the agreement, the National Federation must inform to World Skate of the renewal of the International Pass, indicating the beginning and end of the agreement, which will never be higher than one (1) year.

11. After the deadline, the player is free to agree with the new club of another Federation or of the same National Federation the new contract. In this case, the following should be taken into account:
  - 11.1 If the player transfers to another club of the same National Federation, the regulations of this Federation must be respected.
  - 11.2 If the player transfers to a club of another Federation of another country, a new International Pass must be presented to the new Federation, fully applying the rules of this Regulation.
12. When a player returns to his country of origin, the integral application of this regulation will be mandatory.
13. In the case of a player playing without the valid International Pass, the new National Federation, the new club, the player and, where appropriate, the new league will be subject to the disciplinary procedures of the World Skate as established in this regulation.

## II. INTERNATIONAL APPROVAL PROCESS

14. The approval process of the International Passport must be done in the following cases:
  - 14.1 When a club registered in a national competition processes the license to a player whose country of origin is different from the country of the competition, must apply for an International Passport.
  - 14.2 When a club registered in a national competition processes the license to a player who already has a valid International Passport with another club, he must process a new International Passport, to associate it with the new destination club.
15. A club that needs to acquire an International Passport for a player will contact their Federation to request an International Passport for this player and provide all the requirements requested by the Federation, including the payment of the International Passport.
16. The National Federation to which the requesting club is registered, must:
  - 16.1 In the case of a player whose National Federation of its country of origin is under the World Skate affiliation, request an International Passport at a club outside its country of origin, and in addition:
    - Inform the National Federation of the player's country of origin for approval, sending the International Passport form.
    - Contact to the World Skate - Rink Hockey Commission for the regularization.
  - 16.2 In the event that a player is already in possession of an International Passport linked to another country whose National Federation is affiliated with World Skate, it must:
    - Inform the National Federation where the player is in possession of the International Passport for approval, by sending the International Passport form.
    - Contact to the World Skate - Rink Hockey Commission for the regularization.

- 16.3 In the case of a player who is not in possession of an International Passport, in a country of origin where there is no National Federation affiliated to World Skate, it must:
- Contact to the World Skate - Rink Hockey Commission for the regularization.
- 16.4 In the case of a player who is not in possession of an International Passport, with the same Country of origin as the club, it must:
- Contact to the World Skate - Rink Hockey Commission for the regularization.
17. The National Federation of origin of the player will inform to World Skate , within the next fifteen (15) calendar days, about its approval or rejection of the process of delivery of an International Passport. If World Skate does not receive a response within the established time or receives a denial without clear circumstances, the new International approval process will be considered approved.
18. World Skate will approve the International Passport Process to all parties only after validating the payment of the International Passport.

### III. DOCUMENTS DISTRIBUTION

19. Documents should be sent to World Skate by email to [rinkhockey@worldskate.org](mailto:rinkhockey@worldskate.org). Any information made by other means than the one mentioned (as telephone calls, chats, fax or SMS messages, among others), **CANNOT be considered as an official transmission.**

#### REJECTION CRITERIA

20. A National Federation may refuse to validate the International Passport process, only if:
  - 20.1 The player is under a professional contract signed with the previous club and the clauses of the contract do not give him the possibility to move from one club to another.
  - 20.2 The player wishing to acquire an International Passport has not fulfilled his contractual obligations to his former club (all contractual obligations other than those involving signed professional player contracts).
  - 20.3 There is a different reason to the issues related to the compensation (for example: player in suspension in the country, player under suspension of World Skate, the Continental Area, etc.).
21. In case of refusal by a National Federation, World Skate will inform the other National Federation by a copy with all the details provided of the refusal. The other National Federation will be in charge of informing the new club and the player about the refusal.
22. The player, through the new National Federation, may address his objections with all relevant criteria, to the refusal of the previous federation within seven (7) business days, after receiving the refusal of World Skate. If, within seven (7) business days, the World Skate does not receive any comments against the refusal, the International Passport process will be officially denied.
23. In case of objections, World Skate will give the opportunity to all parties to provide more written arguments (no hearings will be held) and after investigating, will make a decision based on all the documents provided, in a period established by World Skate. The player or the previous National Federation may appeal the decision to World Skate within seven (7) business days, before World Skate.



## INTERNATIONAL REGULATIONS

24. In case of an appeal, it must be submitted following the World Skate Regulations. All protests, complaints or appeals will be:
  - 24.1 Subject to the guidelines formulated by the technical standards and/or regulations of the Technical Committee of the discipline.
  - 24.2 Subject to payment of the required fees, in accordance with the provisions of the Financial Regulations of World Skate.
  - 24.3 Regulated by the procedures and other provisions established in the Disciplinary Regulations of World Skate - Rink Hockey Technical Commission.
25. Any party that World Skate considers that an unsubstantiated objection has been raised may be referred to the Disciplinary Committee for a possible sanction, if is considered.

## IV. AGE OF THE PLAYERS TO PROCESS THE INTERNATIONAL PASSPORT

26. The International Passport applies to all players over the age of 18, or that they turn 18 during the season in which they process their license.

## V. VALIDITY AND RENEWAL OF THE INTERNATIONAL PASSPORT

27. To be valid, the International Passport can only be awarded to a club of a National Federation affiliated to World Skate. In case a player has a license in a club and the International Passport is processed for another club, the said Passport is not valid.
28. The International Passport will be valid for one (1) season and, in all Continental Areas, can only be processed in the following periods:
  - From July 1<sup>st</sup> to September 30<sup>th</sup>.
  - From December 1<sup>st</sup> to January 31<sup>st</sup>.

The validity of the Passport is mentioned in the International Pass form (attached).

29. Any player is allowed to play in different clubs in different countries in the same season. As the official seasons vary from one country to another, foreign players whose licenses have expired and want to play in other countries or in their own country are subject to obtaining a new International Passport.
30. At the end of the validity year of the International Passport, if a player has a contract with the same Club, the International Passport must be renewed following the steps described above.
31. The renewal of the International Passport is unlimited among the clubs of the same National Federation during the sports season, in any case meeting the limitations established by each National Federation.
32. The renewal of the International Passport between two different National Federations is established in an original delivery and a renewal by year of validity.

## VI. COSTS

33. **The International Passport will cost USD500.00.** The destination Clubs who process the International Passport must make a transfer **without additional bank expenses (free of charge)** of the aforementioned amount in favor of World Skate to:

**Beneficiary:** WORLD SKATE

**Bank:** UBS Lausanne

**Adress:** Place Saint-François, 16, 1003 Lausanne, Switzerland

**Account Numer:** 0243-186105.61M

**IBAN:** CH580024324318610561M

**IC/SWIFT:** UBSWCHZH80A

**Reason of Payment:** "RH International Transfer - Player Name - NF"

The payment receipt must be sent to World Skate - Rink Hockey Technical Commission ([rinkhockey@worldskate.org](mailto:rinkhockey@worldskate.org)) along with the completed International Passport form, where the transfer of the player is requested.

34. If a player change in a country to participate in a destination Club that does not participate in a Competition that have the national category status of the country in question, **the player must remove the International Passport**, but the cost will be 250\$. If in the same season the same Club, for any kind of sporting circumstances, participates in a phase of national category, it will have to renew the passport and pay the difference of the 500\$ established previously.
35. **The renewal by a Club (according to article 31), of the International Passport of a player who will remain a new season in the same Club, will cost USD300.00.**

## PROFESSIONAL CONTRACTS

36. During the period of an existing contract, another club or person representing another club, may not contact a player of a National Federation affiliated with World Skate, with the aim of inducing the player to breach his current contract and to change club.
37. To contract the services of a player who has a contract with another club, the new club must inform the current club in writing and previously, of its interest to the player, before initiating any official negotiation with the said player.
38. In the case of a player with a contract in a club where the National Federation is not affiliated with World Skate, the International Passport may be delivered, only after the new National Federation has ensured that this player is released from all

his or her obligations (professional or otherwise) to the club of origin. In case of receiving any information proving any breach of this clause, World Skate will investigate to determine the pertinent actions.

39. The International Passport is given to a player under contract when an agreement is reached between the three parties involved (the old club, the player and the new club).
40. Any infringement of the preceding articles relating to "Players under professional contract" will be remitted by World Skate to the Disciplinary Committee and could result in limitations or disqualifications of World Skate activities or other sanctions.

## DISCIPLINARY PROVISIONS

41. When it is known by the World Skate - Rink Hockey Technical Commission that a player plays without a valid International Passport, the incident will be submitted to the Disciplinary Commission of the International Commission so that it adopts the corresponding disciplinary resolution and, in addition, it will be requested to the new National Federation to inform the club that the player has to stop playing until he obtains a valid International Passport.
42. When a player plays without a valid International Passport, the Disciplinary Committee may impose the following sanctions:
  - 42.1 To the **Player** who plays without an International Passport: Suspension of being able to participate in all competitions of National Federations affiliated in World Skate, for a minimum of 6 months up to 3 years.
  - 42.2 To the **Club** in which the player plays or has played without an International Passport: Prohibition of obtaining an International Passport for their players for a minimum of 6 months and up to 2 years and a minimum fine of 600\$ to 3,000\$.
  - 42.3 To the **National Federation** that has allowed the participation in its national competitions of a player without an International Passport: a minimum fine of 1,000\$ to 15,000\$.

In addition, for each game that the player plays without an International Pass since he has received the communication from World Skate - Rink Hockey Technical Commission indicated in article 41, **the National Federation will be sanctioned with a fine of 600\$ for game.**

43. Under exceptional circumstances, the Disciplinary Commission of World Skate - Rink Hockey Technical Commission may refrain from sanctioning any of the parties.

## VII. APPLICATION

44. Any sanction against players or clubs that cannot be executed due to the fact that a player has joined a club or league in a National Federation not affiliated with World Skate, will be applicable at the moment in which the player or club want to return to a National Federation affiliated with World Skate.
45. Foreign players who do not respect all the obligations of this regulation, and from the moment that the World Skate has knowledge of the violation, will be suspended immediately and for a period of twelve (12) months of the national and international competitions of Rink Hockey.

The Federations/Continental Areas that do not respect all the obligations of the present regulation, from the moment that World Skate has knowledge of said breaches, will be suspended immediately of all the international competitions of Rink Hockey for a period of twenty-four (24) months.